

MINUTES OF THE WRITING COMPETENCY SUBCOMMITTEE  
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO  
5200 North Barton, M/S ML 34  
Fresno, California 93740-8014

Office of the Academic Senate  
Ext. 8-2743

April 8, 2022

Zoom: <https://fresnostate.zoom.us/j/2984108197>

Attending: Jenny Krichevsky, Maria Dolores Morillo, Lalita Oka, Jamie Levitt, Juliet Wahleithner (Chair), Bernadette Muscat (Ex-Officio)

Missing: Aric Mine, Amanda Dinscore, Nigel Vigan (Student)

Agenda:

- Welcome
  - [Approval of minutes from March 17, 2022 meeting](#)
    - Moved: Jenny K
    - Second: Lalita Oka
  - Approval of Agenda
    - Moved: Maria Dolores Morillo
    - Second: Jenny Krichevsky
- WAC Updates from Jenny Krichevsky
  - Met with IDEAS
    - After Spring Break, will begin recruiting for targeted PD sessions, planned for early August (one week for each)
      - CHHS
      - JCAST
- Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement
  - Revisions to [CSU Executive Order 665](#)
    - [Letter from Associate Vice Chancellor](#)
      - Bernadette provided additional context:
        - During pandemic, CO removed GWAR for high-stakes assessment; actually only removes exam
        - Exam has not been in place at Fresno State for ~2 years; GWAR was ONLY suspended for students graduating Spring 2020
        - Summer 2020 and beyond: All students must pass W course

- Clarification on memo: GVAR will not go away; writing requirement will be embedded/assessed within major as part of WASC requirements
  - AM 928: Requires singular GE pathway between CC–CSU–UC
    - By law, UC does not have to follow legislative mandates; CSU and CC do
  - Moving forward IF GVAR goes away:
    - additional embedded writing within majors at both lower-division and upper-division courses
    - may need to change/shift charge of committee if W courses go away
  - Additional Discussion:
    - Many faculty already feel insecure in teaching writing; end up increasing writing required of students without increasing explicitly teaching of writing
    - PD for faculty teaching courses that include writing absolutely has to continue
    - Resources to support writing instruction: As long as WASC continues to include writing within its core competencies, resources will—in all likelihood—continue to be there
    - Might W designations be increased—lower-division W courses in addition to upper-division, with multiple options per major?
    - Need to incentivize teaching of writing courses for faculty
    - How do we measure writing competency?
  - [Fresno State's Upper-Division Writing Requirement](#)
    - ~~Pass Upper-Division Writing Exam (UDWE)~~
    - Pass W course with C or better
  - [Fresno State's Letter of Support](#)
    - shift focus to keeping GVAR
      - provides a way to measure competency
    - we will continue to review and revise the letter, with hopes of finalizing it on 4/28
- Announcements
  - Adjourned at 12:02

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 28, 2022, 11am-12pm