

IWCA Update

April 2014

Vol. 9 Issue 2

Changing Seasons, Constant Collaboration

Welcome Back

Dear IWCA Member, the seasons are a changin', and we are back with the second issue of the *IWCA Update*. It is a time of renewal. As we cast off the chill of winter and embrace the warmth of spring and summer (and try to wrap up busy semesters!), we can remind ourselves of a core writing center practice: collaboration. Spend some time thinking about how you will collaborate this summer. Whether it is attending the IWCA Summer Institute (Sunday, June 22 through Friday, June 27 in KY!), revising a publication, working with your tutors to revamp your training program, networking with colleagues in different regions, or sending an announcement to the *IWCA Update* (see the last page for details!), tap into your collaborative spirit. And on the topic of being collaborative . . .

Collaborative Highlights

The all-day IWCA Collaborative took place on Wednesday, March 19, 2014 at the Hyatt Regency Indianapolis. The Collaborative provided a wonderful opportunity for new and veteran leaders to connect and share ideas. The Executive Officers had their first face-to-face meeting as a group since being elected in November, and regional leaders met to share ideas about membership and communication within their regions.



IWCA Treasurer Kim Ballard gets her hands on files from previous Treasurer, Neal Lerner

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An NCTE Assembly
writingcenters.org



**IWCA Executive Officers at the IWCA Collaborative.
From Left to Right: Kevin Dvorak, Nathalie Singh-Corcoran,
Shareen Grogan, and Alanna Bitzel.**

The International Writing Centers Association, a National Council of Teachers of English affiliate founded in 1983, fosters the development of writing center directors, tutors, and staff by sponsoring meetings, publications, and other professional activities; by encouraging scholarship connected to writing center-related fields; and by providing an international forum for writing center concerns.

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2014 IWCA Board

Executive Officers

President:	Kevin Dvorak
Vice-President:	Shareen Grogran
Treasurer:	Kim Ballard
Associate Treasurer:	Rachel Holtz
Secretary:	Alanna Bitzel
Past-President:	Nathalie Singh-Corcoran

At-Large Representatives

	Laura Benton
	Jared Featherston
	Andrew Jeter
	Melissa Nicolas
	Steve Price
	Steve Sherwood
	Trixie Smith
Graduate Student Rep:	Rebecca Hallman
Community College Rep:	Anna Britt Begnaud
Secondary School Rep:	Amber Jensen

Regional Representatives

East Central WCA:	Sherry Wynn Purdue
European Writing Centers Association (EWC):	Mary Deane
Mid-Atlantic WCA:	Nicole Munday
Middle Eastern-North Africa Writing Centers Alliance:	Tony Schiera
Midwest WCA:	Zachary Beare
Northeast WCA:	Harry Denny
Northern California WCA:	Susan Griffin
Pacific Northwest WCA:	Sandra Yannone
Rocky Mountain WCA:	Chris LeCluyse
South Central WCA:	Kristen Garrison
Southeastern WCA:	Russell Carpenter
Southern California WCA:	Kathleen Klompfen

Ex-Officio Members

Web Editor:	Christopher Ervin
Web Content Developer:	Isabelle Thompson
<i>Writing Center Journal</i> Editors:	Michele Eodice, Kerri Jordan, and Steve Price
<i>Writing Lab Newsletter</i> :	Muriel Harris
EATAW—European Association for the Teaching of Academic Writing:	Magnus Gustafsson
2014 IWCA/NCPTW Conference Chair:	Melissa lanetta

In the News

From the Regions

South Central

The SCWCA Newsletter is seeking submissions for its inaugural issue. The deadline is Sunday, June 15. For more information and to submit, please visit: <http://scwca.files.wordpress.com/2011/09/scwca-newsletter-cfp.pdf>

Southeastern

SWCA has undergone a number of exciting changes since its annual conference in February. Given the increasing number of SWCA members, the organization has created a more streamlined renewal process. Members may pay for one or three years of membership at a time, an “extension” plan that allows schools to use their current funds to pay upfront for SWCA benefits. Professional Members may upgrade their memberships to Institutional Memberships at any point during the academic year for \$70. Benefits for Institutional Members include one professional membership (including one vote in annual elections), a one-year subscription to *Southern Discourse* (two copies of both issues), eligibility for scholarships and awards for anyone from the institution, reduced conference registration rates for all attendees from the institution, a membership certificate, recognition on the SWCA website (including link to the institution’s web page) additional promotional items, and the ability to apply for awards and scholarships for SWCA and other organizational conferences for anyone in the institution. For individual membership benefits, please visit: www.iwcawca.com/Membership.html

Northern California

On Saturday, April 5, SSU’s Writing Center hosted a wildly successful conference for the Northern California Writing Centers Association. 150 writing center directors, coordinators, tutors, and faculty members from universities, community colleges, and high schools around Northern California and Nevada participated in a full day of presentations and workshops related to writing center administration, tutoring, and composition pedagogy. The theme, “Playing to, from and with Our Strengths: Authorizing Centers and Students,” generated dynamic workshops and presentations about everything from the influence of personality types on tutorial sessions to using Visual Thinking Strategies (VTS) in the composition classroom to creating a welcoming environment for linguistically diverse student populations. Many of the workshops also focused on the roles of creativity and play in writing center work.

The conference’s keynote speaker, Dr. Kevin Dvorak, is the current President of the International Writing Centers Association and an SSU alum! He served as Assistant Director of the SSU Writing Center while completing his Masters in English. Currently an Associate Professor and Writing Center/WAC Coordinator at Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, he completed his Ph.D. at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Dvorak’s address, “The Art of Writing Center Work: Drawing On and Playing to Our Strengths,” examined “ways in which writing centers determine their strengths and build upon them in order to provide spaces that empower tutors, students, and communities.”

To learn more about NCWCA’s conference, and view the program and conference photos, please visit the Conference website at <http://www.sonoma.edu/writingcenter/ncwca2014/>

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Announcements

Conferences

International Writing Centers Association/National Conference on Peer Tutoring in Writing (IWCA/NCPTW)

The 2014 joint conference of the IWCA/NCPTW will take place from Thursday, October 30 to Saturday, November 1 at Disney's Coronado Springs Hotel Resort at the Walt Disney World Resort. The conference theme is "The Wonderful World of Writing Centers," and the keynote speaker is Beth Boquet. For more information, please visit: <http://iwcancptw2014.com/>

European Writing Centers Association (EWCA)

The biannual EWCA Conference is taking place Saturday, July 19 to Tuesday, July 22. The subject of the planned conference, "Let's Peer Across Borders –Writing Centers in Motion," plays with the ambiguity of the verb "to peer" and accentuates its meaning "curious look." For more information, please visit: <http://www.ewca14.eu/>

Writing Development in Higher Education (WDHE)

WDHE is the biggest writing research organisation in Britain. The Centre for Academic Writing at Coventry University is hosting the 15th biannual WDHE Conference from Wednesday, July 9 to Friday, July 11, 2014. For more information, please visit: <http://www.coventry.ac.uk/events/WDHE2014/>

Southeastern Writing Centers Association (SWCA), Save-the-Date

The 2015 SWCA Conference is taking place Thursday, February 19 through Saturday, February 21 at Lipscomb University in Nashville, TN. Stacia Watkins from Lipscomb University is hosting, and Joanna Wolfe is the keynote speaker.

Awards

IWCA Research Grant Deadline: Tuesday, July 1

<http://writingcenters.org/2013/10/iwca-research-grant-deadline-june-30-2013/>

IWCA Outstanding Book/Major Work Award: Nomination Deadline: Sunday, June 15

Members of the writing center community are invited to nominate books/major works for the IWCA Outstanding Book/Major Work Award. The Outstanding Book/Major Work Award is given once per biennium to correspond with the IWCA conference held in the fall of even years. For information on nominating an outstanding book/major work, please visit:

<http://writingcenters.org/about/awards/>. For questions, please email IWCA President, Kevin Dvorak: kdvorak@nova.edu.

IWCA Muriel Harris Outstanding Service Award: Deadline, Monday, June 30

Named after its first recipient and given at every other IWCA conference, the Muriel Harris Outstanding Service Award recognizes outstanding service that has benefited the international writing center community in significant and broad-based ways. All nominations should be submitted electronically to Leigh Ryan, chair of the IWCA Muriel Harris Outstanding Service Award Committee, at LR@umd.edu. Nominations should include the following materials:

1. A letter of nomination that includes the name and institution of the nominee, your personal knowledge of or experience with the nominee's service contributions to the writing center community, and your name, institutional affiliation and email address.
2. Detailed support documents (maximum of 5 pages). These may include excerpts from a curriculum vitae, workshop or published material, stories or anecdotes, or original work by the nominee
3. Other letters of support (optional but limited to 2)

The winner will be announced at the IWCA/NCPTW Conference in Orlando.

Journals

The Writing Center Journal (WCJ)

WCJ is committed to publishing strong empirical research and theoretical scholarship relevant to writing centers and seeks to build a stronger research community for writing centers. For more information and to submit to the journal, please visit:

<http://writingcenterjournal.org>

Call for Proposals: Fall 2014 Special Issue of *Praxis: A Writing Center Journal*

<http://writingcenters.org/2014/03/call-for-proposals-fall-2014-special-issue-of-praxis-a-writing-center-journal/>

In Memory

Carolyn Handa

Carolyn Handa will be remembered in the field of writing studies as a significant scholar of digital media, writing, writing program administration, and writing centers; as an inspiring teacher of undergraduate and graduate students; as an enthusiastic mentor for new scholars; as an unrelenting advocate for adjuncts and part-time faculty; and as a knowing guide to minority students and scholars seeking to find their home and paths into and through the academy. Carolyn's scholarship in computers and writing has made a lasting impact on the field; her life has made a lasting impact on many students and colleagues.

Carolyn was born in Chicago, IL, and grew up in the Los Angeles area, the oldest of six children born to Patricia and George Handa. She was an aunt to eight cherished nieces and nephews. Anyone who met Carolyn knew that her family was one of her favorite topics of conversation, along with college sports, and her cats.

After completing her PhD at the University of California Los Angeles, Carolyn taught at the University of California at Davis as a non-tenure track faculty member for several years before deciding to make the move to a tenure-track position at American River College. From there she joined the faculty at Southern Illinois

University Edwardsville as a professor and the writing program administrator.

Since 2005, she had been a professor at the University of Alabama, where she most recently served the Department of English as Assistant Chair. Carolyn passed away at her home in Tuscaloosa, AL on March 12, 2014 from natural causes. ~ Sharon McGee

Lou Kelly

Lou (Louise B.) Kelly was the director of what used to be called the Writing Lab at The University of Iowa, from the 1960's through the 1980's. A couple generations of us had the great opportunity to work with her, learning about student centered pedagogies, which she encapsulated in her 1972 book *From Dialogue to Discourse: An Open Approach to Competence and Creativity*.

Lou was also one of the most passionate advocates I know. More than once I remember seeing her on the steps of the Old Capitol building, bullhorn in hand, railing against an administrative decision or a US policy. She was one of the few faculty on campus who could get Hayden Fry (famous football coach) to return her phone calls.

In 2010, when Lou was merely 91, I joined several of her other Writing Lab teaching alumni in Iowa City for a dinner honoring Lou. Ken Smith and others collected a number of short essays written in honor of the occasion into a small memory book, *Voices from the Writing Lab*, echoing the compilations of student writing that Lou used to put together.

Was Lou a towering figure in the annals of composition studies? Though she shows up on the timeline of the age, in a significant fashion, perhaps not. To those who worked with and learned from her, Lou Kelly was the embodiment of the committed teacher who lent her zeal to students, basic writers to PhD.

Lou was 94 when she died at home on Monday, February 10, 2014, having lived a grand lifelong retired from the profession. ~ Doug Hess. This piece can be found at writingcenters.org



Contacts

IWCA, in General

Want to know more about IWCA? Please contact Kevin Dvorak, IWCA President: kdvorak@nova.edu

IWCA Update

Want to submit material to the *IWCA Update*? Please complete the following form: <http://tinyurl.com/kn8as63>

All Things \$

Please contact our Treasurer:

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Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5303
kim.ballard@wmich.edu

Poetry Corner

April is National Poetry Month.

Check out your favorite poets and poems at
<http://www.poets.org/page.php/prmID/41>