

# CHAIRS MEETING

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October 9, 2018

WESLEYAN  
UNIVERSITY

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# AGENDA

- Conversation with the President
- First Year Seminar Program
- Assessment
- Announcements
- Faculty Handbook Trivia Quiz!

# Conversation with the President

- How to improve translation learning – from classroom and campus to what students are going to be doing beyond the university?
- How best to describe how facilities improvements will substantially enhance teaching and research?
- What ideas do our colleagues have about how partnerships (or other initiatives) can expand the portfolio of educational programs we offer? An example of a partnership would be the 3-2 programs in engineering.

# FYS

“ . . . introduce students to a variety of topics ranging from Greek myth to neuroscience. . . . All . . . emphasize **the importance of writing at the university level**. Students in first year seminars will become familiar with the **methods used to collect, interpret, analyze, and present evidence as part of a scholarly argument**. Faculty teaching these classes will also highlight the type of writing associated with their respective disciplines, and help students develop, compose, organize, and revise their writing. All first year seminars will **have assignments totaling at least 20 pages, and will feature oral or written feedback** on student writing; many will also employ peer-mentoring and writing tutors. FYS are limited to 15 students.

# FYS 2017-19

## '17-'18

- 58 courses
  - 32 Div I
  - 21 Div II
  - 5 Div III
- 24 courses visiting fac
- 49 F/9 SP
- 642 students
- 72.5% fall capacity utilization
- 70% of class of 2021

## '18-19

- 50 courses
  - 28 Div I
  - 19 Div II
  - 3 Div III
- 10 courses visiting fac
- 42 F/8 SP
- Fall enrollment:
  - 558 students
  - 88.6% capacity utilization
  - 69% enrollment rate

# FYS goals

- 80% enrollment rate
- 5-6 additional courses/year
- All FYS offered in Fall semester
- More courses in DIV III
- and wider offerings in DIV II

# FYS Incentives

- Overload pay available for Wes faculty
- Visitor requests

# Assessment – Annual Reports

- Read them all & summarized methods
- Noted:
  - Responses to “How can we help?” question
  - Use of Senior Survey data
    - Small Ns
    - Is it useful
- Follow up from me by the end of the week

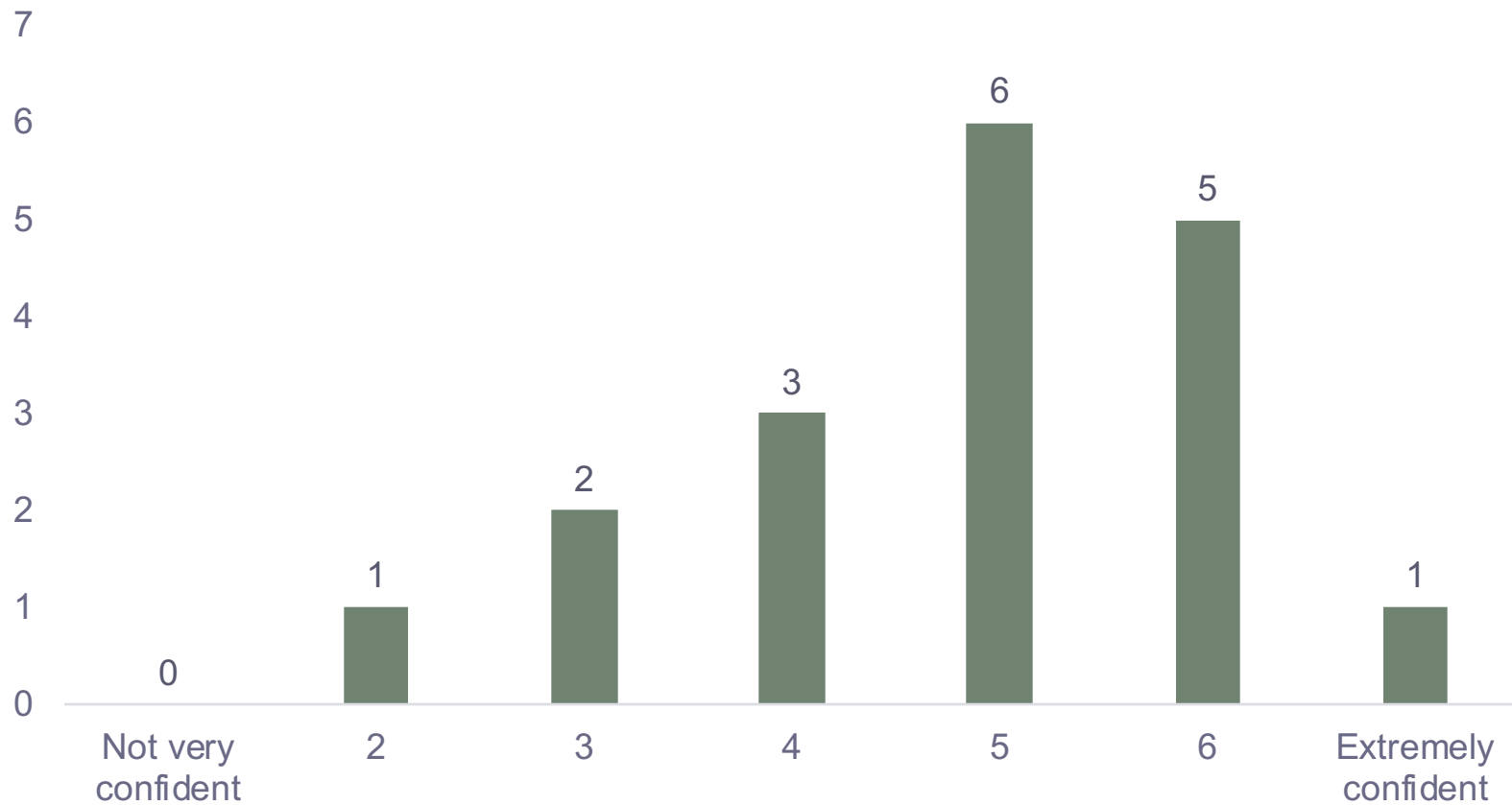


# Assessment – Writing in the First

- Panel project
- Following 25 students in Class of 2022
  - Interviews, survey, papers for up to 3 semesters
- Qs
  - How do their writing behaviors change?
    - *What causes them to alter or maintain behaviors?*
  - What resources (if any) do they seek?
    - *What causes them to seek resources or avoid them?*

# Assessment – Writing in the First

"Writing in the First" students' feelings about their writing



# Assessment – Writing in the First

## "Writing in the First" students' feelings about their writing\*

I hate to write because I'm not good at it.	3
I hate to write but do it fairly well.	0
I don't mind writing, but I'm not good at it.	1
I consider myself an average writer who gets the job done.	4
I am a capable writer who doesn't mind writing.	7
<u>I am a capable writer who enjoys writing.</u>	<u>3</u>

\* as of 10/5,  $n = 18$

# Assessment – Writing in the First

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	Total
I typically write my papers in one sitting.	3	6	1	6	1	17
I regularly write for reasons other than to complete course assignments.	7	4	0	6	1	18
I usually revise my papers more than once before turning them in.	1	5	2	7	3	18
When writing papers, I seek out feedback from others (peers, parents, tutors, professors, etc.).	0	3	3	8	4	18

\* as of 10/5, n = 18

# Assessment – Looking for Partners

- Who are looking for ways to determine whether students are reaching stated learning goals
- Want to cross-list WRCT 200/300
- Interested in investigating how we teach (and students learn) oral communication

# Wesleyan's Radio/TV/Videoconference System



- In the lower level of South College, Wesleyan has a studio for faculty and staff to conduct broadcast interviews with news stations anywhere in the country.
- Using internet technology, the SeeSuite system also enables secure high-resolution videoconferencing for academic collaborations, presentations, and other uses.
- **For media requests, please contact Manager of Media & Public Relations Lauren Rubenstein at x3813**
- **For technical support, please contact Senior Instructional Media Specialist Heric Flores-Rueda at x2147**

# Announcements

- **WebAIM trainings**
  - In order to bring our Wesleyan website into compliance, Wesleyan has contracted with WebAIM to train faculty, staff, and AAs on accessible web design including:
    - How to create and upload a pdf so that it is accessible
    - When to use headers versus plain text
    - Use of alternate text
  - Trainings for faculty: Wednesday, Oct 31 and Thursday, Nov 1 over the common hour
- **New adjunct titles for staff who teach**
- **Metro Movies has offered to:**
  - Host events for you and your students
  - Try to get a particular movie you'd like them to bring
  - For more information, contact:  
Linda Gargano, Vice President, Operations  
203-324-9495 ext. 222 or [lgargano@scglease.com](mailto:lgargano@scglease.com)

# THANK YOU!

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 20