

MINUTES OF THE WRITING COMPETENCY SUBCOMMITTEE  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO  
5240 North Jackson Avenue, M/S UC 43  
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Office of the Academic Senate  
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April, 28 2009

Members Present: K. Putirka (Chair), V. Crisco, E. Hughes,  
B. Sethuramasamyraja, S. Sivek, C. Torgerson.

Members Absent: K. Mountcastle, I. Basurto.

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Chair K. Putirka in the University Center, Room #203.

1. Minutes. MSC to approve the Minutes of 2/17/2009.
2. Agenda. MSC to approve the Agenda as distributed.
3. Communications and Announcements.

The committee will consider the election of a new chair in fall 2009.

4. Registration Hold for Upper Division Writing Exam (GWAR) – Christina Leimer-Discussion.

Visit by Tina Leimer. Tina Leimer's research shows a significant difference in the GPA of students who pass (3.26) and fail (2.97) the writing exam, and that pass rates vary by college. Her data also shows that some writing courses by certain departments have significantly different pass/fail ratios. Discussion centered on whether such variation reflect whether mechanics or content are the focus of how writing samples are graded in various courses, and whether some courses are taught with higher standards than others.

MSC to adjourn at 10:00 a.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Writing Competency Subcommittee will be Tuesday, September 15, 2009 @ 11:00 a.m., Thomas Administration #117.

Agenda.

1. Approval of the Minutes of 4/28/09.
2. Approval of the Agenda.
3. Communications and Announcements.
4. Election of New Chair.
5. Limit of enrollments of 25 students in "W" courses; following Academic Policy Manual.