

Freshman English Policy Committee Meeting

May 3, 1978

Parlin 8B, 11:00-12:00

Members present: Creel, Kinneavy, Trimble, Haney, Henry, Cameron,
Saldivar, Ruskiewicz

Agenda: (starred items deferred)

- Approval of minutes
- Reports of standing committees
 - Textbook
 - Variant course
 - Personnel
 - Program evaluation
- Old business
- * Syllabus development
- * Counseling program
- * Calendar committee
- New Business
- * E308PC course

1. Minutes of the meeting of April 26, 1978, were approved as corrected.

2. There was again some discussion of the use of a workbook for the first semester course (306). The textbook committee had not met to choose one, and they agreed to try to come to some decision about the text in the light of the opinions expressed by all the committee members.

Creel reported that Sledd is of the opinion that, in the absence of specific criteria for selection of a dictionary, we should just suggest that all Freshmen buy one. Sledd likes the Merriam-Webster best and thinks that, coming as it does from the organization that is the "backbone of lexicography," we should adopt it. Underwood, on the other hand, uses the Webster's New World because it contains 15,000 "Americanisms," starred for identification. Creel moved we include a page or so in each of the syllabi encouraging the use of the dictionary, describing the 5-6 major texts, and indicating the Summer, 1978 prices. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Saldivar noted that since the entire committee had only recently received a copy of the proposal by Cameron, Wainwright, and Lozano to offer a special course for provisional students during the coming summer semesters, his committee had no recommendation to make. Kinneavy noted that Roger is out of town and that he does not know if we can do both the summer course and the 306 syllabus development. Cameron suggested that if there was a lack of funds we might hold off on developing the syllabi for 307 and 308 until the fall.

A general discussion of the course followed (see proposal, previously distributed). Committee members pointed out that they could have more confidence in the proposal had they had it some weeks earlier for careful study. Cameron replied that the idea had not occurred to him and Wainwright until some weeks earlier, and that, while the proposal might appear spotty to members who had not had time to study it carefully, it had nevertheless been planned out carefully and extensively. Further, no part of it was experimental; every component had been used in a freshman classroom on this campus for some semesters, and the proposal was really a recombination rather than a departure from established

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Haney then moved that we table the proposal, with provisions as follows: 1) that an FEPC committee take it under advisement and develop it; 2) that we ask for University funds for an experiential program for next summer; 3) that we ask the department to fund a walk-in lab to be open for several hours daily during both summer semesters, with one half-time person staffing it each semester. The motion passed with only Cameron in opposition.

4. Haney discussed the recommendations of the Program Evaluation Committee (see previously distributed sheet). Saldivar questioned whether we need both a Program Evaluation Committee and a Curriculum development committee. Haney said that evaluation and development are both big jobs, and that while the two need to be coordinated, no single committee could do both. The report passed without opposition.

5. The committee discussed the need for additional personnel. It was generally agreed that the FEPC should have at least one additional faculty member and one more TA. The matter will be taken up again at a later date.