



Volume 30!

This year, 2010-2011, marks PAWLP's 30th anniversary.

When the Project was founded in 1980, the idea of writing as process, not product was revolutionary. The revolution had begun just nine years earlier with Janet Emig's ground-breaking research, "The Composing Process of Twelfth Graders," followed in the seventies by Sondra Perl, Flower and Hayes, Peter Elbow, James Britton, and - of course - the Donalds, Graves and Murray. It wasn't until 1982 that

Maxine Hairston published "The Winds of Change: Thomas Kuhn and the Revolution in Teaching Writing." (In case you don't recall, that was the article that first articulated the

product-to-process focus as a paradigm shift.) By then, we had already run our first two summer Institutes!

This summer the 30th Writing Institute class graduated 22 new Fellows, bringing the total number of PAWLP Fellows to 1,124.

We hope all Fellows - from 1980 to 2010 - will help us celebrate this milestone at our anniversary luncheon and murder mystery event on October 2. (If you haven't gotten your invitation yet, contact Ann Mascherino at 610-436-2202/amascherino@wcupa.edu.)



New PAWLP Fellows, Class of 2010

Leadership for Literacy: PAWLP Meets Act 45

Starting this month, PAWLP will offer its first ACT 45 opportunity in conjunction with the Chester County IU. Called "Leadership for Literacy: Creating a School Community of Writers," the course addresses the needs of principals and other building leaders responsible for supporting writing instruction and carries 30 hours of Act 48 PIL credit.

Taught by Andrea Fishman, Mary Buckelew, and Rina Vassallo, the course will begin by investigating the theory and practice of teaching writing as it applies to school leaders. It uses the gradual release

of responsibility instructional framework (PRCP), the SAS Writing Framework, and the teacher-as-writer model so that participants can become familiar with research-based practices in writing instruction.

With only four class meetings, most of the coursework is job-embedded. Participants will observe classroom teachers, assess their school's writing instruction, and design staff development opportunities to assist them in the area of writing instruction.

The course begins Thursday, August 19, at the CCIU Educational Services Center, 455 Boot Road in Downingtown. The first class meets from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Participants meet on three subsequent Thursdays, September 23 and October 21 from 4:30 - 7:30 and December 2 from 4:30 - 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$350 for subscribers (Chester County Administrators)/\$425 regular.

Register at cciu.org (click Professional Development, Hourly Workshops, then type "Leadership" in the search-term box).

FROM THE DIRECTOR ANDREA FISHMAN

Something interesting happened to me one day in this summer's Writing Institute, something that seems important to share as we begin a new school year under what may be the most strenuous conditions in recent memory.

We were discussing three seminal theories that attempt to explain the writing process. Participants had read Britton's theory that writing happens at "the point of utterance," Perl's theory that writing evolves in relationship to a "felt sense," and Flower and Hayes' theory, which explains writing as a cognitive planning process. The group's conversation suggested that people were aligning themselves with only one or another of the theorists. "I agree with Britton," or "Perl has it exactly right," or "the Flower and Hayes article was long but it made sense," said some individuals. Others nodded or shook their heads in response. More hands went up.

Wary of the position-taking that seemed to be going on, I asked, "What if they're all right? What if all those theories are true?"

The hands went down. Then, after an extended moment of silence, "That would be so liberating!" someone exclaimed. "I was feeling like I had to take sides!"

Everyone laughed and seemed to exhale. The impulse to "take sides" subsided as we waited for something to replace it. Nothing did. We were faced with the somewhat perplexing reality that all the theories really are true. Each was true for some people in that room. And as the discussion continued, we discovered that all three were true for many people. Sometimes they planned before they wrote; sometimes the writing

emerged "at the point of utterance;" and sometimes they checked in with their "felt sense." Audience and purpose, situation and mode seemed to make the difference in each case.

And if that is true for us as writers, it is most likely true for our student writers, too. One size does not fit all for them either - not one theory, not one approach, not one program, not one practice.

That is what I want to propose as the potentially liberating awareness all of us might take into this new school year. We know we'll be faced with a new crop of students. We know we may well be faced with new mandates or new programs or new curricula when we return to our classrooms this month. We know, too, that we'll likely feel the need to "take sides" as those mandates, programs, and curricula require. But my summer Institute experience suggests we don't have to take sides. There is no silver bullet - no single way - to help our students become better writers (or better readers, for that matter). There may be many ways, many truths, each with its own implications for practice. Some may be new to us. Some may have been around - and in our repertoires - for a very long time.

So I'm suggesting that we give ourselves permission to truly exercise our professional judgment this year, to be the reflective practitioners our students deserve. Let this be the year not of one-right-answer multiple choice but of many-right-answers multiple truths. Let's ask ourselves, "What's true and useful in this theory or material or program? And how can I weave that into the multiple realities students and I experience in my classroom every day?"

Exhale. And enjoy this new school year.

Writing Institute Class of 2010

Jaelyn Arbutina
Rose Tree Media SD

Charlene Briggs-Blomer
Tredyffrin-Easttown SD

Sandra Crook
Twin Valley SD

Jessica Czaika
Garnet Valley SD

Dee Dunbar
Garnet Valley SD

Margaret Hayes
Garnet Valley SD

Nicole Henderson
Garnet Valley SD

Marlene Kimble
Spring Ford SD

Meghan Lowe
Garnet Valley SD

Marianne Maye
Garnet Valley SD

Kathryn McDermott
Tredyffrin-Easttown SD

Sara McMaster
Twin Valley SD

Catherine Nerelli
Garnet Valley SD

Lisa Parkinson
Rose Tree Media SD

Christina Pitcher-Cozzone
Great Valley SD

Carrie Rydeski
Garnet Valley SD

Patrice Seeker
Coatesville SD

Joan Shellenberger
Souderton SD

Peggy Upton
Garnet Valley SD

Kelly Virgin
Kennett Consolidated SD

Jennifer Ward
Haverford SD

Kristin Wessman
Garnet Valley SD



3 graduate credits

Fall Courses

At West Chester University

Teacher as Writer, K—12

PWP 502-01

Wednesdays, 4:15—7:00

beginning Sept. 1

Coordinators: Diane Dougherty/Don LaBranche

Nonfiction in the Writing/Reading Classroom, K—8

PWP 599-01

Two weekends: Oct. 15—17 + Nov. 12-14

Fridays, 6:00—9:00 p.m.

Saturdays/Sundays, 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

Coordinators: Lynne Dorfman/Pat Smith

Includes workshops with Isoke Nia.

Classroom Inquiry

Follow-Through Class for all Fellows

Thursdays: 9/30, 10/7, 12/2 + 16, 4:30 -7:00 p.m.

Saturdays: 9/18, 10/16 and 30, 11/13, 4/2

Coordinators: Mary Buckelew/Brenda Krupp

For Fellows of any Institute year.

Includes workshops with Isoke Nia and spring conference with Donalyn Miller.

At Bucks County IU, Doylestown

Writing Essentials, 1 - 8

PWP 599-02

Two weekends: Oct. 8 - 10 + Nov. 5 - 7

Fridays, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Saturdays/Sundays, 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

+ 5 independent hours

Coordinators: Chris Kehan/Angela Watters

Includes workshops with Jeff Anderson.

The Writers Notebook, 2 - 10

PWP 599-03

Thursdays, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

October 28, Nov. 11, Dec. 2, Jan. 6 + 20, Feb. 3 + 17, May 5

Two Saturdays, March 26 + April 30

8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

+ 5 independent hours

Coordinators: Chris Kehan/Angela Watters

Includes the conference with Katie Wood Ray.



Register on-line at www.pawlp.org

Please register at least two weeks prior to course start date.

Tuition and fees

on-campus: \$1,424.72/off-campus: \$1,359.95 (out-of-state residents higher)

For information call Sally Malarney at 610-436-2202

or e-mail smalarney@wcupa.edu

PAWLP Fellows receive a \$200 stipend for one course each semester.

One-credit, on-site courses
Teaching with Mentor Texts, K - 5
in the Methacton School District

Writing Workshop: The Essential Tools, Part I, K - 8
in the Centennial School District

For information on how to bring a course to your district contact Andrea Fishman or Mary Buckelew at 610-436-2202.

Fall Author Workshops

Enjoy two workshops with

Isoke Nia, Founder of All Write Literacy Consultants

Conferring in the Reading and Writing Classroom

Teachers will examine the art of conferring. By sharing both videotapes and transcripts of actual conferences, teachers will get a crystal clear image of what rigorous and joyful conferring looks and sounds like with young readers and writers. In a true workshop both teachers and students have responsibilities within the conference. Through practice and role play, teachers will develop their role in the conference and make decisions about how to keep useful conferring notes.

Making Learning Rich - Genre Study in the Writing Classroom

Participants will learn ways in which K-6 teachers of writing can plan whole class units of study. They will focus on genre study and carefully examine grade-appropriate genres. Units of study allow individual students to continue to pursue their own topics and audiences for writing, while offering the whole class a particular genre focus. Participants will have a chance to be involved in a hands-on mini genre study and experience the predictable structure of genre study. The workshop will include discussions around the best literature for each study and how to make yourself smarter about writing curriculum. Student writing samples in various genres will be available for examination and discussion.



Isoke Nia

Date: Saturday, October 16, 2010

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location: Graduate Business Center, WCU

Cost: General Public \$80/PAWLP Fellows \$60

Add \$20 to have Act 48 hours reported by WCU

Registration and payment must be received by October 8

Limited enrollment

Mechanically Inclined: Building Grammar into Writing Workshop

Participants will experience two workshops with Jeff Anderson, exploring how weaving grammar and editing into the context of writing can be meaningful, interactive, and FUN. As part of a writing process classroom, grammatical structures attract detail, enhance voice and style, and take young writers to new levels of making meaning. Enjoy a lively presentation full of ideas on how to take grammar from a correctional facility to a creational one.



Jeff Anderson

Date: Saturday, November 6, 2010

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location: Bucks County IU, Doylestown

Cost: General Public \$100/PAWLP Fellows \$80

Add \$20 to have Act 48 hours reported by WCU

Registration and payment must be received by October 22

Limited enrollment



Register for workshops on-line at www.pawlp.org (Click on Coming Events)

For more information call 610-436-2202 or e-mail smalarney@wcupa.edu.

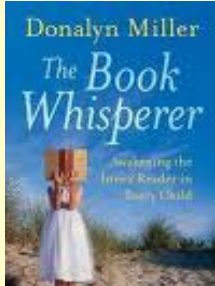
Special: Register 3 or more from the same district at the same time and get a \$10 discount for each person!

New Opportunity: Earn 1 graduate credit by attending two PAWLP Saturday events.

Contact the PAWLP office for details.

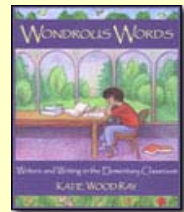
Spring Conferences

Save the Dates!



West Chester
with
Donalyn Miller
author of
The Book Whisperer
April 2, 2011

Bucks County
with
Katie Wood Ray
author of
Wondrous Words and
The Writing Workshop
April 30, 2011



Details on our website at www.wcupa.edu

Spring Courses

Units of Study in the Writing Workshop, 2 - 8

Location: Bucks County IU
Dates/Times: Tuesdays, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29,
April 5, 12, 26/5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday/Sunday, April 30 + May 1/
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
+ 5 independent hours

***Includes conference with Katie Wood Ray**

Coordinator: Angela Watters

"This class turned out to be a blessing in disguise. I received such a wealth of information that I now feel completely prepared to deliver a stellar writing curriculum to my students - a curriculum in which every student knows exactly what is expected and in which every student is successful."

Literacy in Bloom

Location: Longwood Gardens
5 Saturdays, January - April, exact dates TBD
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Coordinator: Patty Koller

"This course is fabulous! Excellent, practical ideas, beautiful setting, wonderful instructors. It's a great way to correlate nature and literature."

*Other courses will be scheduled
Check our website or call 610-436-2202
for additional spring courses.*

3 graduate credits from West Chester University
Tuition and fees - on-campus: \$1,424.72/ off-campus \$1,359.95
(out-of-state residents higher)

Register on-line at www.pawlp.org

or e-mail smalarney@wcupa.edu for a registration form

Registration must be received at least two weeks prior to course start date.

PAWLP Fellows receive a \$200 stipend for one course each semester.

2011 PAWLP Practitioner Research Awards

In an effort to encourage practitioner research and an inquiry approach to education and learning, PAWLP invites Fellows of the Project in K-12 settings to submit their inquiry projects for the first annual PAWLP Research Award competition. Projects may address any literacy-related question of interest to the researcher.

Guidelines can be found on the PAWLP website.* The deadline for submission is March 1, 2011.

Winners will be notified by March 25th and honored at the April 2nd PAWLP day.

AWARDS

\$300.00 + One PAWLP day of your choice

\$200.00+ One PAWLP day of your choice

\$100.00+ One PAWLP day of your choice

*If you would like to develop your inquiry in a community of like-minded individuals, consider taking the 2010 Classroom Inquiry course which focuses on practitioner research. (Details on page 3).

Kudos

Janice Ewing, '04 WC Writing, had her poem entitled "Puzzle" published in the July, 2010 issue of *Language Arts*.

With Pen in Hand (WPIH), a family writing program headed by PAWLP Fellow **Cecelia Evans**, '81 WC Writing, will celebrate it's 10th anniversary on October 23 at the Towne House in Media.

Janice Ewing, '04 WC Writing, is a co-director of WPIH.



Over 750 students, from kindergarten through high school, participated in our Young Writers camps this summer. We are continually amazed by their enthusiasm and the quality of their work.

Education Matters

a column from Michaels Associates

Drudge Report for Educators?

I'm writing to unveil the latest service to professional educators from Michaels Associates. We've undertaken a large project, and our hope is that by the time you read this it will actually exist. If not, please make note of the website address below and keep watching for it. Better still, if you send your e-mail address to us at gmichaels@michaelsassociates.com we'll make sure that you're notified when it's complete. We want to make it as perfect as possible before the official launch to secure long range success.

Michaels Associates LLC has used the name "Education Matters" since the fall of 1992. We created a newsletter at that time to keep our customers and local educators abreast of events and publications of interest to them. When Andy Fishman became di-

rector of the Project some years later, we reached out to one another and through her leadership and our collaboration, we decided to move the name to the PAWLP *Newsletter* in the form of a column through a sponsorship arrangement. The first PAWLP Education Matters column appeared in the fall 1997 issue.

Michaels Associates is proud of our relationship with the Project and it has been a win-win by all accounts. Our hope is that it will continue far into the future. Education Matters contributors have included Don Graves, Lucy Calkins, Ralph Fletcher, Barry Lane, Regie Routman, and many other author/friends. We have also suggested new publishers and products like Poetry Baskets and a revolutionary CD-ROM catalog that makes choosing and purchasing professional resources much easier than in the past.

The new (and very exciting) project mentioned in the first para-

graph - unlike most of our columns - won't ask you to purchase anything directly. We have been in the very arduous process of creating a sort of "Drudge Report" for education. The website will include links to just about every place a professional educator might choose to go on the internet: state boards of education, public and private school websites, professional organizations, education-related blogs, education-related articles and journals, online forums, newsletters, and ideas we're still developing. We'll also include free offers and feature education websites you probably haven't seen. (I said it was a large project.) Wish us luck - and please tell your colleagues.

The address?

www.k12EducationMatters.org

Cordially,
Greg Michaels



The Newsletter has gone green!!

**We publish an electronic Newsletter several times/year
to reduce the frequency of the paper version.**

Sign up for the electronic Newsletter on our website at www.pawlp.org.

THE PENNSYLVANIA WRITING & LITERATURE PROJECT NEWSLETTER IS SPONSORED BY

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The Pennsylvania Writing and Literature Project *Newsletter* is published two times a year by and for those affiliated with the Project. Submissions are always welcome and can be mailed to the Pennsylvania Writing and Literature Project, West Chester University, West Chester, PA, 19383.

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