

ENGLISH COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA TWO-YEAR COLLEGES
TYCA PACIFIC COAST
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING, APRIL 23-24, 2009
DOUBLETREE HOTEL, BURLINGAME, CALIFORNIA
MINUTES

Meeting conducted by President Heidi Ramirez

In attendance: Sravani Banerjee, Elissa Caruth, Dave Clemens, Edith Conn, Michael Dinielli, Catherine Eagan, Gary Enns, Corinna Evett, Rosemarie Guglielmino, Tom Hurley, Jan Lombardi, Christopher McCabe, Heidi Ramirez, Sean Stratton, John Thomas, Sterling Warner, Julie Lamay **Absent:** Ted Brett, Micah Jendian, Lance Mejia, Adrienne Peek, Tina Ramsey, Diane Scrofano, Charles Williams

I. CALL TO ORDER—THURSDAY, APRIL 23

1. Welcome and Introductions

Meeting called to order at 8:33 AM

Introductions: Dave Clemens, Region III, Monterey Peninsula College
Elissa Caruth, TYCA Representative

2. Minutes

Homeless Students—possible i.e. article?

Caruth moves to approve minutes. Stratton seconds motion.

3. Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

4. Approval of the Agenda

Warner moves to approve the agenda. Caruth seconds motion.

II. Officer Reports

1. President's Report—Heidi Ramirez

Erik Fritz, Web Editor, resigned. James Fitch, an IT employee at Hartnell College, will fill in on a temporary basis. We hope that he will be able to help teachers use the web site for access to conference information, registration through PayPal, discussion on a listserv, and learning more on certain topics through links.

It was suggested that at the fall meeting, we discuss whether the by-laws or mission statement say or should say anything about the importance of professional respect and decorum.

Michael Dinielli suggested that the website be simplified.

Kyra Mellow will be replacing Tina Ramsey of Region I.

President Ramirez brought up the topic of position papers and listserv discussions of research areas. Our discussion of certain topics has sometimes felt cyclical. Warner suggested that board members volunteer themselves to take lead on certain discussions or research topics. Stratton wondered where we should take the 4-unit composition issue. Warner called for research proving the 4-unit course improves student success. Eagan commented that listserv discussions are archived. Hurley called also for synthesis of same discussions, for taking stock of what aggregated information we have on certain topics. Hurley suggested that discussions might begin on the listserv, then move to the website, then the lead person should collect and evaluate information, then the discussion might migrate to *i.e.* Guglielmino suggested collecting the names and contact numbers of people who have discussed each issue. Members discussed whether discussion boards on the ECCTYC website would catch on or whether using an outside provider like Yahoo would be preferable. Dinielli reminded members that the potential for these discussions is large—they helped Chaffey’s negotiations on load factor. Hurley recalled that Susan Yonker might have volunteered to do a load study. Caruth suggested that we need to hold the regional reps. Accountable for furthering and encouraging discussions. She will talk with James Fitch about new technologies to make it easier for our constituents to take part in discussions. Warner contributed that different English 1A (transfer composition) arrangements would be nice for constituents to see and discuss.

John Thomas is the new ECCTYC Treasurer. Ramirez and Warner met with him and have set up a new bank account.

2. Past President’s Report—Tom Hurley

Hurley announced that he will be leaving the ECCTYC board. He will remain on the ADE (Association of Departments of English) board. He commented that the ADE Bulletin devoted an issue to reading. The ADE recommended four basic elements in a BA: a coherent program of study, collaborative teamwork among faculty, interdepartmental collaborative teaching, and the adoption of outcome measurements. Warner thanked Hurley for his service and his support in many different capacities. He suggested listing Hurley as the ADE liaison.

3. First Vice-President—Sterling Warner

Warner is working with the TYCA research initiative. He wants to do something at the fall ECCTYC conference on workload. The ECCTYC conference will give out an award for best literary magazine—send magazines from your district by July 1. It would also be nice to have a display table of teacher-scholars’ work.

He mentioned that Jill Biden, wife of the U.S. Vice President, won TYCA’s “Fame” award. The runner-up was the person who reported on the homeless student who found a home at the local community college. The “Shame” award went to the article from USA Today that claimed “you get what you pay for” at community colleges. He encouraged us to send ideas to him, preferably including visuals.

He reminded everyone that the CCCC deadline for proposals is May 1, 2009. The TYCA Committee for Public Image needs out-of-California members. The YRC (Young

Rhetoricians' Conference) will have an SLO workshop, a BSI workshop, and sessions on technology in the classroom and English AA's.

4. Second Vice-President—Michael Dinielli

Dinielli commented on the corporatization of education. One result of this is that a lot of money is going to CTE programs, and English departments would do well to connect with them. At Chaffey, the 10 new positions that were going to be offered were reduced to 3. The BSI is doing well, though—they're in the second phase. They implemented the "poppy copy" recommendations and now have a professional development center. They are also working on bringing reading and English departments closer together. The college is using CurricuNet, which is going well. He will soon set up a conference site visit in Pasadena.

Warner commented that the CSU is interested in more partnerships. The idea of a Reading Certificate at SJSU is being floated.

5. Secretary—Chella Courington

Courington had to be absent from the board meeting due to personal concerns.

The comment was made that ECCTYC needs more representatives (and a revised list of representatives' addresses). Ideally representatives would be from different colleges, but having a second representative from the same college is acceptable.

6. Treasurer—John Thomas

Thomas reported that our bank account balance is \$22,483.00—enough for the conference. It is with Bank of America. They do have service charges, but the bank is doing well and we're exempt from service charges as long as we keep our balance above \$7,500.00. Heidi Ramirez and John Thomas are currently the only signatories. Thomas deposited some outstanding checks and has been navigating some unclear notes on which institutions have paid. H & R Block will file our taxes for \$430.00.

Warner asked that when sending the bills for institutional memberships, we send flyers so that people can see what ECCTYC does.

7. TYCA Rep—Elissa Caruth

Caruth will be resigning as the TYCA Representative after the fall. She commented that there's a small stipend and that it is a tax write-off. Two-year colleges are underrepresented in presentations at CCC and NCTE. TYCA has a Washington, D. C. lobbyist—Caruth can forward any concerns we have. Warner suggested Lee Herrick as a TYCA representative. The board gave Caruth a round of applause to thank her for her service.

III. ECCTYC REGIONAL CO-DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Region I Ramsey
Region II Eagan

Region VI Scrofano
Region VII McCabe

Region III Banerjee/Clemens
Region IV (vacant)
Region V Guglielmino

Region VIII Evett
Region IX (vacant)
Region X Yonker/Jendian

Reports for Regions II, III, and V were delivered before lunch.

V. LUNCH WITH CSU ENGLISH COUNCIL

III. ECCTYC REGIONAL CO-DIRECTORS' REPORTS, cont.

The report from Region VI was read for Scrofano/ Reports from Regions VII and VIII were delivered.

IV. OTHER REPORTS

1. Adjunct Co-Director, Mejia

Mejia was not present at the board meeting.

2. ECCTYC Historian, Conn

Conn is finding out the details of how faculty can have individual memberships to *i.e.*

3. *inside english* Editor, Stratton

Stratton wondered how many copies of *i.e.* institutions should receive if they haven't paid their dues. Sending 3 copies was suggested. Stratton also asked whether we should maintain goodwill by sending colleges who always pay dues some issues, even though they can't pay until the end of the semester?

With the copies sent to paid-up colleges, he sent out the Pasadena conference flyer, the proposal submission form, a flyer about *i.e.*, and a letter explaining the number of copies the institution was receiving. It was suggested that the NCTE or MLA advertise in *i.e.* Eagan suggested finding out who on the MLA Community College committee is from California. Stratton is going to try for a run of 2400 copies. It costs \$313.00 for mailing 1800 copies. He wondered if we should have poetry and artwork—board members were supportive of having poetry but not artwork. Enns suggested publishing 1 full journal a year and one newsletters with some articles online. Warner suggested having a special issue of *i.e.* devoted to the conference.

Caruth moved to move Evett's report on the conference up in the agenda and delay the CSU English Council and State Academic Senate reports until later. McCabe seconded.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. ECCTYC 2009: Pathways to Community Conference Update

Bedford/St. Martin's and McGraw Hill will definitely host something at the conference, and possibly Cengage. Evett suggested a raffle to encourage people to stay at the conference until the end. Perhaps the prize would be a book. Lombardi commented that

submissions haven't been coming in; proposals from board members are needed. Evett suggested sending out a reminder postcard. Caruth moved to spend \$500-\$1,000 on a July 1 postcard reminder about the conference. Caruth moved that each region's representative take the following actions to promote the conference:

- over the next 3 weeks, mail the full-color conference flyer to all colleges in each region.
- by June 22, email individual faculty, full-time and part-time, at each college
- send a poster to department chairs in the beginning of September

Eagan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion continued with the importance of getting Cal State participation. Warner commented that graduate students and faculty can earn two units of post-baccalaureate credit by attending.

3:30 pm—BREAK

The board shifted to item 5. under VII. New Business—the NCTE National Day of Writing.

Caruth explained that the NCTE wants us to promote a website that will have a gallery of writing. They need a curator of the gallery to edit or select the writing. The website is an opportunity to showcase your school. Even a classroom could do something. It could be a tie-in with the conference. How should we promote it, though? The web site URL is www.ncte.org/action/dayonwriting.

The board then returned to item 4 under IV. Old Business.

4. CSU English Council

- SDSU students who don't pass the EPT have to take a 5-week course. The EPT shouldn't be an admission/placement exam.
- Lots of lecturers are being laid off
- Colleges are worried about the pressure to offer more online courses
- Also worried about lack of communication between CSU English Council and Chancellor
- They have no website
- They overuse the term "remedial": one contingent believes that the community colleges should take care of basic skills students; another recognizes that basic skills students **are** their students.
-

5. There was no report on the State Academic Senate because Lombardi was not present.

The board returned to item 3 in VI. OLD BUSINESS:

3. Advertising—Conference Program (Advertising and Marketing Manager) McCabe will help in this area. He asked if anyone had a contact with a publisher.

4. Regional Director Vacancies
Board members suggested names of potential regional directors and colleges to approach.

5. ECCTYC Institutional Memberships
This discussion was tabled.

6. Homeless Students
The board recalled that Chella Courington had been interested in writing an article or perhaps presenting something at a conference on this issue. It might be interesting to survey cc faculty on the issue. The frequency of transience/displacement is higher than we realize.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Position Paper on Learning Communities
To write such a paper, it would be important to determine which are effective and which are not. Warner mentioned that the TYCA Research Initiative is looking at it. On the most basic level, it seems obvious that full time faculty and counselors have to be involved for learning communities to be successful.

Dinielli moved that we table this discussion until the fall meeting. Warner seconded. Board voted to table.

2. ECCTYC Research—Ways of Including PTS as Part of College
Ramirez agreed to lead an online discussion on how to keep part-timers involved in the college. Ramirez will survey us. Lance Mejia and Ted Brett, our Adjunct Directors at large, will be involved, too.

3. Wiki Website/Website Issues
Board members will now have automatic access to the website. The files are outdated. Eagan suggested a wiki format would be good because it would encourage visits to the website—we could set it to receive emails about updates to the website. Warner moved to accept James Fitch of Hartnell College as the interim web editor of the ECCTYC website. Guglielmino seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Enns moved that we set up Google Groups as a trial discussion location. Warner seconded. Motion passed.

4. CB 21 Rubric Information

The CB 21 rubrics, Academic-Senate-suggested rubrics for the different levels of basic skills reading and writing, were explained. The board did not comment at this juncture in the meeting.

VIII. ADJOURN FOR DAY

Ramirez moved to adjourn the meeting for the day. Caruth seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:56 pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

Meeting called to order at 8:27 am.

IX. NEW BUSINESS (cont.)

6. CC English Faculty Hiring Panel Discussion w/ CSU

The board prepared to discuss hiring at the CC's with the English Council as well as reporting on our board meeting.

X. JOINT MEETING WITH CSU ENGLISH COUNCIL

The discussion on hiring was wide-ranging, with the CSU English Council board members asking many questions. What are CC's looking for as far as reading training? Is experience with SLOs desirable? Is the Ph.D. preferred to the M.A.? The ECCTYC board agreed that a Ph.D. candidate will not get a given job over an M.A. candidate. It also suggested that knowledge of the BSI and its best practices would be helpful for graduate students. Dinielli contributed that he participated in a hiring workshop for graduate students in his region and has a helpful PowerPoint that he would be happy to share. It was mentioned that Cal Poly Pomona's MA offers Composition, Literature, and TESOL emphases, and students pick two. SFSU has a new course on teaching in the CC's. They are partnering with CC's and placing students at CC's. Adjuncts need to not see CC's as a stepping stone to a four-year college or university. Warner mentioned that Evergreen College has English AA students do internships in the Writing Center, which creates the next generation of teachers.

The ECCTYC board then reported on its meeting, focusing primarily on the upcoming conference and on *i.e.* Kim Flachman of CSU Bakersfield as well as others commented on the attraction that a job fair or job panel would have for her students. A panel title was suggested: "Joining Our Community: Preparing for a Job at the Community College." Dinielli promoted the Chaffey College BSI boot camp this summer.

The board returned to its meeting and agreed to move to agenda item XI, CONFERENCE COMMITTEES AND TASK ASSIGNMENTS.

XI.

The speakers have been booked.

Banerjee will do name tags and registration again.

Hurley will take the lead on selecting the best *i.e.* article.

There will be 5 computers, 5 screens, 5 LCDs, as well as several extension cords and speakers.

The board then returned to item 1. under agenda item X, New Business (should be XI?)

1. Impact of Budget Cuts on English Programs

Cutting is affecting creative writing and similar programs. It was suggested that we discuss CC cuts on the ECCTYC website. Warner cautioned against this, because then the administration might threaten to cut. The board agreed that advocacy for literature courses is vital in a time when technology courses are getting all the funding. The preservation of cultural literacy is also important. The board agreed to start threads on Google on teaching literature, including adjuncts in the college community, and the 4-unit composition course.

2. Basic Skills/Basic Skills Boot Camp @ Chaffey College

We need to guard against the BSI money becoming a slush fund, being misappropriated at colleges.

At CSUEB, it is estimated that 80% of their students are under prepared. The relationship between CC's and CSU's is improving, but the master plan at EB is to expand the freshman class yet farm their preparation out to a summer prep course.

XII: CONFERENCE COMMITTEE AND TASK ASSIGNMENTS

Members were reminded of their committee assignments. Dinielli moved to approve a July 22 deadline for literary magazine submissions as well as proposals. Stratton seconded. Motion carried. The board wondered if an outsider should judge the literary magazine contest. Warner suggested Lee Herrick. Guglielmino wondered if the judge should be at the conference.

Warner moved that each regional representative obtain a list of adjuncts' emails from the dean of each college, with the intention of promoting the conference. Eagan seconded. Motion carried.

Ramirez moved that the regional representatives send out an email about the first-time literary magazine award. Each college should bring four copies: two from 2008 and two from 2009. Send to Sterling Warner c/o Evergreen College. Guglielmino seconded. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned 12:00 noon.

XIII: ADJOURN