

To: FEPC Members

From: Richard Hart

Date: December 4, 1978

The agenda for today's meeting will include the following:

1. Approval of minutes ✓
2. Gross request ✓
3. Report from Grading Criteria Subcommittee
4. 306 syllabus

*tabled until
next meeting.*

Not Approved.

TO: FEPC
FROM: M.J.H. Gross
RE: Proposal for carrying E306 students into a E307 class taught by the same teacher on the same principles
DATE: 11/30/78

Fall Semester, 1978, was the first time, to my knowledge, that entering freshmen were enrolled in E306-Tutorial. The experiment, so far as I can judge before the final tests, has been moderately successful. I say moderately because, although some students have made considerable progress in expressing themselves on paper some have been too immature to take full advantage of such a thoroughly non-coercive class.

The system consists of once-a-week class meetings, individual conferences ad lib., fewer papers, encouraged but not required rewrites, and almost complete freedom in choosing topics. I would not, by the way, again recommend this style of class for entering freshmen; second-term freshmen, who have learned responsibility would probably flourish.

What I propose is to find some way to carry as many of my current E306-Tutorial students with me into and E307-Tutorial. Many (more than half the class) are responding admirably to the individualized instruction they get. I would like to see whether an entire year of the same treatment would have a proportionate effect on these people's writing as one semester has had.

The E307-Tutorial would be organized in the same way as the E307sp-Tutorials taught in recent semesters, with alteration allowing for the students' E306 experience. I can see only one desirable change in the structure: conferences should be required once a week. I would pretest with 3200 and an essay and posttest in the same way. In addition to the Handbook and the reader, I would like to use Mahoney's Workbook of Current English.

Most of these students have already pre-registered, but several (all to whom I have mentioned this possibility) would change sections or classes to join me next semester. I would also like to invite some of the students from the writing lab (three or four in particular) to participate. I have not spoken to any of these students yet.

Perhaps the time of the class could be set before the end of the semester to give students an opportunity to see whether the requisite changes in their schedules could be made.