

EPC minutes – 2/10/10

Present: Amy Godert, CJ Koepp, Leslie Miller-Bernal, Ted Lossowski, Susan Tabrizi, Lisa Ryerson (Guest)

Meeting began at 9:06

President Ryerson was invited to the EPC meeting to determine her interest in participating in courses that would develop oral communication. The committee feels that her participation is important for a number of reasons, notably retention and her experience with the various forms of oral communication. Although we believe all majors incorporate oral communication, we need to be more deliberate in how to construct and give a good speech, and we discussed various ways that could be accomplished.

The committee was informed that the 2YP (2 year planning) committee is currently looking into a sophomore level course (1cr) that would include, among other things, elements of oral communication (for example public speaking).

President Ryerson expressed that she would be happy to participate in any way that would benefit the students. Some of the possible roles include:

- development of assessment plans and objectives for courses/modules
- leading small breakout groups in various sections of Wlls 101 type courses
- giving faculty workshops to Wlls 101 faculty to help them integrate, teach and evaluate oral communication

A few of the key points that President Ryerson would cover if she were to participate in a course involving oral communication would be helping the students:

- develop personal power in speech (including workshop components where good and bad elements of a speech were analyzed)
- determine aim and audience (know who you are speaking to)
- address idiosyncrasies in speech
- do self-assessment and analyze the strengths and weaknesses of their own speeches

The subcommittee on oral communication and information literacy proposed having oral communication integrated into Wlls 101 and continue throughout the college experience. The course proposed by the 2YP would be a logical continuation point for expanding and refining the skills learned in Wlls 101. One model that was mentioned was that faculty could teach oral communication skills in Wlls 101, and President Ryerson could be involved in the sophomore level course. Another model would have President Ryerson involved in both courses (time permitting). In addition, there would be other elective courses that a student could take to further develop their skills (offered by various faculty or staff).

Since many of the skills that the subcommittee on oral communication and information literacy want to teach are to be placed in Wlls 101, EPC recommends that potential changes and additions be discussed with Linda Lohn, possibly at an EPC meeting. The subcommittee also mentions having a common process for all sections of Wlls 101, including using the library, writing a paper, and giving a short talk. If all students are exposed to elements of information literacy and oral communication in their freshmen

and sophomore years, faculty can assume some level of prior experience and will not have to devote as much of their time to covering the basics.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved with minor corrections.

Next week we will discuss the five goals of a Wells education. We were reminded that our spring open meeting will be Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:30 in the AER.

The meeting ended at 10:25. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, Feb 17<sup>th</sup> at 9am.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Godert