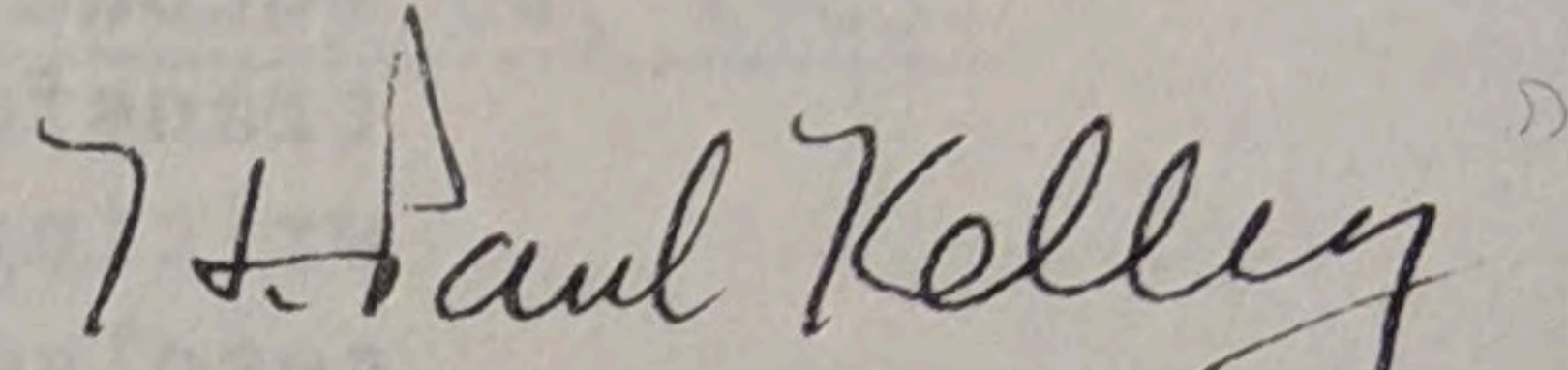


DOCUMENTS AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

QUESTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT CONCERNING CONFLICTING STATEMENTS
ABOUT THE NEW ENGLISH REQUIREMENTS

James H. Sledd (English) sent the questions reproduced below to President Peter T. Flawn on January 7, 1983.

Notice is hereby given that these questions to the President will be placed on the agenda for the University Council meeting on January 24, 1983.



H. Paul Kelley, Secretary
The University Council

QUESTIONS TO THE PRESIDENT CONCERNING CONFLICTING STATEMENTS
ABOUT THE NEW ENGLISH REQUIREMENTS

(a) Would you please clear away the confusion which has resulted from the following conflicting statements about the new English requirements?

I. Statements made while the new requirements were being debated

A. May 1, 1980, "Proposals on Composition and English Requirements" (distributed in English Department)

"Writing in Different Disciplines (new course)," now numbered E. 346K

"Transfer credit for a composition course beyond E. 306 satisfies this requirement."

B. May 9, 1980, "Proposals on Composition and English Requirements (Revised May 9, 1980)," the document on which the English Department voted

"Writing in Different Disciplines (new course)," now numbered E. 346K

"Transfer credit for a composition course beyond E. 306 satisfies this requirement."

C. After October 6, 1980, "Proposal on Composition and English Requirements," with "revisions by Dean of Liberal Arts" after the "Proposal" had been "presented at the meeting of the Liberal Arts faculty on October 6" but before the "Proposal" was "discussed at the first meeting" of "the Faculty Council of the College" on October 29

"Writing in Different Disciplines (new course)," now numbered E. 346K

"Transfer credit for a composition course beyond E. 306 satisfies this requirement."

D. Daily Texan, February 3, 1981, p. 2

"To expedite matters, English 307 [the second freshman course in composition] will be accepted as transfer credit in place of the upper-division English course," Kinneavy said. "I'm not sure which way most people will go -- some will take 307 elsewhere while others will wait for the junior-year course."

E. "University Council meeting of March 23, 1981," D&P 8278

"Mr. Jentz also asked Mr. Kinneavy whether or not transfer students who enter U. T. Austin with a second lower-division writing course would receive transfer credit for the required upper-division writing course. He thought that issue should be resolved before declaring this proposal to be emergency legislation....

"Mr. Kinneavy then responded to the question about transfer credit.... The transfer issue is briefly this, and it is a complex issue: if we would require that everybody who goes through an undergraduate... program here take an upper-division course in composition, we would immediately severely affect all of the second-semester composition courses offered by community colleges in the state.... Consequently our recommendation...for those people who transfer into the University [after] having taken a second-semester freshman English course [elsewhere is that their second-semester freshman course be accepted as a substitute for the] upper-division English course."

II. Statement made after the President had approved the new requirements

"Original Transcript" of the discussion at the meeting of the University Council, December 13, 1982, p. 14

Kinneavy: "The transfer students can count the second semester of the freshman English when they come into this institution.... The people who come in from community colleges will take the second freshman course and count that as one of the two other writing courses with substantial writing requirements. That way we do not get into a hassle with community colleges.... They would then go ahead and take the three courses in our English proposal; that is to say all of them would still have to take E. 346K.... In other words, one of the big logistical savings which we were hoping to get we lost."

(b) If transfer students will indeed have to take E. 346K, when and by whom was that decision made, and when was it discussed by the English Department, the faculty of the College of Liberal Arts, and the University Council, all of which had considered the new requirements under the opposite assumption?