



the WORD

Fall Edition
2010

Writing Across the Curriculum at York College



Above, from right to left: Dr. Ingrid McLaren, visiting from The University of the West Indies, consults with Jonathan Hall, WAC Program Coordinator, Laurel Harris, Writing Fellow, and Cynthia Haller, Director of the College-wide Writing Program, to learn about Writing Across the Curriculum at York College. Dr. McLaren is starting a Communication Across the Curriculum Program at her university and is interested in WAC models at York College & CUNY. Not pictured: York Provost Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith and Writing Fellow Janice Capuana also attended.

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WAC PROGRAM NOTES FOR FALL 2010

Writing Intensive Course Proposal Process

Deadline for Writing Intensive Course Proposals for Spring 2011 September 30th. Send to WAC@york.cuny.edu

As the September 30 deadline for Spring 2011 writing intensive course applications approaches, I write to offer you assistance as you prepare your WI syllabi and applications.

SEE PAGE 2.

Writing Intensive Advisory Committee

Proposals are read by a faculty committee representing a broad range of disciplines across the campus. The members of the Writing Intensive Advisory Committee as of Fall 2010 are:

- Jonathan Hall, English, WAC Coordinator
- *Andrea Krauss, Occupational Therapy
- Louis Levinger, Biology
- Bonnie Oglensky, Social Sciences
- Tom Zlabinger, Performing & Fine Arts
- *Emily Davidson, Health Professions, will join in Spring 2011.

Personnel Changes

Best Wishes to long time WAC coordinator and College-wide Program Director, Michael Cripps, who has taken a new position at the University of New England

For Fall 2010, those functions have been divided between Cynthia Haller, English Collegewide Writing Program (WRIT 300 courses) and Jonathan Hall, English WAC Coordinator. **SEE PAGE 2.**

Writing Fellows Teaching CPE Task I Workshops

Are your students approaching 45 credits? Are they exhibiting signs of anxiety & stress? If so it might be because the CUNY Proficiency Exam time is approaching.

The CPE became a CUNY-wide requirement for all students in 1999. It is a graduation requirement for students getting their Associates' degrees, and students at four-year colleges also are required to take and pass the exam in order to advance their studies. The CPE is designed to measure skills that are associated with academic literacy, e.g., critically reading and interpreting textual and visual information; organizing and presenting one's ideas on assigned readings; and connecting reading materials to other information or concepts, especially one's personal experiences.

For the Fall CPE exams Writing Fellows will be teaming up with Academic Achievement and the Testing Center to offer CUNY

Proficiency Exam (CPE) workshops for students preparing to take the test. The Writing Fellows will be leading a total of 36 three-hour workshops to introduce students to Task I of the exam. In these workshops, students will have the opportunity to study both long and short readings from a former CPE exam and learn how to break down the test prompt to connect the two readings. In addition to the Writing Fellows, JoAnn Glenn, Director of Academic Achievement Stephen Tyson, and Testing Center Director Fenix Arias will be leading Task I workshops. Task II workshops, led by Tyson, Arias, and Assistant Professor of Mathematics Lidia Gonzalez, will help students understand the relationships between graphs and text in the Task II portion of the exam. Students can sign up for both Task I and Task II workshops during the CPE registration period from September 20th through October 8th. The

exams, required of all York College students the semester immediately following the completion of their 45th credit, will be given from October 12th through October 23rd.

CPE TASK 1 WORKSHOP part of the CUNY Writing Across the Curriculum/ Writing in the Disciplines Program. **Workshop Description:**

Learn what reading and writing strategies work best in taking the CPE, and how to apply your writing process to this important exam. The workshop instructor will lead students through the process of pre-writing, planning, drafting, and editing a practice CPE essay, with attention to time management, assignment analysis, and making connections between the long and short readings.

For more information:
AC-1G05
testct@york.cuny.edu

(718) 262-2010

A WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE MINI-CHECKLIST

WI Proposal

10-12 pages of formal writing linked to course material & submitted in cycles of submission & revision

Course grades must be based in significant part on students' written work

WI Syllabus

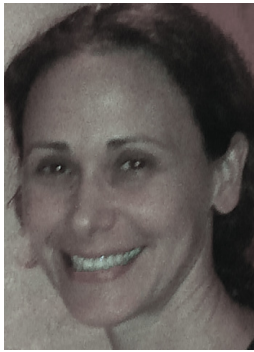
Must include WI statement

Should include writing-related learning objective

WRITING FELLOWS

Writing Fellows are advanced Ph.D. students at The Graduate Center, CUNY who have won competitive fellowships to serve York faculty and students by supporting WAC activity throughout the college. This year, we have 3 new fellows and 3 returning fellows.

Janice Capuana



JANICE CAPUANA is starting her second year as a Writing Fellow at York College. She holds a M.S. in Education and is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Theatre Department at the CUNY Graduate Center. Before coming to York College, she has taught Theatre and Communication courses at John Jay College, Hunter College, and Brooklyn College. Her dissertation, entitled "Rehearsing 'The South': Sicilian Constructs of Representation on the Stage, 1863-1917," focuses on Sicilian theatre and culture in the late 19th/ early 20th century.

In addition to taking over as editor of *The Word: Writing Across the Curriculum at York College*, Janice looks forward to leading CPE workshops and working with other Fellows in developing workshops for students and faculty.

Laurel Harris



LAUREL HARRIS is a second-year Writing Fellow at York College. She taught basic writing, composition, and literature courses at Kingsborough Community College and Brooklyn College for six years before becoming a Fellow. She is currently finishing her dissertation on the relationship between sound cinema and modernist fiction in the English Department at the Graduate Center.

Laurel is continuing faculty collaborations with George Bercovitz in Marketing and Tonya Shearin-Patterson in Medical Technology this year. She is also working with Nicholas Grosskopf in Program Planning and Doug DiToro in the Writing Center to develop a series of discipline-specific materials for students and Writing Center tutors. In addition, she is working on updating and developing the WAC web site, and leading CPE workshops.

Alberto McKelligan



ALBERTO MCKELLIGAN is a first-year Writing Fellow and a student in the art history at CUNY Graduate Center. Previously, he was an instructor at Queens College, teaching "Introduction to Visual Arts," emphasizing the importance and problems of contemporary art and public reception; he also taught "Post-Conquest art of Latin America." His research interests include photography, performance, and post-war art of Mexico. As an ESL international student, he is eager to collaborate with students and

faculty interested in the pedagogical challenges on non-native English speakers while at York College.

PLEASE NOTE that many faculty work with writing fellows either in developing a new course before it is taught or in developing support materials / workshops, etc. While the course is in operation. If you are interested in working with a writing fellow. Contact writing fellows coordinator Jonathan Hall

JHALL1@YORK.CUNY.EDU

THERE'S STILL TIME TO APPLY TO TEACH A WRITING INTENSIVE COURSE IN THE SPRING—CONSULT WITH YOUR CHAIR .

Aneta Kostrzewa



ANETA KOSTRZEWA is a second-year Writing Fellow and a doctoral candidate in the Sociology program at the CUNY Graduate Center. Prior to becoming a Writing Fellow, she taught introductory sociology courses at York College, as well as advanced courses in urban sociology at Hunter College. Currently she is working on her dissertation titled "Remembering Nowa Huta: Working Class Communities and the Politics of Memory in Post-Socialist Poland". Faculty collaboration, CPE workshops and WAC-related video projects are at the top of her agenda for the current academic year.

George Fragopoulos



GEORGE FRAGOPOULOS is a first-year Writing Fellow at York. He is a Ph.D. candidate in English and American literature at the CUNY Graduate Center, and is currently writing his dissertation on modern American poetics. He has taught literature and composition at the College of Staten Island, Laguardia Community College, and, most recently, at Queens College. George's current duties as a Writing Fellow find him conducting CPE workshops for students in preparation for the exam, working with faculty

in the nursing department, and developing a CETL workshop in reading strategies for faculty in the spring.

Elizabeth Alsop



ELIZABETH ALSOP is a doctoral candidate in Comparative Literature at the CUNY Graduate Center. She holds a B.A. from Brown University, where she worked as an undergraduate peer tutor in their Writing Fellows program. Currently she is working on a dissertation on the representation of voice in modernist narrative. Prior to becoming a Writing Fellow, Elizabeth taught world literature at Queens College and film courses at Hunter College.

As a first year writing fellow, Elizabeth is currently working to create an online archive of Writing Across the Curriculum resources. She is also helping students prepare for the CPE, & is planning a workshop for students on study skills, scheduled for late October. She looks forward to collaborating with the writing fellows on other projects, and to future faculty collaborations.

Jonathan Hall, WAC Coordinator , Writing Fellows Coordinator



Dr. Hall came to York in 2008 after serving as Interim Director of the Writing Program and as Writing Across the Curriculum Coordinator at Rutgers University, Newark. He completed his Ph.D in American literature and his M.F.A. in fiction writing at Cornell University.

His current research interests include plagiarism prevention, writing program administration, the teaching of college writing to multilingual learners, and the relation between freshman composition and upper-level writing in the disciplines. He's also currently coordinating the CUNY-wide training workshops for Writing Fellows. ✨