

Dear *WPA* Readers,

On the WPA website, the first published volume of *Writing Program Administration Newsletter* is Volume 1.3, published in 1978.¹ In his introductory President's message, Harvey Wiener (CUNY- LaGuardia CC), lays out the plans of the fledgling organization: to establish a clearinghouse on other programs, to "establish a system of advisory teams which could visit campuses by invitation and could evaluate existing structures," and to "produce in-depth studies on issues in writing program administration" ("WPA President's Message." *WPA Newsletter* 38.1, n.p: 4). The group worked to "call attention to the needs of WPAs and to the nature of their work and responsibilities." Harvey—if we may be so bold as to call him that—ends his message with a cheerful "Let's hear from you!"

Our vision for the journal is a simple one: to continue to publish those in-depth studies on issues in writing program administration and to call attention to the needs and work of WPAs everywhere. We recognize that *WPA* has a diverse readership, and we aim to publish a wide range of research in many different formats, research that not only helps WPAs of all sorts do their jobs, but also research that helps our discipline advance academically, institutionally, and nationally. We are tremendously excited to become the next editors of this journal and would like to share some information about the new editorial team.

Barb L'Eplattenier has always been a part of the WPA world—although never a WPA. *Historical Studies of Writing Program Administration*, a collection she edited with Lisa Mastrangelo, won the WPA Book of the Year award in 2004. This collection examines WPA work before the formation of the Council of Writing Program Administrators in 1976. Most recently, she has worked with Shirley K Rose and Lisa Mastrangelo on "Directing Writing in the 21st Century: The New Limits of Authority" which revisits the 1989 Olsen and Moxley survey on WPAs and authority.

Sherry Rankins-Robertson has served in multiple capacities as a WPA: as an assistant to the WPA during her MA program; as a Composition Specialist during her tenure at a two-year college; she served in an administrative position under the WPA while co-developing the online composition

program, the Writers' Studio, at Arizona State University. She currently serves as the WPA in her appointment at UALR. Sherry worked closely with Duane Roen, Greg Glau, and Edward White through the duration of her professional development for working as a WPA. Her scholarship closely examines intersections and application of the WPA OS.

We are grateful to Alice Horning, Deb Dew and their editorial team, for their hard work on the journal. Their vision saw the journal through 2009 to 2014, and we are proud to carry on the work that they have done. We thank them for their significant contribution to the *WPA: Writing Program Administration*.

As we embark upon this journey, we want to thank our spouses in advance for the support they will provide to us. We couldn't take on this professional role without their support. Similarly, we thank our colleagues at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, who valued this editorial work and the journal enough to encourage us to apply for the editorship and who have contributed financially to support this endeavor.

Like Harvey, we'd love to hear from you! Feel free to contact us at bleplatt@ualr.edu and sjrobertson@ualr.edu.

Sincerely,
Barb and Sherry



NOTE

1. Its editorial board is pretty impressive: Enid E. Bogle, Howard University (1978-80); Timothy Donovan, Northeastern University (1978-80) Margaret Furcron, Rutgers University-Newark (1977-78); Winifred Horner, University of Missouri-Columbia (1978-79); Michael Joyce, Jackson Community College, (1977-78); Erika Lindemann, University of South Carolina (1978-79); Ellen Nold, Stanford University (1978-79); David Sloane, University of New Haven (1977-78); Joseph Trimmer, Ball State University (1978-79); and Nathaniel Teich, University of Oregon (1978-80). Weiner noted that Ken Bruffee was taking over the editorship of the newsletter from Bob Farrell, of Cornell.