

November 3, 2006

Call For Presentations
Colorado Community College Conference on Composition: 2007

Dear Colleague:

Aims Community College in Greeley, Colorado, will host the Colorado Community College Conference on Composition (5C's) on **Friday, April 13, 2007**. Participants in the 5C's over the years have enthusiastically endorsed the event as Colorado's top conference for writing teachers, and we hope to continue that tradition this year.

Keynote Speaker



We are delighted to announce that our keynote speaker will be **Dr. Russ Ward**, a veteran of over 33 years teaching college-level composition in Colorado. After earning his doctorate degree in English with an emphasis in Rhetoric in 1986, he taught at Otero Junior College, Trinidad State Junior College, and Idaho State University. He finally landed at Aims Community College, where he chaired the English Department for 13 years and added three more years as a professor before retiring in 2002. Dr. Ward keeps his hand in the field by teaching logic and composition part time at Aims. Among his many notable accomplishments, he has twice received both the 5C's Award for Teaching Excellence and the Aims Community College Award for Teaching Excellence. He was instrumental in creating the 5C's Conference nearly twenty years ago. He has published two composition textbooks, Logical Argument in the Research Paper (1997) and (with Anne Machin) Tools of the Writing Trade, with a third book forthcoming in Fall of 2007 titled The Mirror Images of Argument (also with Anne Machin). Dr. Ward has been married for more than 32 years ("to the same woman!"); he and his wife have a son, 25, and a daughter, 18.

Conference Theme

The Millennial Challenge: Working with Underprepared Writing Students

The Issue

New initiatives and new challenges are always a part of the academic world, and the present is no exception. Ever-evolving state mandates, increasing numbers of ESL or ill-prepared students, concerns over ACT scores, concerns related to developmental writing/reading, and challenges associated with the "Millennial Generation" are all composition teaching issues in two-year colleges.

We invite proposals for presentations addressing the following issues as they pertain specifically to teaching composition in the developmental or first-year composition course:

- What teaching approaches are suitable for students of the "Millennial Generation"?
- How is the current move from "teaching-centered" college to "learning-centered" college influencing teaching of basic writing?
- What issues present themselves for instructors trying to balance their pedagogy, composition teaching theory, assessment cut-scores, and students' needs?
- Should we re-assess what we ask underprepared students to learn, particularly ESL students?
- Given that entering students' writing skills are influenced by a number of factors, what is or should be our role in meeting the needs of increasingly ill-prepared students?

The deadline for submitting proposals is January 31, 2007. Please observe the following guidelines:

- Submit by snail-mail or email to the address below.
- Include a title as you want it to appear in the program.
- Include an abstract (50-100 words) as you want it to appear in the program.
- Include a brief autobiography as you want it to appear in the program.
- Plan a presentation of 45 minutes.
- Include a statement of technology needs (Note: presenters must provide their own laptop computers).
- If selected to present, prepare handouts for 30 people.

Please submit proposals via email to chuck.fisher@aims.edu or mail to :

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