CUNY Pathways Project: Transfer Majors Committee on English
Chair: Joshua Wilner, CCNY

Committee members:
Allison Pease, John Jay College
Duncan Faherty, Queens College
Hildegard Hoeller, College of Staten Island
Linda Reesman, Queensborough Community College
Grace Russo Bullaro, Lehman College
James Tolan, Borough of Manhattan Community College
Barbara Webb, Hunter College
Susan Young, LaGuardia Community College

Summary of Meeting
October 28, 2011

The English Majors Committee members shared concerns of their individual colleges, as they looked for commonalities of course requirements in their various colleges across CUNY. One of their goals was deciding upon what courses could be taken at the community colleges that would also satisfy the requirement of the major as part of the major, or as a pre-requisite for the major at all colleges offering the major.

The committee members voiced their concerns to maintain particular aspects covering methodology, terminology, critical reading and writing, and introductory literature. Members asked questions to clarify their goals such as: what courses should be included? How many entry-level courses should be selected to fill the needs of the major at individual colleges and also satisfy transferability between colleges?

Two models were determined as possible solutions. Model A includes two composition courses and one literature course based on the objectives of the current breakdown of 7 credits of English Composition designated in the Common Core. Model B suggests three courses, not sequential, including a composition course, a basic literature course, and an introduction to literary studies course. The committee members will meet next to accomplish the following: 1) discuss the various curricula at the individual colleges, 2) flesh out the goals of the courses in Model B, and 3) decide how to best protect the English curricula of individual colleges and to give guidance to community college students about the English major.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Reesman