Revisiting Writing Across the Curriculum: Overcoming Faculty Reluctance to Integrating Writing into the Engineering Curriculum

IWAC

June 7, 2012

Savannah, Georgia
“Communication with an engineer is only slightly more difficult than communication with the dead.”

—Rus Stiles Sr., author
Results:

• MEEM 3900 Engineering Design Processes – Improved understanding of the design process via reports/presentations (students)
• MEEM 3700 Mechanical Vibrations – Increased awareness of importance of writing skills (students)
• MEEM 4700 Dynamic Systems and Controls – Unclear if students received any benefit, faculty saw need to improve communication and critical thinking skills earlier
• MEEM 4220 Intro to IC Engines – Improved understanding of course concepts reflected in final exam scores, and improved writing skills achieved through feedback/revision process
Department communications advisor:

- Instructs/advises/evaluates Senior Design students (~140 per AY)
- Instructs/advises/evaluates EDP students (~210 per AY)
- Works with interested faculty in developing/evaluating UG writing exercises
- Edits/advises junior faculty and graduate student proposals, articles, theses, and dissertations
- Develops/conducts training programs for Lab GTAs and GRAs