

Attending: Kate Adams, Robert Bell, Chris Chambers, Ted Cotton, Barbara Ewell, Tony Lala, Melanie McKay, John Mosier, Marcus Smith, Mary Waguespack, Kelly Wilson,.

Minutes of the January Department meeting approved unanimously.

Announcements:

Anne Lamott is coming to speak in New Orleans. She will speak on April 23 at 7:00P.M. at 7100 St. Charles Ave. Please let students know of this event.

Reports:

122 and 125 Assessment:

- Kate reported on the assessment of 125. That assessment has been posted on our assessment page. She has posted goals and objectives, analysis of a short story by Somerset Maugham. Dept. designed a holistic set of goals for the course to assess the class. A ten percent sample was assessed. Results were grouped by SAT scores, and pre and post assessed. The results are excellent in terms of percentage increase: 34% for lowest group; 39 % for middle group, and 31 % for highest group.
- Our annual assessment for 122 and 125 is more than we actually needed to do for SACS. We will not do this assessment of 122 and 125 every year. It is too expensive.
- We will look at and modify assessment document on web because we don't need to do as much.

Writing Lab Report

- Lab is opened, we have four tutors. New tutors: Ashley Weiss and Linda Rigamar. Returning tutors are Joanna Krawczyk, Jessica Eilers. Send your 122 and 125 students who need help to call the lab and make an appointment for tutoring. There are also some English majors working in the WAC lab; if the writing lab is overbooked, WAC can help.

Council of Chairs Report

- Mary McCay reported on the program assessment that the deans had to do for the Provost's office. English is in the top rankings, but there are five categories and there are many programs in the bottom two. What this will mean for Arts and Sciences is uncertain, but there is a good chance that the Provost's office might be considering closing programs, cutting budgets, or restructuring.
- There seems to be very little sense that Arts and Sciences is the essential core of the Jesuit University.
- Discussion of what we should do about the situation, given that we may lose extraordinary faculty. McCay said this was critical because our Extraordinary

faculty have MFA's and contribute greatly to the writing concentration. Mosier said that we would up class sizes, but that might not help given the current requirements for the literature concentration.

Spring II and Fall 06:

- The spring II schedule has been posted and faculty members have been notified of their courses.
- McCay requested that people begin to think about fall 06 as she will have to post a schedule soon.

No new business

Meeting adjourned at 1:05

