

COUNCIL OF WRITING PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS

BY LAWS

Adopted December 29, 1977

I. Purposes

Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the Council of Writing Program Administrators (WPA) is organized exclusively for one or more of the following purposes: religious, charitable, scientific, testing for public safety, literary, or educational purposes, or to foster national or international amateur sports competition (but only if no part of its activities involve the provision of athletic facilities or equipment), or for the prevention of cruelty to children or animals, as specified in section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, and shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

No part of the net earnings of the WPA shall inure to the benefit of any member, trustee, director, officer of the corporation, or any private individual (except that reasonable compensation may be paid for services rendered to or for the WPA), and no member, trustee, officer of the WPA or any private individual shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the corporate assets on dissolution of the WPA.

No substantial part of the activities of the WPA shall be carrying on propoganda, or otherwise attempting, to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided by Internal Revenue Code section 501 (h), or participating in, or intervening in (including the publication or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

In the event of dissolution, all of the remaining assets and property of the WPA shall after necessary expenses thereof be distributed to such organizations as shall qualify under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended, or, to another organization to be used in such a manner as in the judgment of a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York will best accomplish the general purposes for which the corporation was formed.

II. Membership

The Council of Writing Program Administrators will offer membership to directors and former directors of writing programs in colleges and universities across the country. By means of advertising in MLA, NCTE, CCCC, and other journals, directors and former directors from institutions of all kinds -- private, public, urban, rural, two-year or four-year, large and small -- will be encouraged to join. Since the Council wishes to encourage

the membership of active program directors and former directors who will use the Council as a clearinghouse for exchanges of program information and as a political base for promoting local programs, the Council will not solicit membership from other than program directors and former directors or those designated by their departments or colleges as holding administrative responsibility for an institution's writing program. In those schools, for example, that do not have a Director of Composition or of Freshmen English the chair of a program steering committee or a regular faculty member without administrative appointment might well be designated by his or her institution as a potential Council member.

Membership in the Writing Division of the MLA and the CCCC should be corequisite with membership in the Council, thereby providing the Council and the institutions represented by it the influence and general support of the associations' larger memberships. To encourage exchanges of program information and to expedite the exchange, the Council should collect dues of \$10 per year to cover the expenses of mailing, printing and distribution of its newsletter and other necessary information.

III. Voting

- A. Any dues-paying member is eligible to vote.
- B. The executive committee will consist of a President; Vice-President; Secretary; Treasurer; a six member board of directors; and one representative from the MLA and one from the CCCC. The executive committee will include representatives from each of four geographic regions and one representative from a community or two-year college.
- C. All officers and members of the board of directors will be elected to two-year staggered terms by mail ballot.
- D. General meetings will be held at the annual MLA convention, open board meetings will be held at the CCCC convention, and the board will meet periodically as needed.

IV. Goals

The Goals of the Council of Writing Program Administrators are as follows:

- A. to serve the interest of writing programs by educating the academic community and the public at large about the needs of successful writing programs.
- B. to promote cooperation among the various writing programs in two and four-year colleges throughout the country by sharing information and by defining common interests and needs.
- C. to enumerate conditions for the successful teaching of composition and to bring attention to these conditions so that college administrators will support realistic writing programs.
- D. to establish a clearinghouse of research on writing program administration.
- E. to work for the improvement of basic writing competencies of college students.

- F. to sponsor and support a newsletter which represents the goals and needs of the organization.
- G. to work along with public and private elementary and secondary schools in the development of successful writing programs.
- H. to review and to evaluate criteria used in judging students' writing and in establishing placement and proficiency standards in colleges.
- I. to explore funding sources for the growth and development of model writing programs.

V. Additional Procedures

- A. The executive committee will appoint the editor of the newsletter after requesting nominations from the membership.
- B. The newsletter committee will present an editorial policy for approval by the executive committee.
- C. The newsletter should periodically report programatic research supported by The Council of Writing Program Administrators.