## Communication ESLO Committee Annual Report for Academic Year 2016-2017

Members of the Committee:

Aja Bettencourt-McCarthy Monica Breedlove Roger Lindgren Matthew Schnackenberg Christopher Syrnyk Matthew Search, Chair

Charges to the Committee:

After attempting to review an

The committee also discussed the WICHE Passport, and reviewed existing passports from other institutions to determine a recommended set of passport courses in the Oral Communication and Written Communication passport blocks. Based on that review (refer to Appendix B), the committee's recommendations are:

Outgoing passport – Students who complete all COM ESLO Foundation courses will fulfill the Oral and Written Communication passport blocs.

Incoming passport, Oral Communication – SPE 111. Rationale: almost all passport institutions include coursework that meets the outcomes for COM ESLO Foundational oral communication; it is likely that students with incoming passports have met those outcomes. Incoming passport, Written Communication – WRI 121. Rationale:

- Almost all passport institutions include coursework that meets the outcomes for the COM ESLO introductory foundation for written communication (WRI 121); it is likely that students with incoming passports have met those outcomes.
- While many passport institutions include coursework that meets the outcomes for the COM ESLO advanced foundation for written communication (WRI 122), about 30% of passport institutions do not (or do so using courses that fulfill other Oregon Tech ESLO requirements

## Appendix A Questions for the Communication ESLO Committee (with Responses)

CM1: Many programs are interested in specifying a course that best prepares students for communication within their discipline/profession; can you share high-level detail on the options being developed by the Communication department in this direction?

Response from the COM ESLO Committee: The course list provided to GEAC represents all of the courses that have been submitted for approval. Based on feedback from GEAC, the COM ESLO committee, and the degree programs, the Communication department has plans to develop and submit two courses in the Fall 2017 term (WRI 3xx: Writing in the Health Sciences, and WRI 3xx: Writing in Engineering), with pilot offerings scheduled for the Winter and Spring 2018 terms.

CM2: Will new COM electives (generally) be 300-level? At present, a number of programs slot WRI227 in the first year, which is not ideal. Use of higher numbers for practicing-level COM would help signal the "right place" in the curriculum for them to sit.

Response from the COM ESLO Committee:

All currently planned additions to the COM ESLO Essential Practice list are 300+ level courses.

WRI 227 will not be renumbered. WR/WRI/EN 227 is the common course number used in Oregon public universities and community colleges for an intermediate-level technical communication course, so renumbering WRI 227 would likely lead to confusion in the transfer approval process. However, the Communication department plans to make substantial changes to the structure of the course (and potentially resubmit for approval) during the Fall 2017 term; the planned changes will both enable the course to integrate more gracefully with most degree programs' first- and second-year curricula, and bring the course in line with other WR/WRI/EN 227 courses throughout the state (easing transfer approval).