

Minutes for English Department Meeting 11/5/07

Attendance: Sharon Chapman, Bill McKie, Ed Perez, Dolores Moreno, Joel Lamore, Joe Notarangelo, Diane Hunter, Dirkson Lee, Anasuya Pal, Horace Alexander, Yvette Lee.

1. Minutes were approved with a correction of several typos.
2. 015 Final Exam: Joel handed out 15 numbered copies of the three essay choices, and gave the department until Friday to look over the questions, make revisions, and get these printed.
3. J. Hal Walters Committee: Many thanks to the English Department who ponied up at least \$500 for the J. Hal Walters Scholarship fund in the last month. As of this moment, we have \$466.85 of interest accumulated so far, with an estimated \$375 total additional for the upcoming year. The fund is now at a whopping \$10,198.69 which, in all honesty, may be part of me not asking Gloria the correct questions. scholarship monies to give out next spring, and am trying to make things a little more clear for all of us.
4. Accuplacer: Diane opened discussion on Accuplacer. The news from matriculation is that they want badly to go with Accuplacer. A number of concerns were raised, including accuracy of placement, appropriateness of questions, and the concern that they don't give the department much information on a student's strengths and weaknesses. The arguments for: we need to get the students assessed and registered as soon as possible, it could save money, and be used as a recruitment too. Seems to assess something different than the high school curriculum. Concerns about the accuracy of budgets. It was noted that at the last approval process of the current placement system, the accuracy of placement was deemed effective. Other ways to improve assessment were suggested, including reducing the length of the assessment Part-timers are running up on load issues. The advantages of a "hands-on" process. A motion was entertained to recommend scanning, more counselors, use of computers in the assessment tests, automated delivery systems, first class, options. McKie moved that it is the sense of the English Department that the current system is superior to the Accuplacer system, and that Accuplacer cannot accurately place students into our classes. This motion passed unanimously.
5. Other