

To: Ruszkiewicz, Hay, King, V. LeClereq, Lidoff, Underwood, Jolliffe,  
Merritt, Sipiora

From: Mary Trachsel

Re: FEPC Meeting

Date: March 25, 1983

There will be a meeting of the Freshman English Policy Committee at  
3:00 pm, Wednesday, March 30 in Calhoun 221.

Items on the agenda are as follows:

1. Approval of minutes
- *Gannaway matter*
2. Text adoptions
3. Assistant Director discussion
4. The new E306 syllabus



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78712-1164

Department of English  
P. IR 110  
(512) 471-4991

MEMORANDUM

To: All FEPC members, particularly Textbook Subcommittee  
From: Michael King  
Re: Books still under consideration, for continuing discussion/  
ranking

1. Handbooks: Little, Brown; Norton; Wadsworth; Harbrace
2. Rhetorics: Cowan, Shorter Edition of Writing
3. Readers: Little, Brown (new edition)  
The Conscious Reader  
Contexts for Composition  
The World of Ideas  
Life Studies (Bedford)  
(other possible "mixed genre," thematic readers)
4. Miscellaneous: Writing Fundamentals (McMurrey/Campman)

Please consider these before the next meeting of the FEPC (March 30),  
be prepared to discuss, rank, decide--or give me feedback as applicable.

Minutes - Freshman English Policy Committee

Wednesday, March 9, 1983

The Freshman English Policy Committee met in 201 Calhoun, Ruszkiewicz with Jolliffe, Hay, Merritt, King, LeClercq and Trachsel attending.

Ruszkiewicz reported that Dr. Sledd's two amendments had been defeated by the University Council and the new freshman English program will go into effect as originally planned. Only liberal arts students will enter the revised program next fall and no revised placement procedures are planned for next year. ]

[ Ruszkiewicz also reported on the activities of the subcommittee on Writing Skills Assessment and informed the committee that a writing sample for entrance to E306 will probably be required in the future and discussion of a possible E306 exit exam is currently underway. A subcommittee on the writing lab is also being formed.

In answer to previous questions about the staffing of courses in the new program, King reported that lecturers will probably teach E346 courses.

Variant text requests from Kate Frost and Kirk Hampton were read and approved. Questions were raised concerning texts used in Gloria Gannaway's variant course and James Hay will write to ask her for more information on her proposal. Marshall Alcorn's request to teach a literature section of E306 was dismissed because he will be able to teach the course as a 307 section next year.

King reported on the textbook subcommittee's suggestions for handbooks and asked the full committee to familiarize themselves with the following texts:

Little, Brown Handbook  
Guth's New English Handbook  
Norton's Writing: A College Handbook  
Hodges' Harbrace College Handbook

The subcommittee also discussed suggestions for readers suitable for the combined E306 and E307 classes. The committee was asked to look at the new edition of The Little, Brown Reader, 5th edition of Contexts for Composition, The Conscious Reader, Life Studies and A World of Ideas.

In addition, Ruszkiewicz suggested that we look at the abridged version of Cowan and Cowan's Writing. Further discussion of textbooks will continue at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.

Mary Trachsel  
Assistant Director of  
Freshman English

A brief comment on Cowan's Writing--Brief Edition

The Brief Edition maintains the strengths of the original and remedies at least one of its faults.

The strengths include logical organization and a very readable style that makes it readily accessible to the student. The faults of the original included excessive bulk and cost which appears to have been remedied and an overemphasis on expressive writing which has not been remedied.

Based on my successful experiences with the original edition, I would definitely use this edition myself and recommend it to others--particularly inexperienced teachers.

Ray Cook