

Letter from the Editors

Welcome to the Fall 2015 issue of *WPA: Writing Program Administration*. We hope that you enjoy reading the articles presented here.

In this issue, we recognize two colleagues who passed away this year: Linda H. Peterson and Charlie Moran. The two of them exemplified the core values of the organizations of which they were a part. They live on in their scholarship, the people they mentored, and the people they taught. Thanks to Lynn Z. Bloom for compiling the “In Memoriam: Linda H. Peterson” and Missy-Marie Montgomery, Zan Goncalves, and Nick Carbone for compiling the “In Memoriam: Charlie Moran.” The journal is honored to offer these tributes.

We begin this issue of the journal with Amy Ferdinandt Stolley’s piece “Narratives, Administrative Identity, and the Early Career WPA,” a compelling examination of the disciplinary narratives that inform our identities. Stolley urges early career WPAs to resist and speak back to disciplinary commonplaces in order to find places for themselves in the WPA literature, profession, and work.

Next, we feature “Moving from the One and Done to a Culture of Collaboration: Revising Professional Development for TAs” by Lauren Obermark, Elizabeth Brewer, and Kay Halasek. Similar to Stolley’s piece, this work pushes back against a common narrative—that of the singular TA training course—and proposes sustained professional development that recognizes continuing pedagogical needs of teachers.

In “Defining and Developing Expertise in a Writing Department,” Elizabeth Wardle and J. Blake Scott explore issues of expertise, especially within departments that have faculty who don’t have traditional Writing Studies academic credentials. They present two professional development efforts, geared towards creating a program to help faculty gain interactional expertise.

Finally, Veronica House explores ways in which WPAs can create sustainable, civically-engaged vertical writing curriculum and writing programs in “Community Engagement in Writing Program Design and Administration.” House offers a model for WPAs who want to design and implement a service-based curriculum in their own writing programs.

As the journal has in the past, we reproduce here the three plenaries from the 2015 CWPA Conference hosted in Boise, Idaho; they are lightly edited by each author to help them move from a spoken piece to a written piece. Each of the plenaries explores the conference theme: Sustainable Writing / Program / Administrators. Beth Boquet's keynote asks us to

think about who and what sustains us across time in doing the work our institutions call on us to do (and sometimes the work they'd rather we not do) and . . . to think about what remains of us—any of us, all of us—when we are gone, whether on a temporary or permanent leave-taking.

Seth Kahn reminds us that we are all part of the same system, all interconnected, and doing the right thing sustains us all. Finally, Cheryl E. Ball discusses what sustainability, specifically sustainable electronic publishing, in the changing landscape of scholarship, needs to address.

Writing program administration—and institutional change—often happens in small, seemingly inconsequential moments that actually turn out to be the *kairotic* moment for changing our program or how we work in our institution. To capture those, we present a new section of the journal: WPAs in Action—Vignettes from the Field. These small stories will run less than 1,000 words, and we invite you to submit your vignettes to us for inclusion.

In our inaugural WPAs in Action—Vignettes from the Field, Nate Kreuter describes the circumstances leading up to “a showdown,” as he puts it, over an outdated writing policy that ultimately allowed him to change both the discussion and understanding of writing at his campus on a campus-wide level.

The book review section closes the journal. As always, Norbert Elliott and Jacob Babb have carefully selected materials that will enhance the work of WPAs. We hope you enjoy them. At any time, feel free to contact Norbert and Jacob at bookreviews@wpacouncil.org.

Finally, we would like to thank the reviewers listed below. These are the scholars who have reviewed manuscripts for us since we took over the journal in July 2014. They have given generously of their time and expertise to the journal and the manuscripts submitted to the journal. Having heard numerous horror stories about reviewers from friends in other academic disciplines, we are consistently humbled by the generous nature of the feedback our reviewers provide and the kindness and support they provide authors. We are grateful for their tireless work, quick responses, and diligent and thoughtful feedback.

Letter from the Editors

Amy E. Dayton	Eileen Schendel	Michael Neal
Amy C. Kimme Hea	Elijah Mayfield	Michele Eodice
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Anne Beaufort	Gail Corso	Moriah McCracken
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Dylan B. Dryer	Mark Blaauw-Hara	Trixie Smith
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Ed Nagelhout	Melissa Ianetta	William P. Banks
	Michael Day	

Finally, we'd also like to thank Joel Wingard, who volunteers to copyedit the page proofs. His generosity is appreciated. We wish you well in the 2015–2016 academic year and hope to see you at conferences. We look forward to working with many more of you as the year continues. As always, please don't hesitate to contact us at journal@wpacouncil.org. This email reaches all of us.

Best,
Barb, Lisa, and Sherry