

Writing Instruction in the Disciplines (WID) Committee  
April 19, 2018  
2:00 pm, Algonquin Room, University Union

Present: Munia Cabal-Jiménez (chair), Magdelyn Helwig (ex-officio), Lorri Kanauss, Leslie Melim, Nathan Miczo, Joyce Runquist, Anna Valeva. Absent: Courtney Blankenship, Ritchie Gabbei. Guest: Ray Diez.

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm.
2. Approval of the agenda.
3. Approval of the minutes from March 29, 2018. The minutes were approved with minor corrections.
4. Request for WID designation: BC & J 200. The current proposal is to list BC&J 200 as the other WID course along with BC&J 400 (which was already approved). A question was raised regarding the submitted form, which did not appear to have been changed to reflect the removal of BC&J 201 from WID consideration. The paperwork needs to match what was approved by the committee, which was for BC&J to have two WID courses (200 and 400). The request was approved with the changes.
5. GCOM320: Final Approval. This course has been approved by the WID committee. A concern was raised in Faculty Senate regarding the lack of a textbook listed on the course syllabus. Diana Higgins added the name of the textbook and resubmitted materials for WID approval. It was brought to the committee's attention that a question had been raised regarding the appearance of a heavy editing component to the class (rather than a focus on composing), though no formal action was requested by the Faculty Senate. The committee should be prepared for questions from Faculty Senate. The submitted materials were approved by WID and will be sent back to Faculty Senate.
6. Review: CSTM493: Construction Occupational Safety & Health. A question was raised regarding the use of an internship course as a WID course. Other such courses do exist. The course is appropriate for WID because, though a great deal of writing occurs on the job, students are closely monitored and submit weekly reports. It was suggested that information about the course textbook be moved to page one. A question was raised about the relationship between ET (Engineering Technology) and GCOM. GCOM will drop one option. CSTM and ET 493 are the same. The course was considered successfully reviewed.
7. Review of WID Forms. Currently on the website, guidelines are listed in three places, in addition to a link to best practices. Updating the website will require more clear presentation. The form itself will clearly specify the presumption in favor of 300 or 400 level classes, as well as the role of ENG180. Requested information also needs to include something about course delivery method; suggestions were made for specific wording. Also, BGS will have a separate set of WID guidelines. A line was added about "course objectives related to writing." The updated request form will align more closely to the guidelines, with questions being made more

explicit and overt. It is unlikely these changes will be reviewed by ExCo before the next school year (2018-2019). The discussion returned to BGS and whether or not to remove the option to take at the 200 level. Because BGS is not disciplinary, there is no sequence that can be used to meet WID requirements. A question will be added regarding what pedagogical tools are included to provide for a sufficient learning environment. Such a statement will make the form more parallel with other forms.

8. New Business. It was stated that 25 students are too many for a WID course. There was discussion regarding the feasibility of attempting to alter that number; however, it was argued that WID can make a recommendation to Faculty Senate about potentially lowering the ratio, in order to facilitate student success. Another possibility discussed involved having WID courses rotate among faculty. Any proposals would need to be forwarded to ExCo first. This issue can be addressed in the fall.

9. Reminder. The chair reminded the committee that the next meeting on May 3<sup>rd</sup> will be the last meeting of the year. Three new members will be joining the committee as others rotate off; a new chair and recording secretary will need to be elected.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m. The next meeting will be at 2:00 p.m., May 3, 2018, in the Algonquin Room in the Union.

Respectfully,  
Nathan Miczo