Fall 2013 Writing across the Curriculum Events and Services

The UW-Superior Writing across the Curriculum Program's mission is to foster a culture of writing at UW-Superior. This Fall, many WAC activities and services are available to help fulfill this mission. You are cordially invited to participate.

For faculty and teaching staff:

WAC Grants:

Two instructors and one academic program are currently engaged in WAC grant projects. They are busy designing or redesigning, or implementing course/curricula redesigns even as you read this! Meanwhile, six instructors have completed grant projects since the program's inception in Fall 2011. This fall, we will offer a chance for instructors to apply for a new round of WAC grants providing support for their sustained work in enhancing the way student writing is used in a course or entire curriculum. Expect a call for proposals soon.

Mentoring Program:

Through this program, a special writing consultant called a Writing Mentor is "attached" to a course, providing specialized help to the students in that course with two required writing projects. This semester, four classes have Writing Mentors. If you are interested in exploring the possibility of having a Writing Mentor for a course in a future semester, contact WAC Coordinator Deborah Schlacks at dschlack@uwsuper.edu for more information.

Instructor Consultancy Service:

To find ways to enhance how student writing is used in a single class, a series of classes, an entire curriculum, individuals (faculty and teaching staff) and groups from any and all disciplines are invited to arrange for a consultation with WAC Coordinator Deborah Schlacks. Help is available with a range of topics, including the following:

- Developing or revising writing assignment instruction sheets
- Developing or revising writing-to-learn activities that will help students achieve the learning goals of your course
- Developing or revising major writing assignments
- Providing students with appropriate scaffolding for writing projects
- Using peer workshops and other means of encouraging students to revise effectively
- Developing, revising, and using appropriate criteria for assessing student writing
- Managing the paper load
- Assessing student learning goals that focus on writing, and assessing student learning goals through writing
- Revisioning the writing that occurs throughout a major or minor program
- And much more!

Contact Deborah at dschlack@uwsuper.edu to arrange for a consultation or to get more information about this service.

Cross-Disciplinary Brown Bags for All UW-Superior Instructors:

This fall will see the continuation of the WAC Brown Bag series. These informal meetings are for faculty and teaching staff from across the disciplines. They focus on

- --how we can best help students learn to write well in our disciplines
- --how we can best help students learn disciplinary content by writing

The following brown bags—all of them at **noon in SWEN 1007**—are scheduled for this semester:

Monday, October 7: Handling the Paper Load

Monday, November 4: How We Talk about Writing: Keeping It Positive

Monday, December 2: Panel of WAC Grantees (tentative topic)

Writing Center Classroom Visits:

Seventy-eight percent of respondents to a UW-Superior Writing Center survey named instructor encouragement as spurring their visits to the Center. To ensure that your students are informed about Writing Center services and encouraged to take advantage of them, invite a Writing Center consultant to speak to your class. It takes just five minutes of class time! (Alternatively, if you wish to have your class come for a brief visit to the Center, for a Consultant to speak to them there about these services, we can also arrange for that.) Contact Yvonne Rutford, Assistant Writing Center Director, at yrutford@uwsuper.edu, to make the arrangements.

Writing across the Curriculum Website and Facebook Page:

Find a host of information on using student writing in your courses at this website: www.uwsuper.edu/wac. And participate in the community of instructors interested in WAC by "liking" the University of Wisconsin-Superior WAC Facebook page.

For students:

Writing Center Consultations:

The Writing Center (Swenson 1030) offers free one-on-one peer consultations, both in-person and online, for all students concerning writing they are doing in any and all classes, no matter the discipline, no matter the level. The Center is open from 9-5 Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays; 9-9 Wednesdays; and 9-4 Fridays for both in-person and online consultations. Online consultations are also available on Sundays from 6-11 pm.

Workshops for Students on Writing:

Three workshops will be held this semester. All UW-Superior students are invited to attend! Each is **at noon in SWEN 1043**:

Thurs., Oct. 10: Proofreading Tips and Tricks

Thurs., Nov. 14: The "Quote Sandwich" and Other Secrets of Effective Source Use

Thurs., Dec. 5: Email Etiquette

Writing Center Monthly Drawing:

Every student visiting the Writing Center for a consultation is entered into our monthly drawing for such prizes as 'Jacket Books & Supplies gift certificates and Writing Center t-shirts.

Writing Contests:

- --Liberal Arts Essay Contest—Details TBA
- --Women's and Gender Studies Essay Contest (co-sponsored by WGST Program and WAC)—Deadline Dec. 18

Writing Center Website and Facebook Page:

Students (and others) can find information on many writing topics by visiting www.uwsuper.edu/writingcenter. It's also the place to make appointments for Writing Center consultations. And "like" the Writing Center Facebook page!

For EVERYONE:

We have a variety of fun special events planned for this semester:

- --Punctuation Personality Quiz in the Writing Center on National Punctuation Day (Tues., Sept. 24th)
- --National Day on Writing "Beatnik Café" Open Mic on first floor Swenson at noon (Mon., Oct. 21)
- --Writing Center Holiday Open House (Fri., Dec. 6)

Coming in the Spring: WAC Showcase, Third Annual Golden Pencil Hunt, Special Writing Center Valentine Consultations, Additional Brown Bags and Workshops....

All this and more....
Visit http://www.uwsuper.edu/wac
for more details on all the WAC program has to offer.