



# Fall Newsletter

October 28, 2016

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Jared Landin

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Elizabeth Parrish

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## From the President

Welcome NTWCA Friends,

Before writing my Letter from the President, I took a sentimental journey through NTWCA's archives. I found Mary Nell Kivviko's own handwritten invitation, asking attendees to join the September 25, 1990 conference for "punch, petit fours, and pedagogy." We've come a long way in the last 26 years from handwritten invites to digital newsletters, online appointment scheduling, and virtual tutoring consultations.

And the digital technologies continue to grow as I discovered while attending the annual NCLCA conference this past month. One session at this conference pre-

sented by Danielle Farrar and Sandy Branham (University of South Florida) was called "Writing Center 2.0: Updating Writing Sessions to iSessions with Digital Technologies." This technology uses iPads to import student's essays, and while using the iPad, consultants work with the student in real time, making comments and suggestions with the use of a digital monitor while the session is also being recorded. Who would have thought this even possible a quarter of a century ago? Even MLA, finally bowing to cyberspace, has made its citation system user-friendly to online materials. Who knows what the next 25 years will bring? As these new methods evolve, we must evolve with

them, creating the best learning environment for our students.

As we begin our fall NTWCA conference, I would like to welcome both new and returning members. Our conference is a place to discuss and evaluate the old ways and the new ways, always providing a network for professional growth as well as a platform for innovative ideas in the Writing Center. Our students, the future leaders of our nation, remain our first priority. Thank you for your dedication and drive to serve these young people.

—Holly Stone  
President, NTWCA

## Program Schedule

### *North Texas Writing Centers Association*

Fall 2016 Conference  
October 28th, 2016

Hosted by  
Tarrant County Community College—Northeast Campus  
Hurst, TX

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- 11:00 - 11:30** Arrival and Registration
- 11:30 - 12:00** Welcome & Announcements
- 12:00 - 12:30** Business Meeting
- 12:30 - 1:30** Lunch and tour of Writing Center
- 1:30 - 1:45** Break
- 1:45 - 2:45** **Keynote Speaker**, Leslie G. Johnson, M.Ed.  
CRLA Certification  
Instructor of Reading, INRW, and STSC  
STSC Coordinator
- 2:45 - 3:15** Questions
- 3:15 - 4:00** Closing Remarks and Round Table

Tarrant County College District  
Northeast Campus  
Larry Darlage Center Corner  
828 W Harwood Rd, Hurst, TX 76054

Campus Map: <http://www.tccd.edu/locations/northeast-campus/map/>

## Keynote Speaker: Leslie Johnson, M.Ed. Tarrant County College, NW

Leslie Johnson is central to the Tarrant County College Northwest CRLA program, and as the College Reading and Learning Association Coordinator, she provides training and certification for the entire district. Leslie is the go-to person in the district for information on CRLA certification and program implementation.

In addition to teaching reading, writing, and college success courses at Tarrant County College Northwest, Leslie Johnson currently fills several roles centered on staff and faculty training and success and curriculum design. These roles include: Transitions to College Success Coordinator for Northwest Campus,



Technology Mentor, and member of the Academic Curriculum Team for Reading and Writing Counsel and Student Success.

Leslie also brings her experience from previous positions as Peer Tutor Coordinator for Northwest Campus, Instructor at North Central Texas College, and ten years in the elementary classroom and as District-level English Curricu-

lum Writer. Leslie is driven by her passions in adult literacy and mentoring students, and she stays motivated by traveling with her family.

Her previous work includes: co-creation of coursework for new INRW Level 1 implementation at TCCD, co-creation of coursework for Transition to College

Success courses at TCCD, a presentation at the Developmental Education Institute at Tarrant County College (NW), Integrated Reading and Writing course implementation, a presentation for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), and publication of "Living Inside the Box" in *MOST (Mother of Super Twins)*.

## News From the Region

### Tarrant County College, Northeast Campus

There has been a pretty big change to the Academic Learning Center (ALC) at the TCC Northeast Campus. The ALC houses three separate learning centers – the Writing Center, the Language Acquisition Center, and the Skills Center. What was formerly known as the Skills Center is no more. My goal when eliminating something or completely changing it in our center is to be sure that we provide a proportional service in its place. In order to accomplish that goal, my staff and I have worked throughout the summer to create a new Study Skills Workshop Series that will be taught by the members of the Writing

Center – Jared Landin, Elizabeth Parrish, James Smith, Andrew Weatherford, and Callie Wooten. The subjects will be nearly identical to the subjects covered in the videos we previously offered; my staff created the workshops with the help of the VHS tapes and the campus's STSC (Student Transition to College Success) textbook.

The service we will now provide in place of the antiquated videos is in the best interest of our students. As many or as few are welcome to join us during any of the workshops.

Here's a brief rundown of the new system:

- Instead of skills videos, my staff will now teach Skills Workshops
- On days of workshops, two will be held: one at 12:30 PM and another at 5 PM

- Each week we alternate days of workshops to allow for the maximum number of students to attend
- Each workshop will run 30 minutes and will conclude with a brief comprehension quiz that will be the proof of visit for the student
- Walk-ins are welcome, as are appointments if students know in advance that they want to attend

My amazing staff has done a lot of hard work to put this together – all I can take credit for is proposing the idea. Once I mentioned it, they took it and ran with it.

—Jared Landin  
Learning Lab Manager of the  
Academic Learning Center at  
TCC NE

## Dallas Baptist University

The Dallas Baptist University Writing Center has recently created two new positions: Social Media Maven and Visual Handout Producer. The former is tasked with all things related to social media. Tweets, Facebook posts, and Instagram

uploads are handled by this person, who engages students through the UWC's social media outlets on a daily basis, often posting several times a day. The Visual Handout Producer is in the midst of constructing videos for the UWC YouTube channel. The goal is to have a video for each of our over ninety handouts, and the hope is

that students will find them both entertaining and helpful. In addition to these exciting projects, our handout editor is creating additional specific assignment flyers for English 1301 and 1302 courses.

—The DBUWC

## Tarrant County College, Northwest Campus

Throughout the past few months, the Academic Learning Center at TCC Northwest has gone through lots of changes. The most notable change has been the introduction of a new Lab Manager, Lisa Cronkhite-Marks, after almost a year without a manager.

Lisa comes to TCC from Kalamazoo Valley Community College where she ran the Writing Center for over 12 years

while also teaching Developmental English, Composition, and French Language.

After graduating from the University of Michigan in Linguistics and French Language, she moved overseas to live in Tokyo, Japan where she taught English and studied Japanese language. She continued her study of Japanese and did graduate work in Oriental Studies at the University of Arizona before returning to Japan for several years with her husband, this time living in Osaka. She eventually settled in Kalamazoo, Michigan with her husband

and two children and earned her Master's in Socio-Cultural Foundations of Education at Western Michigan University, focusing on student motivation. In her free time, she reads, travels and cooks.

Other changes to the Northwest Academic Learning Center include lots of hard work to convert face-to-face workshops into learning modules available to all students on Blackboard, an increased web presence and online scheduling ability with the introduction of WOnline, and several new on-call tutors.

## Upcoming Events

<b>College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) Conference</b> <a href="http://www.crla.net/conference/2016/">http://www.crla.net/conference/2016/</a>	November 3-6, 2017	Louisville, KY
<b>The National Conference in Peer Tutoring in Writing (NCPTW) Conference</b> <a href="http://www.pugetsound.edu/academics/academic-resources/cwlt/ncptw-2016/">http://www.pugetsound.edu/academics/academic-resources/cwlt/ncptw-2016/</a>	November 4-6, 2016	University of Puget Sound Tacoma, WA
<b>South Central Writing Centers Association (SCWCA) Conference</b> <a href="https://scwca.net/">https://scwca.net/</a>	February 16-18, 2017	University of Texas Rio Grande Edinburg, TX
<b>Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC)</b> <a href="http://www.ncte.org/cccc/conv">http://www.ncte.org/cccc/conv</a>	March 15-18, 2017	Portland, OR
<b>Trends in Teaching College Composition</b> <a href="https://www.collin.edu/community/trendsteachingconference.html">https://www.collin.edu/community/trendsteachingconference.html</a> <a href="https://www.collin.edu/community/Call%20for%20Papers%202015--Final.pdf">https://www.collin.edu/community/Call%20for%20Papers%202015--Final.pdf</a>	March 31, 2017	Collin College McKinney, TX
<b>Association of Colleges for Tutoring and Learning Assistance (ACTLA) Conference</b> <a href="http://actla.info/2017-conference/">http://actla.info/2017-conference/</a>	April 27-29, 2017	Sacramento, CA
<b>International Writing Centers Association (IWCA) Summer Institute</b> <a href="http://writingcenters.org/events-2/iwca-summer-institute/">http://writingcenters.org/events-2/iwca-summer-institute/</a>	June 18-23, 2017	Wall Center Vancouver, BC, Canada
<b>College Academic Supports Programs (CASP) Conference</b> <a href="http://casp-texas.com/?page_id=1328">http://casp-texas.com/?page_id=1328</a>	October 22-24, 2017	San Jacinto College Galveston, TX

We want to know what you're doing in your center! What is working? What changes have you made?

Send updates for the newsletter anytime throughout the year, so they don't get lost in the bustle of the semester.

Updates can be sent via email to:

**April Trafton, Newsletter Editor (april.trafton@tccd.edu)**

## *Invitation to Join the North Texas Writing Centers Association*

The North Texas Writing Centers Association serves writing centers of the region as a clearinghouse for exchanging information, as a forum for discussing important writing center issues, and as a means of promoting the professional status of writing center personnel.

Membership in the NTWCA includes directors and staff of writing centers and persons interested in writing centers. Membership can be either institutional (\$50 for a single campus institution, \$25 for each campus in a multiple campus institution) or individual (\$10). Institutional memberships include writing center staff and tutors at the institution.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ Institutional Membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Institutional Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate your profile:

\_\_\_ I am a Writing Center Director.

\_\_\_ I am a Writing Center Staff Member (professional consultant, graduate tutor, or undergraduate peer tutor).

\_\_\_ I am interested in Writing Centers (past director, faculty member, student ...).

\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Send Dues To:   NTWCA  
Attn: Elizabeth Parrish  
TCC NE English Department  
828 W. Harwood Rd.  
Hurst, Texas 76054-3299**