Language Arts Department Meeting January 27, 2005
Manaleo 116: 12:40-1:20

Present: Ellen Ishida-Babineau, Jean Hanna, Alan Ragains, Jean Shibuya, Robert Barclay, Frank Mattos, Libby Young, Laurie Tomchak (recorder)

DC Meeting--Highlights (Ellen)
1. Next year's schedule is being planned, with an effort to plan a year at a time, rather than going from semester to semester. We are experimenting with non-traditional scheduling, with 3 credit classes on Friday and Saturday (1 1/2 hours a day).

2. Derek Inafuku announced changes in Procurement Procedures online. A law was passed this year to ensure that local vendors get the first chance to bid. Three forms and certification are required. Derek thinks the legislature will veto it. Aileen said that video purchases are exempt from these procedures.

Ellen and Aileen reported that Clinton has withdrawn from school, so he can no longer work for Language Arts or the Learning Center. We are interviewing for a student position. Sharon Copeland, who works for the IEC, might be available. Kelly has four weekly hours currently.

Faculty Senate--Highlights (Aileen)
1. Senate Chair term changes, which Language Arts voted down recently, are again being discussed.

2. Mari Nakamura from ETC will present a Disability Forum, possibly at Convocation after the accreditation meeting.

3. Foundations Board
Jean was asked how the F.B. would change procedures. She said that like the WI board, approval of courses would be more timely than it is currently. Alan asked if members of the board would be appointed or elected. (probably appointed?) LAD passed a motion recommending that WCC institute a Foundations Board.

4. Middle College
Karla Jones gave a presentation in the senate on the Middle College, which is a program where "at risk" students take courses at colleges in the hope that they will get fired up for education. Members had questions about funding, which Karla said would be provided by her department (Career and Technical Education), by the students (tuition), and by grants. WCC is one of the few colleges on Oahu that does have space for such students. MCC uses it for their culinary arts program. The members were fairly unanimous in their disapproval of the program, which they felt duplicates other programs already in place, such as Early Admit, Talent Search and ETC.

CAAC (Jean Shibuya)
CAAC approved two actions from the Science department. An aquaculture class was similar to one Manoa offered but discontinued at the 300 level. Jean Okamura proposed to accept Math 21, a new course, as a prerequisite for higher math courses, in addition to the courses already accepted (Math 22 et. al). CAAC is also studying the creation of the Foundations Board.

Budget (Libby)
Windward can take some comfort in the fact that the Chairs of Higher Education Committees in both houses of the legislature have strong windward ties. Hee taught a course here, and Waters is also from this side.

Libby also asked members to sound out their students for input about the new Library building for Ka'Ohana.

A WCC walk-through by HECO resulted in their finding a 18,000-20,000 dollar rebate to be awarded to the college due to energy savings. It is not clear whether this will be subtracted from future bills or given as credits.

Announcements
Hanna Sensei announced that Kagawa students from Japan have resumed their visits, discontinued after 9/11. They will be here for a variety of cultural exchange activities from February 14-16

Alan shared with the members his packet of handouts for his speech class, which lessens his use of the media center. They are sold to the students at the beginning of class.

Aileen gave members a handout with Learning Center hours and workshop schedule.

Jean Shibuya has agreed to be on the Aloha Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30.