

IWCA Update

May 2014

Vol. 9 Issue 3

Welcome Back

Dear IWCA Member, we bring you the third installment of our monthly newsletter, *IWCA Update*. This month, we wrapped up busy spring semesters, and, hopefully, many of us were able to take some well-deserved time off before gearing up for the summer months. As we head into June, the IWCA hopes to build our writing center community and increase our membership. We bring you a new membership site as well as activities designed to increase your engagement with your own centers as well as the larger writing center community.

New Membership Site

The IWCA Executive Officers are pleased to announce that our new membership site is live! Many thanks to Richard and Carla Hay and their team at 26LLC for our much more reliable site. The URL for the site is the same: <http://iwcamembers.org>

Visit the site today to join or renew your membership. Questions about payment? Contact IWCA Treasurer Kim Ballard at kim.ballard@wmich.edu

IWCA Membership is open to all writing center professionals, scholars, and tutors, as well as to those who are interested in writing centers and the teaching and tutoring of writing. By joining the IWCA, you will become involved in an international community that is committed to strengthening the field of writing center studies. IWCA membership benefits include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Vote in elections
- Access to online events (e.g., open board meetings and workshops/presentations/discussions)
- Opportunities for Mentor Matching
- Eligibility to apply for IWCA Research and Graduate Research Grants
- Reduced rates for IWCA events
- Subscription to *IWCA Update*, the organization's monthly news update
- Reduced rates for the *Writing Center Journal* and *The Writing Lab Newsletter*



Remember “members only” jackets? Well *IWCA Update* is sent out each month only to IWCA members. Check out our new membership site for more exciting “members only” benefits. Become a member today!

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An NCTE Assembly

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
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:	Jackie McKinney
European Writing Centers Association (EWC):	Mary Deane
Mid-Atlantic WCA:	Nicole Munday
Middle Eastern-North Africa Writing Centers Alliance:	Kelly Wilson
Midwest WCA:	Zachary Beare
Northeast WCA:	Harry Denny
Northern California WCA:	Susan Griffin
Pacific Northwest WCA:	Sandra L. Yannone
Rocky Mountain WCA:	Chris LeCluyse
South Central WCA:	Kristen Garrison
Southeastern WCA:	Russell G. Carpenter
Southern California WCA:	Kathleen Klompfen

Ex-Officio Members

Associate Treasurer:	Rachel Holtz
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

Southeastern

On March 29, 2014, directors from SC's mountains to her coast (Anderson University, Furman University, Lander University, Winthrop University, Presbyterian College, the University of South Carolina, the Medical College of South Carolina, Coastal Carolina University, and the College of Charleston) gathered at Furman University (Greenville, SC) for the third annual directors' meeting of the South Carolina Writing Center Association, also fondly known as the Palmetto State Writing Center Association (PSWCA).

The conference—sponsored by the Southeastern Writing Center Association—was hosted by Jean Schwab, the Coordinator of the Center for Teaching and Learning's Writing & Media Lab. The conference focused on communication, assessment, and racism.

The keynote address by Diane Boyd, Associate Director of Furman's Center for Teaching and Learning, stressed the "Paradox of Communication and Confidentiality." Bonnie Devet (College of Charleston) discussed "Communicating to Consultants the Worth and Value of their Writing Lab Work" so that consultants understand their identities as consultants.

Prior to the meeting, directors had read excerpts from Ellen Schendel and William J. Macauley's *Building Writing Center Assessments That Matter* (Utah State U. Press 2012) and Laura Greenfield and Karen Rowan's edited collection *Writing Centers and the New Racism: A Call for Sustainable Dialogue* (Utah State U. Press 2011). Scott Pleasant (Coastal Carolina University) conducted a discussion on successful assessment methods, while Jane Smith (Winthrop University) led another group on the nature of racism.

The next meeting---location to be determined---will be in September 2014, when tutors will be presenting their research.



PSWCA Directors at the March 2014 Conference

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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)

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: 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/>

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Publications

The Writing Lab Newsletter

The Writing Lab Newsletter invites articles (of 3000 words or less, including Works Cited) about writing center theory, research, pedagogy, and new or innovative best practices. We also invite 1500-word (again, including Works Cited) essays from tutors for the Tutor's Column.

The home page of WLN (writinglabnewsletter.org/) has links to our Twitter, Facebook, and blog for international writing centers, a conference calendar, plus guidelines for submission and our open archive of all past volumes.

SCWCA Newsletter

The SCWCA Newsletter is seeking submissions for its inaugural issue. The deadline is Sunday, June 15, 2014. For more information and to submit, please visit:

<http://scwca.files.wordpress.com/2011/09/scwca-newsletter-cfp.pdf>

Southern Discourse

SWCA's Publication *Southern Discourse*, the publication of the Southeastern Writing Center Association (SWCA), has undergone major changes. This fall, the journal will transition to its new title, *Southern Discourse in the Center*, with the publication of its first issue to coincide with the IWCA conference in Orlando.

The journal will also move to a twice-annual, peer-reviewed format, serving as a venue for innovations in writing center work.

Please visit <http://www.iwca-swca.org/SouthernDiscourse.html> for information about the journal and consider submitting for Spring 2015!

Board Meeting

Mark your calendars! The next IWCA Board Meeting is Monday, June 9 @ 12 PM CST. Board meetings take place virtually. For more details and to join the meeting, contact IWCA President Kevin Dvorak at kdvorak@nova.edu



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:

Kim Ballard, Treasurer IWCA
1343 Ellsworth-Writing Center
Western Michigan University
1903 West Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5303
kim.ballard@wmich.edu

Tutor Training!

Summer is a great time to think back on the previous year and implement fresh ideas at your center. One important area of focus is tutor training. Tutors themselves are a great resource for training ideas and topics that can strengthen their tutoring practice.

We want to hear about training ideas that your tutors would like to implement at your center. Directors, coordinators, administrators – talk with your tutors and find out what innovative training ideas they have.

Submit a blurb to *IWCA Update* at <http://tinyurl.com/kn8as63>

that describes these training ideas. The Outreach Committee will vote on the most innovative idea. The winner will receive a one-year subscription to *The Writing Lab Newsletter*, a publication that showcases tutor voices. Deadline: July 15, 2014. Include the phrase "Tutor Training" at the start of your submission.