Language Arts Meeting Minutes for April 13, 2012

Present: Robert Barclay, Desi Poteet, Mary Segura, Annette Priesman, Laurie Tomchak, Jean Shibuya, M.J. Lewis, Lance Uyeda, Libby Young, Jill Dahlman, Janine Oshiro.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:35p.m. by Jean Shibuya. Jill Dahlman moved to approve the Minutes, Lance seconded, and all voted to approve.

Committee Reports:

Vice Chancellor's Advisory Council – Jean: No report. VCAC will meet next Thursday.

Curriculum Committee – Janine.

Janine invited interested parties to a meeting on Monday, April 23 at 2:30 in Alaka‘i 102 regarding: New Procedures for Submitting Curriculum Proposals Information Session.

The following new courses were approved:

ICS 203: Digital Image Editing; ICS 119: Intro to Social Media; ZOO 154: Exercise for Wellness; BUS 122B: Introduction to Entrepreneurship: Sustainable Agriculture.

In addition, music classes are being modified to standardize the credit hours.

Faculty Senate – Mary: The Faculty Senate passed the policies and procedures of the former New Initiatives Committee to the Policies and Procedures Committee for consideration. The P&P Committee adopted the policies with some amendments.

Mary reminded everyone to vote for Faculty Senate leadership positions.

Institutional Effectiveness Committee – Jean

The IEC will present a brief workshop on April 27th from 11:30-12:30 in Imiloa 133 on Discovering a Project: Finding and Attaching a Task to a General Education Outcome. The workshop will be a hands-on training on how to fill in Form 1: Record of Departmental Assessment Planning handed out at the March 16 workshop. Faculty will attach a task to a General Education Outcome and describe the assessment tool that will be used and how it links to the General Education outcome selected. All faculty who are not teaching are encouraged to attend. Department Chairs and incoming Department Chairs are expected to attend.

Writing Advisory Board – Robert

Robert reported that there is an upcoming system-wide meeting on WI classes and asked faculty to let him know of any issues to address.

The Board will be discussing a prior incident regarding a situation in which a teacher had 30 students enrolled in the WI class. The teacher maintained that only 20 students were under the WI designation; however, it is still considered an overload, according to the Board.

According to Brian Richardson, we have three WI offerings for summer; they are filling up quickly. If anyone is interested in offering a WI in the summer, there’s room to add it.
The annual WI Surveys have been prepared and will be placed in faculty mailboxes.

*Dean Division I ad hoc Hiring Committee – Robert:* The Hiring Committee conducted interviews, selected their favorite candidate, as well as two fallbacks (in case the candidate declined), and forwarded selections to Richard Fulton.

**Old Business:**

*Regarding English 22 and 100 course descriptions:*

The final vote regarding English 22 and 100 supported the following changes:

English 22—This course prepares students for college level writing with practice in the writing process, instruction in grammar and mechanics; emphasis on effective paragraphs and essays; and introduction to research techniques.

English 100—a college-level composition course involving critical reading, the writing process, rhetorical principles, research strategies, and the documentation of sources.

*Regarding Compass scores:*

Currently, WCC’s Compass scores are: 0 – 48 (English 8) and 49 – 55 (English 18). In order to align with HCC and LCC, WCC would need to lower Compass score by 3 points.

Since our last department meeting, Jean talked with Leslie and Ellen, and neither thought lowering the scores was a problem. Jean also consulted with Jerry and Linda, and both agreed changing the scores to align with HCC and LCC would avoid confusion over transfer issues.

Janine moved that we accept the new scores to be in alignment with HCC and LCC, Robert seconded, and all voted in favor.

**New Business:**

*Nominations for representatives for Curriculum Committee and Faculty Senate*

Jean called for nominations for Curriculum Committee and Faculty Senate. Janine and Mary currently serve (CC, Janine; FS, Mary).

The nominations were moved, seconded, and all voted in favor.

Libby will be the next Department Chair.

*Rain Bird “hibernation” for one year*

Jean explained that Richard wants to put Rain Bird in hibernation, while Robert Barclay is on sabbatical. Robert is not in favor of this, and he has a meeting set up for next week Thursday to meet with Ellen and Richard to discuss other options.

Jill shared that Chaminade put their literary magazine on hiatus for one year and that the one year stretched into six.
It was pointed out that money to pay for the production of Rain Bird comes from student fees; the teacher is compensated in salary.

Robert brought a copy of the current issue of *Rain Bird* and explained that he already has submissions for the next issue. Robert asked if the department was in favor of keeping Rain Bird. After a discussion, the motion that the department support Rain Bird, was seconded, and all voted to approve.

*The future of Star Poets contest and program*

Libby reported that Star Poets is in its 12th year. Initially, the purpose of the project was to get the WCC name out there to promote our strong writing programs. It grew into a state-wide contest, reaching both private and public schools.

Libby explained that 1/3 of the schools participating are public schools, and half of those are on the Windward side. Over the course of the project, grants were secured in order to do workshops in the schools, as well as to pay for publication and prizes. Last year, Hawaii Theater of Youth toured the production of *Poetry Fever*, which was based on the outstanding poems published over the years, reaching thousands.

Next year, Susan St. John, a supporter and active participant in organizing and securing grants, will be focusing on graduate school and is unable to commit to working on SP and suggests putting it on hiatus. It was agreed that this was a good idea.

**Other Business:**

Janine is interested in looking more closely at developmental sequence and asking: if it works, if it could be improved, and should writing scores dominate over reading scores? It was suggested that the developmental group be convened after the next department meeting.

It was mentioned that the Writing Lab, free tutorial services through TRiO, OWL are available resources to help students get up to date.

**Announcements:**

Jill, Chair of the First Year Composition Panel for Rocky Mountain, is looking for two interested parties to present on First Year Composition. The event takes place in October. Contact Jill for further information.

Libby – April *Ka Ohana* will be available Monday, and the May issue deadline is coming up.

Janine announced: *Out Loud in the Library* on Thursday, April 19, 6-8 p.m.

Robert announced: Rain Bird launch party on Thursday, May 10, 6-8 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 1:38 p.m.