

The Newsletter of the



Fall 2008/Issue 2

September 8, 2008

Cheryl Carithers, Editor

A Message from the President

This year is shaping up to be an exciting one for the North Texas Writing Centers Association. Our September 2008 conference will feature the president of the International Writing Centers Association, Dr. Michele Eodice. Dr. Eodice's presentation is a part of an important celebration. The William L. Adams Center for Writing at Texas Christian University marks its 20th year, and Dr. Steve Sherwood and his staff have kindly invited the members of the North Texas Writing Centers Association to join in the festivities.

As we think about this benchmark for TCU's Writing Center, it is important to reflect on this organization and its influence on all of our Writing Centers over the years. The NTWCA serves not only as a clearinghouse for information, but also as a support system within our region. Many longtime members have contributed much over the years, both in knowledge and enthusiasm. Writing Center directors and consultants alike have helped shape this organization into one of the premier regional associations in the nation. With members from all areas of the North Texas region and from various types of institutions, this is one of the most diverse organizations of its kind.

And, that, I believe, is our biggest challenge in the coming years. How will our Writing Centers accommodate a changing and diverse student population? As Writing Center consultants, we see so many different students with a vast array of writing issues. It seems that we, then, are at the forefront of this changing face of colleges and universities. Are we equipped and willing to confront what is on the horizon? I believe we are. People involved in the Writing Center—consultants, peer tutors, managers, and directors—form the most flexible, compassionate, and committed community of scholars in our colleges and universities. These qualities will serve us well as we seek to enact new programs, to expand our Writing Centers, and to work with an ever changing student population.

On behalf of the Association, I would like to once again extend our thanks to TCU's William L. Adams Center for Writing and Dr. Steve Sherwood for so graciously including the NTWCA members in their 20th year celebration. I hope you all have a wonderful year and continue to be inspired by the work you do so well.

Alice Newsome
President
North Texas Writing Centers Association

A Celebration of Writing Centers

Fall 2008 Conference
Hosted by Texas Christian University
September 18, 2008

Program Schedule

- 1:00 – 1:15 ***Arrival and Registration***
Rickel Academic Wing, Room 245
University Recreation Center
- 1:15 – 1:45 ***Opening Remarks and Business Meeting***
Alice Newsome, NTWCA President
- 1:45 – 2:00 *Adjourn to the Brown-Lupton University Union for the William L. Adams
Center for Writing 20th Anniversary Celebration*
- 2:00 – 2:30 ***Welcome and Opening Remarks***
Brown-Lupton University Union, Ballroom D

Dr. Victor Boschini, Chancellor
Texas Christian University

Dr. Steve Sherwood, Center for Writing Director
Texas Christian University
- 2:30 – 3:00 ***Keynote Address***
Brown-Lupton University Union, Ballroom C

“Peer Tutors and the Power to Shape Institutions”
Michele Eodice, Director of the Writing Center
University of Oklahoma
- 3:00 – 4:00 ***Open Reception***
Brown-Lupton University Union, Ballroom D
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Directions and Campus Map
<http://www.maps.tcu.edu/>

Parking Information
Parking should be available in the Dee J. Kelly Alumni & Visitors Center Parking Lot.

***Lunch will be on your own for this event; however, refreshments will be provided at the
William L. Adams 20th Anniversary Celebration Reception.***

Please RSVP to Cheryl Carithers (c.carithers@tcu.edu) by Wednesday, September 10.

About Our Presenter



Michele Eodice is the Director of the Writing Center and Writing Across the Curriculum at the University of Oklahoma. With Kami Day she wrote *(First Person)2: A Study of Co-Authoring in the Academy* (Utah State University Press 2001). Currently she serves as the of the International Writing Centers Association, co-editor of *Kansas English* and associate editor of development for *The Writing Center Journal*.

Michele was a leader and co-chair of the International Writing Centers Summer Institute for Writing Center Directors and Professionals for three years and recently published a book with four other writing center directors: *The Everyday Writing Center: A Community of Practice* (Utah State University Press). She is the recipient of the 2006 National Conference on Peer Tutoring in Writing's Ron Maxwell Award for Distinguished Leadership in Promoting the Collaborative Learning Practices of Peer Tutors in Writing.

Check Out These Great Resources on the Web

Writing Center Journal

Writing Lab Newsletter

International Writing Centers Association

PeerCentered

Praxis: A Writing Center Journal

The Dangling Modifier.

WCENTER

Lore: An E-Journal for Teachers of Writing

BWe: Basic Writing e-Journal

Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy

News from the Region

Steve Sherwood, Director of the **William L. Adams Center for Writing** at TCU has been re-elected for a second term as an at-large member of International Writing Center Association Executive Board.

Dave Kuhne, Associate Director of the TCU Center for Writing, proudly announces the publication of *descant: The First Fifty Years*. Robert Penn Warren, Karl Shapiro, Joyce Carol Oates, Charles Bukowski, and Denise Levertov are but a few of the outstanding authors whose works grace this celebration of fifty years of *descant*, the literary journal of Texas Christian University. This retrospective traces the journal's history from its beginnings as the product of a literary discussion group modeled after the Vanderbilt Fugitives to its recent years as a critically acclaimed small magazine that receives thousands of submissions and offers annual awards for fiction and poetry.

Ka Riley presented a paper entitled "A Carnival Mirror: Dickens as Fosco in *The Woman in White*:" at the Spring Conference of College Teachers of English in San Antonio, Texas. Riley, who is director of the **Dallas Baptist University Writing Center**, also is current working on her graduate M.A.

Pat Peters, Director of the **Spring Creek Writing Center—CCCCD**, reports that **Joani Reese**, opened a Writing Center for the students at Allen High School during the 2008 spring semester. The center is open for the high school students who are enrolled in dual credit classes taught at the high school by Collin College professors. Reese teaches dual credit courses at Allen High School and has worked in the Spring Creek Campus Writing Center for three years.

The 2008 Mary Nell Kivikko Excellence in Scholarship Award

The North Texas Writing Center Association is now accepting entries for the 2009 Mary Nell Kivikko Excellence in Scholarship Award. The award is open to all writing center professional staff, graduate tutors, and undergraduate peer tutors in the South Central Writing Center Association region (Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, and Louisiana). Proposals should focus on the subject area of writing center theory and practice.

The paper based on the winning proposal will be presented at the NTWCA Spring Conference to be held in April of 2009, at which time the winner will receive the award.

The 250-word abstract of the entry should include a title and the name and contact information of the presenter. Please submit entries to Alice Newsome (a.newsom@tarleton.edu), NTWCA President, by February 13, 2009. Electronic submissions only, please. The winner will be notified via email no later than March 6, 2009.

The 2009 North Texas Writing Centers Association Outstanding Tutor Award

The NTWCA is pleased to accept nominations for the Outstanding Tutor Award, which is designed to recognize professional staff (full or part-time consultants) as well as peer tutors (graduate or undergraduate) who not only demonstrate excellent tutoring skills but also make significant contributions to their writing center. One award will be given, and the winner will be recognized and the award presented at the NTWCA spring conference.

Any nominated professional consultant and graduate or undergraduate peer tutor at a writing center in the NTWCA region is eligible to receive an award. Nominees should be current members of the NTWCA.

Writing center directors may nominate a professional consultant or an undergraduate or graduate peer tutor who is an employee in his/her writing center. Nominations should include the name, institution, address, telephone, and email address of the consultant and/or tutor as well as a letter explaining why the individual should be considered for the award, including information regarding tutoring abilities and contributions to the center.

Please submit nominations to Alice Newsome, President of the NTWCA, by February 29, 2009. Electronic submissions only, please.

The winner of the award will be notified via email no later than March 6, 2009, and should plan to attend the NTWCA spring conference, at which time the award will be presented.

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.

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: TCC NE English Department
Attn: Elizabeth Parrish
828 W. Harwood Rd.
Hurst, Texas 76054

NTWCA Officers

President: Alice Newsome, Tarleton State University

Vice-President: Ben Sword, Tarleton State University

Secretary: Angela Pettit, Texas Women's University

Treasurer: Elizabeth Parrish, TCC-Northeast

Newsletter Editor: Cheryl Carithers, Texas Christian University

Web-Spinner: Rochelle Gregory, Texas Women's University

Archivist: Cynthia Shearer, Texas Christian University

Past President: Cheryl Carithers, Texas Christian University

Alice Newsome, assistant professor of English, has a B.S. in Counseling and English from Texas A&M University-Commerce and holds an M.Ed. from Tarleton State University, with specialized courses taken post-Master's in rhetoric, composition, and literature. She co-directs the Writing Center and the Basic Writing Program at Tarleton., and she teaches basic writing, composition courses, and literature. In recent years, she has presented at NTWCA, CCTE, and SCWCA conferences. Her research interests include the examination of the psychology of the basic writer and the application of writing center theory to the composition classroom (individualized instruction in the classroom). For a number of years, she has helped select and train graduate assistants who work with the basic writers and in the writing center.

Ben Sword is currently serving as the Vice President of the NTWCA. Before serving in the capacity of Vice President of the NTWCA, Ben held the office of Treasurer for 2 years. He is an instructor at Tarleton State University where he has been teaching for 3 years. Ben is the Co-Director of the Writing Center at TSU, along with Alice Newsome.

Angela Pettit is a graduate student at Texas Women's University. She is currently working on her Ph D. there.

Elizabeth Parrish holds a B.A. in English from the University of North Texas. She spent many years working in fields unrelated to education until she accepted a short term position teaching English in China. Returning after six months abroad, her renewed interests in the teaching field lead her to pursue a teaching certificate. She accepted the position of Instructional Associate at the Northeast campus of Tarrant County College where she directs the Writing Center. Elizabeth recently completed the notable TCC Leadership program. She is coordinating the addition of a workshop and lecture series to her Writing Center.

Cynthia Shearer holds an M.A. in English from the University of Mississippi and is the author of two works of fiction, *The Wonder Book of the Air* (Pantheon /Vintage 1996) and *The Celestial Jukebox* (Shoemaker &Hoard/Avalon, 2005). Her work has appeared in such publications as *Tri-Quarterly*, *The Missouri Review*, *The Quarterly*, *The Oxford American*, *The Hungry Mind Review* (now *Ruminator*), and *Speakeasy*. Awards for her short fiction include Honorable Mention in Best American Short Stories, and inclusion in various anthologies such as *Beyond O'Connor* (University of Georgia Press, 2003) and *The Best of the Oxford American*. Her first novel won the 1996 prize for fiction from the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters. She was the recipient of a fiction fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts in 2000. In October of 2005, her *Speakeasy* essay, based on her six years of experience as the curator of the William Faulkner home Rowan Oak, appeared in the thirtieth anniversary issue of the *Pushcart Prize Anthology*.

Cheryl Carithers earned a B.A. in English and history from Tarleton State University in 1996. Specializing in rhetoric and composition, she received her M.A. in English from Tarleton in 1999. In addition to teaching, Ms. Carithers has worked as a professional editor. Her research interests include the history of composition, feminist studies in composition and literature as well as writing center and developmental writing center theory. She is currently a Writing Consultant in the William L. Adams Center for Writing and an instructor in the TCU English Department.

CONSTITUTION OF THE NORTH TEXAS WRITING CENTERS ASSOCIATION
(REVISED SPRING 2007)

- I. 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.
- II. Membership in the NTWCA includes directors and staff of writing centers and persons interested in writing centers. Membership can be multiple-campus institutions (\$25 per campus), single-campus institutions (\$50), or individual (\$10). Institutional memberships include writing center staff and tutors at the institution.
- III. NTWCA assesses dues annually at the fall meeting. Memberships run from September through August. Monies collected are used for communication, publication, and conference expenses.
- IV. The right to vote and to hold office extends to all individual and institutional members.
- V. The following elected officers serve a two-year term and may be elected for multiple, two-year terms:
 - a. President: The president chairs all meetings, facilitates the operations of the association, and serves as co-chair of the Membership Committee.
 - b. Vice-President: The vice-president functions as program chair and assumes the duties of the president in the president's absence.
 - c. Newsletter Editor: The newsletter editor gathers information, edits articles, publishes the newsletter, and handles mailings.
 - d. Secretary: The secretary takes minutes at meetings and reports at executive board meetings and conferences.
 - e. Treasurer: The treasurer collects dues, records memberships, reports finances and memberships at meetings, and serves as co-chair of the Membership Committee.
 - f. Immediate Past President: The immediate past president serves as an advisor and assists other officers in discharging their duties.
- VI. The president appoints the following officers for two-year terms:
 - a. Web Spinner: The web spinner maintains the NTWCA website page.
 - b. Archivist: The archivist serves as custodian of the organization's records.
- VII. The Membership Committee is co- chaired by the president and treasurer and consists of three volunteers from the organization membership. The membership committee promotes involvement by serving as the NTWCA's

outreach liaisons, contacting potential members at colleges, universities, and secondary schools in the area, and conducting an annual membership drive.

- VIII. The Executive Board, consisting of the six elected officers and two appointees, meets at least twice per calendar year to plan meetings and conferences. When officers and appointees are selected at the spring meeting, they immediately assume their duties and plan the schedule of events for the following year.
- IX. If an officer resigns, the Executive Board will appoint an interim officer to serve out the officer's term. If the resigning officer's term has more than one year remaining, the association will elect a new officer at the next regular meeting to serve out the remainder of the term.
- X. The NTWCA sponsors two conferences per calendar year.
- XI. This constitution may be amended or replaced by a majority vote of the executive board and membership at any business meeting.