

FRESHMAN ENGLISH POLICY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

April 4, 1986

Attending: Ruszkiewicz, Bertelsen, Daniell, Frost, Hedrick,
Kearns, Slatin

- I. Ruszkiewicz called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

- II. Ruszkiewicz asked that the Committee consider the proposed variants for E 306 in the order in which they were distributed--Carter, Fracasso, Lyons.

Frost opened discussion of Carter's proposed course, Composition and the Short Story: Joyce's Dubliners and Hemingway's In Our Time, by arguing that the content is inappropriate for incoming freshmen. Bertelsen and Slatin disagreed. Bertelsen pointed out that objections might arise to clear literary orientation of this course. Ruszkiewicz suggested that this literary orientation, in fact, makes the proposed course appropriate for E 309K, Topics in Composition. Bertelsen moved that the committee reject this proposal but encourage Carter to submit it to the 309 pilot program. Slatin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Frost moved that the Committee accept Fracasso's proposed variant, Writing about Ourselves and Others. Slatin seconded. Slatin then said that the present list of readings is too brief. Bertelsen suggested that an anthology or a Kinko's packet of shorter autobiographical pieces would be helpful in this course. Kearns pointed out that the plans for the research paper were unclear. Slatin and Daniell amended the motion: The Committee will accept Fracasso's proposal conditionally. Fracasso will be asked to submit both amplification of research paper component and a plan for additional readings. This will be circulated on a "no protest" basis. Bertelsen accepted the amendment. Slatin called the question. The motion passed unanimously.

Slatin moved that the Committee accept Lyons' proposed variant, Writing about American Language. Frost seconded. After brief discussion, the Committee voted unanimously to approve Lyons' proposal.

III. Ruskiewicz raised the question of procedures for dealing with book company representatives. Frost, Slatin, and Daniell said they want neither calls nor samples. Bertelsen, paying the price of power, admitted he needs samples of textbooks but not presentations. Finally, it was agreed that members of the FEPC are willing to receive books, but not sales pitches.

IV. Bertelsen said that the thoroughness of last year's textbook selection makes repetition of that procedure unnecessary this year. Daniell and Frost breathed a mutual sigh of relief.

Bertelsen requested that the Graduate Student Advisory Board selected by AGSE--Hector Torres, JoAnn Campbell, Mara Holt--try to garner responses from AI's about textbooks in use so that the Committee can modify the current textbook list. The Committee, Slatin said, should also invite response from regular faculty who have taught E 306 this year.

The Secretary recorded no official motion from this discussion, but agreed to ask the Graduate Student Advisory Board to report on AI responses to current texts.

V. Frost asked that the question of sending the Freshman Office's "extra" books to third world universities be put on the agenda for the next meeting. She will try to obtain specific information on how to accomplish this from Professor Emeritus Jones and will explore university legal technicalities.

VI. Ruskiewicz raised the issue of Assistant Director for next year, reviewing qualifications for the position and procedures for selection. Ruskiewicz invited Bertelsen into the subcommittee charged with reviewing applications. The other members are the present Director of Freshman English, Associate Director, and Assistant Director (Ruskiewicz, Frost, and Daniell, respectively).

VII. Frost moved to adjourn. Slatin seconded. Discussion resulted in setting the next meeting on Wednesday, April 23, at 4:30 p.m. and in placing on its agenda consideration of texts and of applications from Assistant Director.

Ruskiewicz adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.