Present in Meeting Today:

Chris Putman – Public Relations

Evie Lindberg – Education

Lori Kanitz (Committee Chair) - English and Modern languages

Lois Ablin- Organic

Even Culp – Communication Arts

Olgy Gary – Lead Instructional Design – ogary@oru.edu < for the minutes

Absent:

Lenore Butay (Nursing)

Kerry Loescher (Theology)-excused

Notes:

- Overview of the Program
 - o Initiative began as grassroots initiative in 2001 for HLC approval
 - Original Need sprung from concerns about writing
 - Review of Mission Statement
 - One workshop / year
 - Goal: Both students and faculty more please with results of better writing
 - o Original Model: Cohorts for faculty WAC development
 - o WI Writing Intensive classes are no longer as popular as they once were
 - Website available for WAC Available on the faculty/staff intranet
 - Newsletter announces award winners and important WAC issues
 - Chris (Putnam) won last WAC award
 - Kerry (Loescher) won prior to Chris
 - o Members of the WAC committee are sent to conferences to learn WAC
 - Benefactor makes the WAC committee possible
 - LTC Nashville the name of the business that sponsors the WAC committee
 - Phyllis Shelton-Pomakoy
 - She'll (benefactor) be here for Golden Week
 - Steven, Evie, Evan showed an interest in Phyllis speaking in class
- Basic WAC Concepts
 - WAC Writing across the Curriculum
 - WID Writing in the Discipline
 - The purpose of WID is to make students proficient writers in their discipline
 - Workshops were used to make the WID concepts known to faculty
 - Students are often confused by the writing conventions of the discipline
 - Faculty need to help students write better
 - Ex: Students are actually encouraged to write in passive voice for the science disciplines
 - Ken Weed was very successful at implementing WID
 - (Evan) The process of writing helps students to think critically. Ex: A well written proposal is what is required for a grant

 Lori – The WAC workshops are designed to implement faculty giving writing assignments

International WAC conferences take place every other year, and will take place in 2016

- o Deadline for papers is Oct. 1, 2015
- Some of the faculty members will be available to go to Michigan June 2016 to participate
- Handout Given
- Marsha will be going to the WAC conference

Old Business

- Ted Talk style presentations have been suggested so that the WAC concepts can be shared in classes (Evan is willing to produce videos)
- New/Additional suggestion Bringing in professionals from industry that can be featured in the WAC videos
- The "WAC template for WID Resource Videos" is the handout that would be used to prepare the interviewees for their interview
- Question from Evie: "What is it about the way debate team students learn that makes them better prepared for writing than those who do not?"
- Answer from Evan: "There is a process to deconstruct an argument. Regina Farmer would be a good resource to identify that process."
- o Lori Hang on to that idea. This would be a good topic for a workshop.

New Business

- Goals for 2016:
 - Evan Dream. We can come up with resources this year, and my role is to get the resources we need to improve the writing of our students.
- Discussion- WAC Committee Member Goals Organic conversation:
 - Chris I used to only teach writing, but now I'm working with event planning and other PR topics. Jonathon Cyprowski and the yearbook team could use some additional support producing the yearbook.
 - Lori One thing we tried in the past is supporting graduate schools with a dedicated student worker for help with writing. But I'm wary about being able to support the media department with a TA. But there may be some technology that we can use.
 - Steven Can we Crowdsource the writing of yearbook materials by asking the various respective students in other departments/clubs to create content for the yearbook? Could be enabled by technology
 - Lois Can we train TAs to be better at helping faculty members grade?
 - Lori WID Worshop topic: Identifying WID idiosyncrasies and evaluating writing based on the output
 - Steven The online writing portal Smart thinking ran out of budget last year. Let's not let that happen again.
 - Lori Students can also go to the writing center in student resources.
 Writer's workbench is software they can use.

■ Steven – Let's consider Hemingway App http://www.hemingwayapp.com as an additional tool for student help with editing.

- o CLOSING: To do for Committee Members:
 - Committee members come up with industry leaders in your discipline for the videos
 - Identify individuals
 - Email the name to Lori and CC Evan
 - Get dates scheduled with Evan
 - Committee members survey WID needs according to faculty in their respective departments
 - Lori Email the interview questions to the committee