**Seahawks SOAR Advisory Committee Minutes**

**November 22, 2016**

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Jamie Clark, chair, at 2:00 pm in the Madison Monroe Building, Room 145. Rules of parliamentary procedures were suspended.

1. **Members Present:**

Dr. Laura Stafford, Co-Director of QEP Implementation

Mark Knowles, Co-Director of QEP Assessment

Jamie Clark, Chair, QEP Advisory Committee

Chandra Brooks, Sub-Chair of QEP Reading Strategies

Christina Wilbur, Faculty Book Club member

T. Cash Cox\*, Sub-Chair Reading Resources

Caitlin James\*, Student Book Club member

Dr. Barbara Huval \* , Student Book Club member

Zeb Lowe\*, Sub-Chair Student Book Clubs

Felicia McAdams \*,QEP Advisory member

Laurie Marcantel \*, QEP Advisory member

Grace Megnet\*, Sub-Chair Information Boards

Claire Thomason\*, Information Boards member

\*Denotes Absence

**Guest(s):**

None

1. **Sub-committee Reports**
2. Christina Wilbur gave a report. The Faculty Book Club has been met with enthusiasm from its various members from different departments and educational backgrounds. Six individuals participated in the Faculty Book Club this semester. Ties to Tattoos by Sherri Elliott-Yeary was the book of choice for Fall Semester 2016. The book discussed four generations that make up the American workforce which included Traditionalists, Boomers, Xers, and Millennials. The book also addressed labor shortage, knowledge transfer, language barriers, and stereotypes. Tools for resolving conflicts and boosting productivity were also addressed. The Faculty Book Club met on three occasions during the Fall Semester 2016. The club meetings were very informal, allowing for late arrival and departure as needed. Discussion questions were developed and given to members of the book club. These questions were addressed at each club meeting.
3. Dr. Laura Stafford gave a report for Zeb Lowe regarding the Student Book Club. On the Road by Jack Kerouac was the book of choice for the Fall Semester of 2016. The following report summaries were given.
4. Ruby Readers

Sponsor: Michelle Judice

The Ruby Readers Book Club met three times this semester in Madison Monroe Room 111 on Tuesdays at 12:30, so that students could attend before leaving campus for the day. Attendance was good with 14 at the first meeting, 12 at the second, and 15 showed up for the third. The book was assigned reading for all of the English 1301 students in both of my Composition I classes, 40 students in all, so reading it was both an in-class assignment and an extra-credit opportunity. In class, they had tests over the book, which was broken into the same parts as the book club meetings were. Repeatedly I stressed to them that this was a “two-for-one opportunity” as they already had to read it for class so they might as well attend the book club meetings for extra credit. In the meetings, we did a couple different activities; for a little while we just talked about what we liked that was happening in the story, another time I had made up a multiple choice test which they all participated in, and each time I kept the mood light and fun, so as to leave a good impression of what a Book Club meeting was (almost all said they had never been to one before).

1. Gates Go Getters

Sponsor: Caitlyn James

This year’s book club for *On the Road* was another successful one. We met on 3 different Wednesdays at 12:30 each time. I think this worked out well because the book was easily split into 3 different sections. The first meeting was the smallest, with only three members and myself. We had donuts and water and chatted about the first part of the book. I asked them to answer a set of questions that Dr. Stafford and I had selected as good intro questions. I spoke briefly about the time period that the book was written, as well as telling them some background on the author. I asked them if they enjoyed the writing thus far. This genre of writing seemed new and different to all the members. The second meeting had double the members. We had Jello this time for a snack and I passed out Tee-shirts to those who had attended the first meeting. I mentioned to the new-comers that if they attended two meetings and responded to a question on our Facebook forum, that I would give them tee-shirts too. I think I had at least 3 people respond to the FB forum. At the second meeting, I also asked the group to fill out notecards with answers to questions about the second part of the book. After they were finished writing, we went to the bulletin board and filled up the empty space. I also took pictures after each meeting of the groups. Dr. Stafford printed out the pictures, framed them, and added them to the bulletin board. For the last meeting we held closing statements about the book, the genre of literature, and the author, and then the group took their survey monkey survey in the computer lab. I genuinely enjoyed this book club and group of students who attended. I look forward to hosting this club again in the Spring (different book of course).

1. Early Birds

Sponsor: Dr. Laura Stafford

The Early Bird Book club met at 7:15 on three Mondays in the snack bar of the student center. We had 6 students the first meeting, 5 the second and 4 on the final meeting. It was harder to find food connections in this book so I had donuts and kolaches and it was well received. My club also helped give concept map answers for the Concept Map board which is in the PAC this semester. We were able to get a new order of T-shirts so all members got shirts that had made two meetings. I posted the discussion question responses on our Early Bird board in the PAC so other students could read the views of the participants.

1. Facebook Book Club

Sponsor: Dr. Laura Stafford

This semester we had only 3 people participate and it was for the purpose of making up a missed meeting. I did have Gerry Dickert put the picture up on Facebook and it was on the Facebook home page every time I logged on so that may have confused people as to when the discussion events were really occurring. That is the difficult thing about Facebook. When an event is posted it gets pushed down and you have to scroll a long way if a lot of activity is happening on the campus to find the Book Club event. I did post the responses given by the students on the Facebook Book Club Board in the PAC and have seen students reading the posts.

Discussion was brought up about students possibly being confused regarding discussion events. Mark Knowles volunteered to link the Facebook Club to the QEP webpage.

1. SSC Club

Sponsor: Chad Belyeu

The Fall 2016 SSC (Student Success Center) Student Book Club blasted off with Mr. Belyeu, seventeen students, Ms. Brooks and Ms. Dayna engaging in an author’s analysis of Jack Kerouac and delving into highlights of the first portion of the novel *On the Road*. The author’s analysis gave students a look at Jack’s real life and his journey back and forth across the United States and Mexico. The second assembly included Ms. Dayna distributing t-shirts, Mr. Belyeu’s slamming review of part two of the book, and attendees enjoying snacks (pizza and bottled water) provided by Ms. Brooks. At the third meeting, Mr. Belyeu completed our review as students were engaged in in depth conversations about theme, character dynamics, destination spots other interesting facets of Mr. Kerouac’s story. Ms. Dayna conducted the book club survey, while students munched on refreshments (pizza, bottled water, and Halloween Candy Corn Cupcakes) provided by Ms. Brooks. This first SSC meeting ignited genuine interest in the students, so subsequent visits produced gatherings of sixteen members in the second meeting and fourteen members in the third meeting. The gatherings were held in the SSC’s Room 105 at 1:30 PM on Wednesdays (September 28th, October 12th, and October 26th). And, once again, an SSC Book Club member, Humberto Hernandez, became the proud winner of a Nook tablet. In the end, this year’s SSC Book Club meetings were awesome!

1. Hawks Nest

Sponsor: Laurie Marcantel

This semester I had a bulletin board in the hallway at the top of the stairs in the in the MMED that included the dates and times of the book club meetings I hosted. I had 3 students on my list. I left voice mails and texted each student 2-3 days prior to the club meeting and none of the 3 students attended any of the meetings. The first semester I had apple and cherry pies and vanilla ice cream to serve and planned to discuss the setting of the book. I really enjoyed reading On the Road and look forward to the next semester.

1. Dr. Laura Stafford gave a report regarding the Student Book Club Movie Night.

This semester, John Freyermuth, our Night Hawks sponsor arranged with Zeb Lowe to have “Beat Generation” music playing as guest entered the Parker Center Banquet Room for the film viewing. We also served a coffee bar with cookies, candy and popcorn with bottled water as part of the movie experience. SGA assisted with the popping of the popcorn. Dr. Laura Stafford welcomed the group and Mr. Zeb Lowe gave a brief introduction to the novel and the social context that influenced the “Beat Generation.” The 2012 film adaptation of On the Road was shown and well received by the 72 attendees. The door prizes were a great success, but the two NOOK winners were not present and that was a bit of a disappointment. We had over 30 High School Hawks from Nederland High School and many of them brought permission slips from their parents since they were seeing an R rated film. We did have some of the more sexual scenes edited out of the version we saw since those scenes were not in the book, but added for the sensibilities of the 2012 viewing audience. We were able to connect with the two NOOK winners on campus the next day and took their pictures with their sponsors. The winners came from the Gates Go Getters and the SSC Book Club.

1. Dr. Laura Stafford gave a report for Grace Megnet regarding the Information Bulletin Board Sub-committee. The QEP SOAR Strategy boards were rotated on campus so that a different strategy would be viewed by the students entering each building. On the two boards that promote all 6 strategies we tried a new interactive approach and provided push pins so the students could “pin” or vote for the ones they used the most. Grace Megnet suggested this technique be used to get the students to participate in showing their awareness of this program. This has been successfully used and will be continued. The Gates Go Getters club participated in completing the Underlining and Annotation board, the SSC club completed the KWL board, Early Birds completed the Concept Mapping board, and Ruby’s Readers completed the Context Clues board. We will continue to have these clubs be responsible for the interactive aspects on these particular strategies for the spring when the book changes to Toni Morrison’s *Song of Solomon*. We did have to remove the Night Hawk board from the Student Center (repainting walls) and it is has not been hung yet. Dr. Stafford suggests that it go in the PAC between 136 and 134 since a large number of students go into that area for the entrance into three separate classrooms. Mr. Freyermuth used part of his music department’s board for the Night Hawks this semester, but would like the 4 X 4 board to be hung for the Night Hawks since it was purchased for that purpose.
2. Chandra Brooks gave a report for Chandra Brooks regarding the Reading Strategies Sub-committee. It was reported that faculty and staff across campus are incorporating various reading strategies into instruction. It was reported that less students are expressing a dislike of reading. Discussion was held regarding the reading strategies used most by teachers. Mark Knowles volunteered to create a survey to see which strategy teachers use the most. It was thought that this will be important for the future Impact Report.
3. Jamie Clark gave a report for Kash Cox regarding the Reading Resource Sub-committee. It was reported that all of the links provided for the Seahawks SOAR web page are working and there have been no broken links reported.

1. **Implementation and Assessment Report**
2. It was reported that the Nelson-Denny was administered to the selected freshman level courses during the Fall 2016 Semester. Students completed the Nelson-Denny pre-test during the beginning of the semester and the Nelson-Denny post-test at the end of the semester.

The Metacognitive Awareness of Reading Strategies (MARSI) will be administered to the sophomore classes in the Spring 2017 Semester. It was reported that some cosmetic changes had been made to the survey form to decrease students’ confusion and also to help with illegible hand writing.

1. **Fall Semester 2016 Plans**
2. Faculty members have been asked to email suggestions regarding books to discuss in the future. At this time, In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and an American Family in Hitler’s Berlin by Erik Larson will be the book of choice for the Spring Semester 2017. The Fall Semester 2017 will be the last semester for the book club. It was brought up during discussion to possibly read the same book as the student book club. The student book club will be reading East of Eden by John Steinbeck. It was decided that the faculty would be sent an email requesting feedback.
3. Dr. Laura Stafford reported that Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison will be the book of choice for the Spring Semester of 2017 for the Student Book Club. Movie Night will be Monday, April 10, 2017 at 6 pm in the Carl Parker Center.
4. **Adjournment**
5. The next Seahawk SOAR Advisor Committee meeting is tentatively set for Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 12:30 pm. This meeting was adjourned at 3 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by

**Jamie Clark**

Jamie Clark, Chair of QEP Advisory Committee