



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI CAMPUS WRITING PROGRAM

E-WAC

FALL 2012

IN THIS ISSUE

A Year In The Life Of A Revitalized and Re-energized Campus Writing Program

by Amy Lannin and Bonnie Selting

Research through the years has shown that writing is an unsurpassed tool for helping students learn to think more critically and grow intellectually. As most EWAC readers know, the University of Missouri (MU) houses a nationally known, well respected Campus Writing Program (CWP) that has worked continually with faculty since its inception in 1987 to offer students opportunities for putting this tool to use. In 2011 and 2012, CWP's work and accomplishments have been exceptionally comprehensive and constructive.

Workshops & Seminars:

The Program has continued the tradition of offering two-day Writing Workshops at the start of each semester. Along with these traditional, longer workshops, CWP offered several other seminars and workshops with specialized topics, purposes, and/or goals in mind. These workshops were attended by both new and experienced Writing Intensive (WI) instructors and covered such topics as Developing Critical Thinking through Writing, Responding to Writing, Assignment Design, Assessment, Writing Instruction in an Online Course, Working with Multilingual

Writers, and using writing as a learning tool in large WI courses.

During the Spring semester, Dr. Bonnie Selting, one of two CWP Coordinators, offered a series of invitational seminar meetings for *experienced* WI faculty only. These seminars were aimed at offering this particular faculty the opportunity to *re-engage* in WI philosophies and theories and to experience the collegiality that discussions of this specific teaching strategy provides. CWP plans to continue this seminar while also designing and conducting a larger *Writing Workshop Refresher* for faculty who would like a review of writing instruction and assessment topics.

Continued next page...



Call For Proposals: Faculty Development and Curriculum Awards

Page 3



CWP Events and Workshops

Page 4

At the heart of the invitational seminars are presentations by the participants, themselves. CWP Coordinators and Director guide these experienced WI faculty to resources on whatever issue the presenters decide to focus. For instance, Chemistry faculty Dr. Rainer Glaser published an article on his method for using “peer review” as a learning and thinking tool. His presentation focused on writing assignment design and class organization, and several seminar colleagues took away ideas on ways to modify these new strategies for their own WI courses. Likewise, Drs Wayne Brekhuis, Sociology, and Tim Safranski, Animal Science, presented engaging and adaptable strategies for designing WI writing assignments and responding to student writing. Also, Dr. Deanna Sharpe shared information fundamental to successfully teaching large WI courses, and Drs Marty Townsend and Amy Lannin opened the seminar season with some well researched discussion on Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) history, theories, and analyses of its future in higher education. We at CWP believe that these workshops and seminars strengthen the mission of MU’s Campus Writing Program and WAC pedagogy. They are essential to supporting faculty as they enhance students’ intellectual growth across careers.

FOR MORE INFO ABOUT THE FACULTY INVITATIONAL SEMINAR SERIES

Any faculty interested in participating should call either Dr. Bonnie Selting at 884-6221; email: seltingb@missouri.edu or Dr. Amy Lannin, 882-4881; email: Lannina@missouri.edu.

Writing Retreats

On September 30, 2011, CWP held the *first* Faculty Writing Retreat by offering opportunities for any faculty member on campus to work on their own writing in the quiet, congenial atmosphere of Conley House. These retreats have become quite successful making it possible for faculty to “get away” where they can write undisturbed by phones, students, or any of the usual

interferences that can be overwhelming when trying to write in offices or home environments. The retreats were offered monthly during the year along with a continental breakfast, box lunch, and plenty of coffee and tea.



Lobby of Hotel Frederick

CWP also hosted two specialized writing retreats during the spring and summer of 2012. In May, Donna Strickland, Associate Professor in English and Director of English 1000, facilitated a week-long *Mindful Writing Retreat* at MU’s “Old Alumni Center,” and in July the CWP held a two-day retreat at the Historic Frederick Hotel in Boonville. This retreat followed the pattern of Conley House “getaways” plus made available editorial services from [Missouri Life Magazine](#) personnel who are housed at the Frederick. These workshops have all served to heighten awareness of teaching with writing and the particular opportunities MU offers in this area.

National Day on Writing

On October 20, 2011, CWP joined the National Day on Writing sponsored by the National Council Teachers of English (NCTE). We established a place on the Mall where students could stop by, write a poem, and get a slice of pizza. We were rewarded with numerous wonderfully written poems and short “ditties” spread over white boards and tablets. The event also included “writing Marathons” wherein different “leaders” took interested writers to specific places on MU’s campus (e.g., Jesse Hall, gardens, museums) and everyone sat and wrote. These marathons proved to be fun and an excellent way to take the tension out of “having to write a paper” and enjoy the process on its own merit. Because these writing opportunities were thought provoking and engaging, they accomplished CWP’s main

purpose for celebrating the “National Day on Writing”: to draw attention to the importance and power of writing in our lives.

2012 Excellence in Writing Intensive Teaching Awards

In addition, one of our most inspiring Campus events took place on May 4, 2012, when we held both our *first annual* WI teaching Awards Ceremony *and* at the Cast Gallery, Museum of Art and Archaeology. The Award recipients were selected by a Committee of Campus Writing Board faculty and CWP staff for innovative teaching in the spirit and mission of this Campus Writing Program. Each recipient received \$500 and a Column trophy.

Award Recipients

Suzanne Burgoyne, Theatre
Rainer Glaser, Chemistry
Patricia Kreps, Art
Mark Palmer, Geography
Tim Safranski, Animal Science
Deanna Sharpe, Personal Financial Planning



An Awards Task Force will continue to meet and accept nominations. Thanks to Catherine Rymph, Wayne Brekhuis, and Mark Prelas for their involvement in these efforts.

Conferences

The CWP Staff (Amy, Bonnie, and Catherine) attended several state and national conferences sharing the work of MU's Writing Program. As one of the oldest and largest WAC programs in the country, we have much to share with other institutions as well as much to keep learning so that we continue to grow CWP.

Noteworthy Endeavors

In addition to the ongoing activities of courses approved (400), the Campus Writing Board wrestled with two big issues for the year: WI Requirements and WI Funding Models:

Writing Intensive Requirements

CWP and the Campus Writing Board addressed the concerns raised regarding clarity of the Writing Intensive requirements at MU. It was brought to our attention that the requirements were worded differently in various published sources. The confusion rested on whether the WI requirements were two courses or six credits. After much deliberation as a Board, with CUE, with Undergraduate Deans, and others, we presented a draft to CUE for their approval. We will re-visit this issue as other questions arise. For instance, there is still uncertainty about how best to address the English 1000 prerequisite.

MU Writing Intensive Requirement

MU students ordinarily complete English 1000 before taking a WI course. They are then required to take a minimum of 6 WI credits in a minimum of 2 WI courses over at least 2 semesters. A minimum of 3 WI credits in a minimum of 1 WI course must be at 3000-4000 level in the major. To receive credit for taking a WI course, students must earn a grade of C- or better.

Funding Models

CWP and Campus Writing Board Chair, Catherine Rymph, visited with Department Chairs, Faculty, Deans, and others about the funding formula for Writing Intensive courses. We compiled the information gathered from these visits and prepared numerous versions of funding models. We presented these eventually to Provost Brian Foster and MU Budget Director Tim Rooney. It was determined that the current funding allocation is inadequate. Therefore, a funding model that is indexed to enrollment will be adopted by Fall 2013. In addition, WI courses will only be funded up to 300 students. For 2012-2013, the current model will be used (\$110 per student over the first 20 enrolled).

Faculty & Curriculum Development Awards

On July 1, 2012, the Campus Writing Program began accepting proposals for newly established awards to provide faculty and departments funds to create new programs or courses to enhance their Writing Intensive offerings. We funded the first batch of proposals in August 2012!

CALL FOR PROPOSALS: FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AWARDS

The Campus Writing Board encourages faculty and departments to submit proposals to fund Writing Intensive-related special projects or initiatives such as new pilot WI courses and curriculum development and instruction which do not currently receive WI funding support or receive inadequate support to attempt new course innovations.

You can also access the Call for Proposals at <http://cwp.missouri.edu/?cat=5>. Please contact the Campus Writing Program with questions and to discuss proposal ideas and deadline extensions via email to lannina@missouri.edu or call 573-882-4881.

Submissions due October 15th for Spring 2013 Awards.

*These funds are not part of the regular OTS WI funds but are to provide additional support for departments and WI faculty

The Future

Many of the previous activities will continue through the next academic year. We look forward to offering more workshops geared toward topics that faculty have requested along with the *Writing Workshop Refresher* for faculty who would like a review of writing instruction and assessment topics.



2012-2013 Events and Workshops

For Registration and More Information about CWP Events:

<https://etapps.missouri.edu/cwp/event>

October 12, 2012	Faculty Writing Retreat
October 17, 2012	CWP Seminar: Supporting Multilingual Writers
November 7, 2012	CWP Seminar: Grading With Rubrics
November 9, 2012	Faculty Writing Retreat
January 14/15, 2013	54 th Faculty Writing Intensive Workshop
January 18, 2013	TA Workshop
January 25, 2013	Faculty Workshop Refresher
February 1, 2013	Faculty Writing Retreat
February 13, 2013	CWP Seminar: When Expectations Are Not Met; Support For Developing Writers
March 8, 2013	Faculty Writing Retreat
March 20, 2013	CWP Seminar: Plagiarism
April 5, 2013	Faculty Writing Retreat
April 10, 2013	CWP Seminar: Faculty Innovations in Teaching WI
April 26, 2013	CWP Awards Recognition Ceremony and Reception
May 3, 2013	Faculty Writing Retreat
July 11/12, 2013	Summer 2013 Writing Retreat

CWP events fill up quickly! Register early to ensure your spot at one of our many offerings this year.

We look forward to seeing you!

CONTACT US

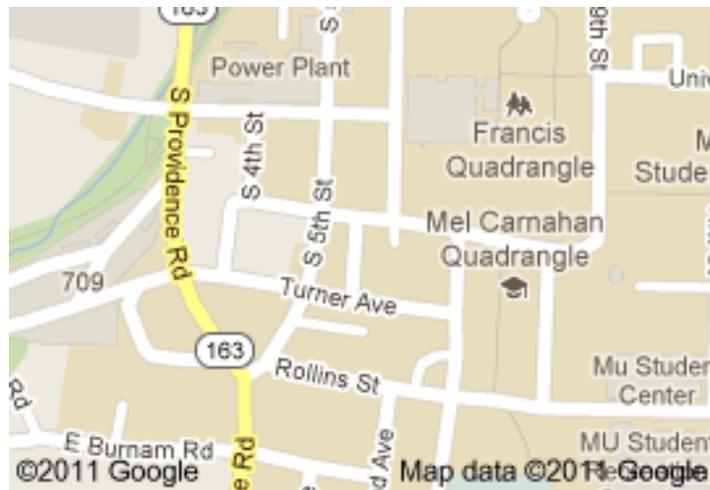
University of Missouri-Columbia
602 Sanford St.
Conley House
Columbia, MO 65211
cwp.missouri.edu

Amy Lannin, Director · 882-1798
lannina@missouri.edu

Jonathan Cisco, Coordinator
884-4881
ciscojo@missouri.edu

Bonnie Selting, Coordinator
882-1797
seltingb@missouri.edu

Jackie Thomas, Administrative
Assistant
882-4881
thomasjm@missouri.edu



Need to Finish Some of Your Own Writing?

Join the Campus Writing Program for Faculty Writing Retreats held in the Historic Conley House. We will provide you with a light breakfast and lunch and a quiet space to work on your project.

Scheduled Writing Retreats For Spring Semester 2013:



February 1, 2013
March 8, 2013
April 5, 2013
May 3, 2013

To register:

<https://etapps.missouri.edu/cwp/event>