

**QUEENSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

**COMMITTEE ON WRITING IN THE DISCIPLINES/WRITING ACROSS THE
CURRICULUM (WID/WAC)**

**ANNUAL REPORT
ACADEMIC YEAR
2009 – 2010**

Membership

Officers:

Dr. Jeffery J. Jankowski (Social Sciences), Chair
Dr. Megan Elias (History), Secretary

Members:

Prof. Lawrence Bentley (Nursing)
Prof. Wendy Ford (Business)
Dr. Kathleen Wentrack (Art and Design)

Liaisons/Designees

Dr. Julian Stark, (Biological Sciences and Geology), Steering Committee Designee
Dr. Paul Marchese (Academic Affairs), President's Designee

Ex-Officio:

Dr. Linda Stanley (English), Co-Director, QCC WID/WAC Program

Committee Meetings

The WID/WAC Committee met four times during the 2009-2010 academic year. The meetings were held on the following dates: September 16, November 12, March 9, and May 11. The minutes for each of the meetings are available for review on the website for the QCC Academic Senate. The committee acknowledges the service of the secretary, Prof. Elias, in preparing the minutes.

Summary of Committee Work

Bylaw Charges / Committee Responses

(1) Bylaw Charge: Oversee and make recommendations to the Academic Senate related to the WID/WAC Program.

The Committee made no formal recommendations to the QCC Academic Senate during the 2009-2010 academic year.

(2) Bylaw Charge: Review and recommend changes in the criteria for a writing intensive (WI) class to the Academic Senate for its approval.

The committee made no recommended changes in the criteria for a writing intensive (WI) class to the QCC Academic Senate during the 2009-2010 academic year.

(3) Bylaw Charge: Oversee a continuing WID/WAC Faculty Professional Development Program with the Office of Academic Affairs.

The Director of the WID/WAC Professional Development Program kept the Committee informed throughout the year of the WI training programs. One the sessions ran in the Fall semester while the other ran in the Spring semester. Additional sessions were run throughout the academic year, particularly in the Spring semester, to accommodate faculty who were teaching writing intensive sections and simultaneously being trained. In addition, online WID/WAC training was initiated in the current academic year to accommodate the schedules of faculty who found it difficult to participate in face-to-face training.

(4) Bylaw Charge: Hear and decide student cases requesting a waiver from any WI degree requirements.

The Committee spent considerable time hearing and deciding requests for WI waivers. The number of waiver requests presented to the committee fluctuates on a meeting-by-meeting basis. Each case is scrutinized carefully with considerable thought given to the justification for a waiver. The committee acknowledges the considerable time Dr. Paul Marchese from Academic Affairs spends in preparing the cases for the committee.

It should be noted that the committee was presented with fewer WI waiver requests over the past year. In fact, about 50% fewer requests were received compared to two years ago. The committee attributes this decline to improvements in face-to-face and online advisement. In addition, the online schedule of classes was improved to more clearly mark those sections designated as WI. The committee recognizes the efforts of Academic Affairs and the Advisement Office that have made such welcome changes possible.

(5) Bylaw Charge: Provide a list of current WI certified classes and the instructors certified to teach WI classes to the department chairs that will make the final decision on the designation of a course or section as WI each semester.

The Director of the WID/WAC program provided copies of all WI-certified class sections and instructors at the beginning of each semester. All course offerings with WI designations during Fall 2009 and Spring 2010, were approved unanimously and certified by the Committee.

(6) Bylaw Charge: Insure through a certification and recertification process that all classes designated as WI meet the criteria for a WI class.

The Director kept the committee informed of the status of the faculty teaching the WI sections. Course sections designated as WI had faculty who were WI certified.

(7) Bylaw Charge: Provide the Committee on Committees with a list of faculty members who are participating in the WID/WAC program.

Throughout the academic year, the Director provided the committee with a list of faculty who were eligible to teach WI courses (i.e. faculty who went through the WI training).

Matters of Interest

- The committee welcomes Professors M. Gayle and J. Warsi who will serve on the committee during the 2010-2011 academic year.
- The committee thanks Professor M. Elias who will be leaving the committee at the end of the 2009-2010 academic year. Her service as secretary is also appreciated.
- Professor J. Jankowski will also be leaving the committee at the end of the academic year. He is grateful to the committee for the privilege of serving as chair for the past three years.
- For the upcoming 2010-2011 academic year, Professor K. Wentrack was elected to serve as chair and Professor W. Ford as secretary. The committee will be served well by these new officers.
- The chairperson would like to thank all members who served on the committee throughout the academic year.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffery J. Jankowski
Chairperson, 2009-2010