

Writing and Critical Thinking Across the General Education Curriculum

In the spring of 1986, the BCC Faculty Senate adopted a proposal from the Coordinating Committee on General Education calling for the institution of a program of "Critical Thinking and Effective Writing 'Across the General Education Curriculum'." The proposal, as finally approved by the Faculty Senate, was as follows:

RESOLVED:

1. The development of critical thinking and writing skills is essential to the student's success in the BCC general education program. Therefore, the college's general education courses will provide students with the opportunity to develop these skills through a variety of appropriate critical thinking and writing assignments.
2. The preceding statement will be added to the prefatory section of the official list of BCC courses approved for the purposes of general education.
3. To support the policy expressed herein, writing assistance must be available to all students throughout their educational careers at BCC, especially after their completion of their required English composition courses. This writing assistance service should combine computer-assisted instruction, word processing, peer tutoring, faculty tutoring, and collaborative writing activities.
4. To further support the policy expressed herein, a writing and critical thinking resource service must be available to all faculty. This service will provide an information center on the teaching of thinking and writing skills, faculty consultations, class visits, and workshops designed to help instructors of "content" courses in their efforts to develop critical thinking and effective writing skills in the classroom.
5. The BCC faculty and administration should implement a program consistent with the preceding paragraphs 3 and 4 as of or before the fall semester of 1986.