



MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 17, 2011
TO: WAC Alliance 2010-2011 Events Stakeholders
CC: Trevor Bilmes, Josephine De Leon, Wynn Goering, Gary Harrison, Gail Houston, Michelle Kells, Linda Livingston, Chuck Paine, Christopher Ramirez
FROM: Brian Hendrickson, 2011-2012 Events Coordinator, Writing Across Communities Alliance (bhendric@unm.edu)
SUBJECT: Writing Across Communities Alliance 2011-2012 Events

To coincide with our 2010-2011 Outcomes Report, WAC Alliance would like to announce our events plans for 2011-2012 and invite all our current stakeholders to participate in the ongoing planning process.

FUNDING

Because of WAC Alliance's scrupulous budgeting of the generous events funding we received from our stakeholders in 2010-2011, we're pleased to report we have already allocated the approximately \$2,400 remaining in confirming two keynote speakers for 2011-2012: Paul Matsuda (ASU, English) and Michele Eodice (OSU Writing Director). Both will play a central role in sustaining and enriching the discourse promoted and nurtured by our 2010-2011 events, thereby shaping what promises to be WAC Alliance's most exciting and productive year yet. Bringing each of these speakers will incur travel and accommodation expenses, and we will also require funds for their honoraria.

Further funding from our stakeholders will make the Fall 2011 Celebration of Student Writing a truly interdisciplinary event promoting the intellectual richness and diversity of first-year writing across disciplines. Likewise, we'll rely heavily on our stakeholders in selecting and funding a third keynote speaker from the sciences as part of our major interdisciplinary spring event, the Writing the World Conference.

CELEBRATION OF STUDENT WRITING – October 31, 2011

Attention all UNM faculty, part-time instructors and teaching assistants: Do the 100-level courses you teach possess a written component? Then WAC Alliance invites you and your students to participate in the 3rd annual (and each subsequent) Celebration of Student Writing, on October 31, 2011, in SUB Ballrooms A-C, celebrating first-year student writing through multimedia art installations. Last year, over 700 first-year writing students showcased their art installations. This year, we're courting instructors teaching 100-level courses in any discipline to participate and to encourage participation within their departments.

The Celebration of Student Writing provides a much-needed opportunity for students and instructors to show the rest of the campus how students are being prepared for their academic, professional, and civic discourse communities through writing. Highlighting the

accomplishments of the university's newest students not only builds community, agency, and voice within the classroom and UNM community but celebrates our diverse literacies. The Celebration of Student Writing is a true opportunity for encouraging student success, one that challenges students to think beyond their classrooms, about how their time spent at the university will be pertinent to the rest of their lives—as students, professionals, and citizens.

The Celebration will be partially advertised through the Dean of Students; however, WAC will also be responsible for advertising and promotion costs, as well as food and catering costs (very likely to exceed last year's cost, as we expect to have many more students and guests).

For more information, visit the CSW website at <http://celebrationunm.wordpress.com/>, or contact Genesea Carter at unm.csw@gmail.com.

WRITE ON! WORKSHOPS

In 2010-2011, WAC Alliance continued our tradition of partnering with Core Writing instructors and CAPS tutors to provide one-on-one portfolio consultations to first-year writing students in the last week of the Fall and Spring semesters. In 2011-2012, we'll ensure that tradition—so important to ensuring first-year student success—lives on.

WRITING THE WORLD CONFERENCE – April 20-24, 2012

Our spring *2012 Writing the World Conference* combines the missions of past WAC events such as the Earth Day Conference and Civil Rights and Working with Writers symposia while retaining the features that make each a unique success: acclaimed keynote speakers, interactive workshops and breakout sessions, and interdisciplinary, multicultural and community-centered themes and participation.

For *Writing the World 2012*, we have scheduled and confirmed Paul Matsuda (ASU, English) and Michele Eodice (OSU Writing Director) as keynote speakers, and intend to add one more keynote speaker from the sciences when we commence planning next fall.

See below for descriptions of the three events that *Writing the World* brings together.

Earth Day Conference

In 2011, our second annual Earth Day Conference, “Constructing Space(s): Making our Home(s) in the 21st Century,” provided an opportunity for graduate students from across the southwest and across academic disciplines to present their scholarship and to engage in interdisciplinary conversations. *Writing the World* not only seeks to preserve these important opportunities for graduate students but to expand them.

For more information on the 2011 Earth Day Conference, visit <http://www.unm.edu/~wac/events/earthday2011.html>, or contact Erin Penner Gallegos at epenner@unm.edu.

Civil Rights Symposium

2011's fourth Civil Rights Symposium, "Mental Health and the Community: Conversations about Civic Literacy and Social Justice," addressed stigmas, facilitate difficult conversations, and promoted awareness, cooperation and action regarding issues of mental and public health at UNM and in the surrounding community. ***Writing the World*** will continue to urge participants to consider how we apply what we learn in affecting positive change within and between our various communities.

For more information on the 2011 Civil Rights Symposium, visit <http://www.unm.edu/~wac/events/civilrights2011.html>, or contact Brian Hendrickson at bhendric@unm.edu.

Working with Writers Symposium

In 2011, Working with Writers focused on "Recognizing Diverse Discourses," bringing together faculty, TAs, and graduate students in workshops, roundtable discussions, and presentations, to discuss emerging best practices in working with diverse writers across the disciplines. ***Writing the World*** promises to provide a relevant thematic framework for this multidisciplinary, interactive symposium.

For more information on the 2011 Working with Writers Symposium, visit: <http://www.unm.edu/~wac/events/workingwithwriters2011.html>, or contact Brittany Kelley (bnkelley@unm.edu) or Lindsey Ives (ivesle@unm.edu).

PLANNING AHEAD

WAC Alliance is committed in 2011-2012 to strengthening our relationships with current stakeholders and establishing new ones through providing opportunities for generative discourse across disciplines, cultures, and communities. For that reason, WAC Alliance thanks Chris Ramirez and the Office of Equity & Inclusion, as well as Gary Harrison and the Office of Graduate Studies, for including us in their recent Fall 2012 events coordination meeting.

We hope all our stakeholders will keep us in mind over the summer as we plan for the coming year and a new opportunity for collaboration and the promotion of our common goals. We are very fortunate to begin next year with adequate money to start our promotion and outreach campaigns; however, we will need no less support from the campus in continuing to serve the students, faculty, and staff of this university. Thank you for your continued support.

For more information on Writing Across Communities, visit <http://www.unm.edu/~wac/>, or contact WAC Alliance at wac@unm.edu or 2011-2012 Events Coordinator Brian Hendrickson at bhendric@unm.edu.