

TO: Faculty Senate
FROM: WAC Committee of the Faculty Senate—
S. Zoltek, Chair, R. Davis, S. Demonsabert, R. Ruhling, J. Schmidt, M. Silva, A. Williams
Assisting: K. Simons, R. Fischer
Ex-Officio: T. Zawacki
SUBJECT: WAC Annual Report
DATE: February 16, 2000

During the 99-00 academic year the University WAC Committee members are

- reviewing WI syllabi to determine if courses and faculty are complying with WI guidelines. We have already checked web descriptions of course maximum enrollment for WI courses and have found some exceed the 35 student cap set by the Senate.
- participating in an ongoing discussion of assessment of effectiveness of WI requirement. We will be working on questions pertaining to faculty judgments about the adequacy of our students' writing as well as their perceptions, concerns, and needs related to improving students' writing. We also want to find out to what extent faculty are aware of and implement practices suggested by the WI guidelines.

The Committee wants the University community to be aware that

- the Provost's Office sponsored a WAC reception to recognize the many faculty who are committed to improving students' writing.
- the Director of WAC, with funding allocated by the Provost's Office, is working with selected departments and schools to develop guides to writing in the majors. Currently PIAF, SOM, Nursing, and NCC are working on these guides. Some of the work on the writing guides is being done by graduate and undergraduate students, supported by a Celebration of Learning grant.
- the WAC page is being updated and enhanced. We encourage faculty to consult the page frequently for information, updates, workshops, useful links. www.gmu.edu/departments/wac