

UNH FACULTY SENATE  
MOTION # XXIII – M7

*to support the offering of online courses designated as writing intensive*

1. Motion Presenter: Shelley Mulligan, representing the Academic Affairs Committee

2. Date of Faculty Senate discussion: 10/15/2018, 11/5/2018

**3. Rationale:** In light of the establishment of the 8-week on-line E-UNH calendar, the Writing Committee discussed lifting the moratorium that Writing Intensive (WI) courses not be offered on-line, and only face to face, at the December 2017 meeting. A position statement was then presented March 29, 2018 that would allow WI designated courses to be taught on-line under a set of parameters. (see Appendix) The Academic Affairs Committee has reviewed this statement and are in support of the position statement.

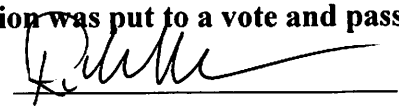
A primary motivation for lifting the moratorium is to allow for the creation of specifically online degrees, such as Cybersecurity. Whether the university should heavily invest in online degrees is considered a separate matter worth deliberating, but not within the scope of this specific motion.

**4. Motion: The Faculty Senate moves that the moratorium on new on-line Writing Intensive courses be lifted as long as new on-line courses designated as Writing Intensive meet all conditions as described in the attached position statement from Ed Mueller, Director, UNH Writing Programs, March 29, 2018. These conditions are summarized as follows:**

- Undergraduate online WI courses should primarily offered in an 8-week eUNH semester. They could also be full Fall or Spring semester courses, or 8- and 10-week Summer Session courses. UNH transfer policy allows for 6-week WI courses to address accelerated quarters, which would be the shortest allowable duration for WI online courses.
- Class size be capped at 24 students
- Courses must conform to established UNH WI courses guidelines which are valid regardless of mode

**WI proposals should be generated for new online courses in accordance with established course proposal processes, as well as for existing conventional courses that are migrating to online modes or changing timeframes, per Faculty Senate Motion #XVII-M12.**

**5. Senate action: The motion was put to a vote and passed unanimously with 7 abstentions.**

6. Senate chair's signature: 

Forwarded to the following on November 30, 2018

President James Dean

Wayne Jones, Provost

P.T. Vasudevan, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

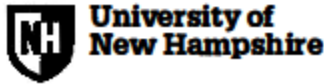
Edward Mueller, Director, University Writing Programs

Nicoletta F. Gullace, Director, Discovery Program

Andy Colby, Registrar

All deans

All department chairs



University Writing Programs

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March 29, 2018

Subject: Writing Committee Position Statement on Online WI Courses

In its meeting in December, the Writing Committee revisited the moratorium on online WI courses. In the light of the establishment of the eight-week online eUNH semester, the Writing Committee voted in support of offering WI-designated courses online under the following parameters, which would address the salient concerns that brought about the moratorium:

- Acceleration:** given that acceleration is not consistent with WI methods, undergraduate online WI courses should *primarily* be offered in the 8-week eUNH semester. Alternately, they could be full fall or Spring semester courses, or 8 or 10 week Summer Session courses, not, however, J Term or 5 week Summer Session courses. UNH transfer policy allows for 6-week WI courses in order to address accelerated quarters (this would be the shortest allowable duration for WI).
- Class size:** they should be capped at 24 students.
- WI Tenets:** they should conform to established WI guidelines, which are valid regardless of mode (in other words, online courses are not to be considered "WI by nature"). As with other WI courses, faculty assigned to teach online WI courses should be aware of and understand the WI Guidelines.
- Course Management:** a WI proposal should be generated for new online WI courses in accordance with established course proposal processes, as well as existing conventional courses that are migrating to online modes or changing timeframes, as per Faculty Senate Motion # XVII-M12\*.

I would be happy to further elaborate if there are any questions.

Ed Mueller  
Director,  
UNH Writing Programs

\*Key Language from FS Motion #XVII-M12: "The Faculty Senate endorses the position taken by both the Discovery Program Committee and the Writing Committee that a change in the *mode* of a course (from largely face-to-face to fully or substantially online) or in the *time* of a course (from thirteen weeks to five or fewer) is a sufficient change to warrant a review of a previously-approved course by the relevant committee."