

Faculty Inquiry Group Proposal Form

Please complete the form below to apply for FIG funding. *(Please limit the proposal to two pages or less.)*

Facilitator Information:

Name: Siskanna Naynaha

Department: English

Daytime Phone: 3388

Email: naynahas@lanecc.edu

Member Information:

(4 minimum, 10 maximum, including facilitator) – While the committee strongly recommends groups of 10 or less, proposals for larger groups will be considered.

Please list names, departments and email addresses of participants.

1. Siskanna Naynaha: naynahas@lanecc.edu
2. Arwen Spicer
3. Sandy Jensen
4. Erika Braverman
5. Amber Ashpole
6. New Faculty
7. New Faculty
8. New Faculty
9. TBD
10. TBD

(All from English)

Briefly explain the topic, issue, question, concern, project, and/or problem that the group will address.

Last year (Summer 2012) we ran a FIG inspired by the in-service presentation of special guest speaker Rebecca Moore Howard, a nationally renowned composition and rhetoric scholar present about her on-going research, The Citation Project (<http://site.citationproject.net/>), which examines students' use of sources in research papers. Moore Howard's research reveals that most students understand research rather shallowly and see the project of one of gathering facts or quote harvesting. Her study indicates that most students use only the first one-two pages of a source and do not truly engage with the ideas of texts. She recommended several steps to address this issue, one of which was teaching critical reading and inquiry in the classroom.

The Summer 2012 FIG really ended up focusing on theoretical approaches to teaching critical thinking. This year we'd like to shift the focus to classroom methodology, tools, and resources including lecture topics, assignments, and assessment techniques that will help us improve the instruction of critical thinking in our writing classrooms, which is more now sorely needed than ever given the burgeoning success and completion agendas here at Lane.

Additionally, we have a WR 199 course under development, one that will focus on critical thinking, reading, and writing and be paired with a WR 121 course for unevenly prepared students. The summer FIG will be an ideal forum for helping faculty who may at one point in the future teach within the WR 121/ENG 199 learning community think about critical thinking. (This is not the replacement for CD \$\$, which has already been allotted to the developer of the WR 199; our FIG would help faculty new to the concepts and concerns of ENG 199 consider how they might teach this course, but more, broadly, the summer FIG is designed to help all of us refine our thinking about how to teach this critical skill).

Gerald M. Nosich's *Learning to Think Things Through: A Guide to Critical Thinking Across the Curriculum* / Edition 4: <http://goo.gl/xwlq7>

Richard Paul and Linda Elder's (Author), *Critical Thinking: Learn the Tools the Best Thinkers Use. Concise Edition* <http://goo.gl/BWwGx>

Daniel Willingham's "Critical Thinking: Why is it so Hard to Teach?" *American Educator* (Summer 2007): 8-19. Print.

Plus, we will revisit:

Excerpts from John Bean's *Engaging Ideas*, 2nd edition.
(<http://www.amazon.com/Engaging-Ideas-Professors-Integrating-Classroom/dp/0470532904>)

Excerpts from bell hooks' *Teaching Critical Thinking: Practical Wisdom*: http://www.amazon.com/Teaching-Critical-Thinking-Practical-Wisdom/dp/0415968208/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1336613868&sr=1-1

Excerpts from *Teaching Critical Thinking: Tools and Techniques to Help Students Question Their Assumptions* by Stephen Brookfield
http://www.amazon.com/Teaching-Critical-Thinking-Techniques-Assumptions/dp/0470889349/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1336613949&sr=1-1

Provide a tentative outline of planned activities, meetings and/or topics.

We would hold several round table discussions of the texts, most likely assigning two people to a topic/section of each text. I one goal is the creation of several assignments that we will share with one another as well as with the department at large.

What do you see as potential outcomes of this FIG?

I think that folks will change their teaching to include some of the excellent suggestions by Bean, in particular. His book is an unbelievable resource and fabulous for writing instruction.

Provide a brief overview of proposed budget.

\$ 33 x 10 (for Paul and Elder's book); money for photocopies (\$40) + money for food and refreshments: \$150

Electronic Signature:

By typing my name here, I confirm that I have read and understood the program guidelines.

Siskanna Naynaha