

Dear writing center colleagues and friends,

Those of us organizing the 2008 IWCA Summer Institute at the University of Wisconsin-Madison are eager to share a small part of this year's institute with the wider writing center community. We're delighted to announce that we'll be webcasting one of the plenary sessions, so you can sample the summer institute from the comfort of your office or home. You are all invited to join us--

Wednesday, July 23, 2008

10:30 AM to Noon (US Central Daylight Time--the same time zone as Chicago)

Webcast live from the University of Wisconsin-Madison

**"How Did We Get Here? Finding and Mapping Writing Center Literature"
Led by Neal Lerner (MIT) and Elisabeth Piedmont-Marton (Southwestern University)**

Description: In this interactive webcast session, we'll survey the field of writing center literature, identifying and discussing key texts and ideas that helped define and continue to shape the field. We'll do this, in part, with game playing to examine participants' knowledge of writing center literature. Next, we'll move beyond surveys and games to take a critical look at writing center literature and consider such questions as these: have some of our founding texts become codifying and limiting, and how can our scholarship reach wider audiences? Finally, we'll walk through the process of using search engines to locate relevant literature that you'll need either to support the claims you make to colleagues about your work or to pursue your own research.

Here's the URL just for this webcast--

<http://mediasite.ics.uwex.edu/pyle4/Catalog/?cid=918b448e-8417-4e20-aea6-f58a1d44a7b3>

The webcast is available free to anyone who's interested and who has a computer with an Internet connection and a standard media player installed, as well as a sound card and speakers or headphones. It will be webcast using Mediasite software from Sonic Foundry, software widely used by universities to broadcast interactive video on the Internet. It's very easy to view, on a Mac or Windows computer, even if you've never watched a webcast before.

Well in advance of the webcast (so you have time to get some local help to connect or so you can try a different computer), you should try out your connection. Go to the URL listed above (click on it, or copy or paste that URL into your web browser). You should then see a screen from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a title and description for Neal's and Elisabeth's institute session. Click on the title in blue text ("How Did We Get Here?"), which will open up a new window for this webcast, announcing (unless you're viewing during the live webcast) "waiting for presentation to begin." You should definitely check the technical requirements for viewing the webcast--to do that, click on the "help" button on the upper right. Then click on "viewer requirements" from the menu on the left. You'll find requirements for viewing on a Mac

as well as a Windows computer. Be sure to read the important information about configuring pop-up blockers so that your browser allows site pop-ups; otherwise, you won't be able to view this presentation.

This webcast is interactive, and we hope to hear from you! During the actual live webcast, you'll be able to send in a question or comment (in text) just by clicking on the "Ask?" icon on the upper left, which will be active during the live webcast. Please send something to us in Madison, Wisconsin, USA! We'll read some of the questions and comments during the webcast itself.

We hope that you'll try to have your local IT support help you if you run into any problems. We'd love to be able to help with those problems, but we'll be tied up with the broadcast, so we urge you to check it out beforehand and make sure all systems are go.

The institute wants to thank the RiCH Company for their generous support which is making this webcast possible.

Please join us on the 23rd! It would be great to know that you're watching. And if you can't watch at that time, the webcast will be archived and available for later viewing. Thanks so much for your interest in the 2008 IWCA Summer Institute!

Paula Gillespie, Brad Hughes, Lisa Ede
Co-Chairs, 2008 IWCA Summer Institute
www.wisc.edu/writing/institute