The Write Stuff Newsletter
a publication of the UW-Platteville Writing Center

Greetings from the Writing Center

As always, the WC greatly appreciates the support of faculty and staff who refer their students to us. Already in the 2013–14 academic year, we have tutored over 400 sessions and made informational and content presentations to over 50 classes.

In the coming year, the WC hopes to continue to grow in opportunities to meet the needs of the UW-Platteville writing community, offering online and satellite options for both students and staff. Stay tuned for further details.

As always, please remind your students to:
• Keep the appointments they make.
• Call 342.1615 as soon as possible if they cannot keep an appointment.

NEW EMPLOYEES AT THE WATR

Former WC standout tutor and recent UW-Platteville alumna, Brianna Jentz, has stepped into a professional role in the WATR world as our new Writing and Tutoring Program Assistant. Jentz has been assisting both the writing and tutoring coordinators in their efforts to serve the university community and has also been coordinating the newly acquired Peer-Assisted Leader program. In her capable hands, the WATR has been running smoothly.

The WATR has also welcomed a new program assistant, Lisa Millsap, a Michigan native who holds a master’s degree in library and information science. Millsap works in the mornings, assisting students seeking tutoring services and functioning as a “do-it-all” employee—her friendly personality and impressive knowledge base makes her the go-to person for any support services request.

CONGRATULATIONS TO UW-PLATTEVILLE/WC ALUMNI

Recent UW-Platteville graduate and former Writing Center tutor, Shane Kieler, is now an English teacher at Highland School District in southwest Wisconsin. Kieler works with ninth to 12th grade students and has been teaching the writing principles he learned in his program and at the WC, even organizing a school trip to UW-Platteville in August to teach students research techniques and citation basics. Kieler credits the WC for helping prepare him for a career in education by allowing him to interact with students working to improve their reading, composition, and public speaking skills.

WC alumna, Carolyn Heiar, is currently a student teacher for seventh grade at Audubon Elementary school in Chicago, Ill. She is also coaching junior high school girls’ volleyball. Living and teaching in Chicago is a dream come true for Heiar, who is an avid (if unfortunate) Chicago Cubs fan. After she completes her student teaching assignment, Heiar will graduate in December from UW-Platteville with a degree in middle-level education and a minor in special education.

FALL 2013 SATELLITE TUTORING HOURS

Drop-in Tutoring at Karrmann Library
Monday–Tuesday
4–7 p.m.
First floor, Periodical Area

Drop-In STEM-Focused Tutoring
Monday – 10–11 a.m.
Wednesday – 9–11 a.m.
Friday – 10–11 a.m.
CenterPOINT, Room 170 Ottensman Hall

Drop-In Residence Hall Tutoring
Pickard Hall
Wednesday – 6:30–8:30 p.m.
Rountree Commons
Monday – 7–9 p.m.
Thursday – 7–9 p.m.

In order to conserve resources, we primarily distribute this newsletter electronically. However, we do have a limited number of hard copies and would be happy to send you one. Please call the WATR office at 608.342.1615 for a free copy.
MEET THE NEW TUTORS

RAVEN WEEMS
Originally from Milwaukee, Wis., I began working in the Writing Center through the Writing Fellows Program in spring 2013 and am now eager to take on my first semester as a Writing Center tutor. I’m looking forward to learning a lot of new things from the many different papers I’ll encounter. Outside of the Writing Center, I enjoy mentoring freshmen through the DRIVEN Scholars Program, dancing on FusionX Hip-Hop Dance team, and participating in organizations like Black Student Union and Every Woman. In my down time, I obsess over *Breaking Bad*, *Scandal*, *The Big Bang Theory*, and reality television shows. I also enjoy reading books, doing hair, and painting nails.

EMALYDIA FLENORY
My name is Emalydia Flenory and I am originally from Sun Prairie, Wis. This is my first year at UW-Platteville, and I am majoring in forensic investigation and professional writing with a minor in French. This is my first semester as a writing tutor—because I’ve always enjoyed writing, I thought, "why not tutor?!” I am very excited to read the wide variety of papers that students have written. When I’m not tutoring, I’m active in French Club, and my hobbies include hanging out with friends, watching movies, reading, and just being social.

SAM RAFF
This is my fourth year at UW-Platteville and my first at the Writing Center. I’m majoring in Spanish education with a minor in teaching English to speakers of other languages. I spent the first half of my life in Indiana and the second in Sheboygan, Wis. I love baseball and unfortunately, the Cubs. I spend my free time playing video games, reading, and working my second job as a server on the weekends. I plan on going to Spain next fall and one day hope to teach middle school Spanish.

SONNEE LOZANO
I’ve enjoyed writing from the very beginning of my life, and this led me to a degree in English professional writing. I love helping students become better writers, so it was simply a matter of time until I joined the Writing Center staff. Along with my interests in the English field, I enjoy pulling all-nighters and copy editing every week for the UW-Platteville *Exponent* newspaper. My hobbies include being a passionate automotive enthusiast, and I hope to own many modern and classic muscle cars throughout my life.

Deals so hot, we’re giving them away!
The Writing Center offers the following in-class presentations and workshops free of charge!

- Plagiarism
- Memo and Letter Writing
- Summary and Paraphrase
- Professional Communication
- Peer-Review Workshops
- Active vs. Passive Voice
- Professional Writing
- Scholarly vs. Popular Press
- MLA and APA Citation Styles
We are excited to be celebrating the fifth year of *Stylus: An Anthology of Freshman Writing*, a collaborative effort between the Writing Center and our colleagues in the English program.

As a required supplemental text for English 1130 and 1230, *Stylus* helps freshmen learn from writing models that highlight good first-year writing and instructor expectations. Furthermore, more than 80 percent of students surveyed said they found *Stylus* to be a valuable tool in understanding the writing process, an important goal of first year composition. Through the years, over 1,200 students have submitted their work to *Stylus*, offering support for the notion that the potential of getting published helps to motivate students to work harder at their writing.

*Stylus* has offered additional opportunities for student engagement through professional writing internships for three English majors since 2010 and an additional paid opportunity for a student copyeditor in 2012.

**Features of Stylus**

- 45–60 freshman student papers, ranging from personal narratives to complete research papers
- Course overviews for English 1130 and English 1230
- A handbook section featuring sample MLA and APA style papers, including margin annotations
- Words of wisdom from previous first-year writers
- Guidance on plagiarism—and how to avoid it
- A grammar diagnostic test for first-year college writers
- Formatting instructions for Microsoft Word 2007 and 2010

**Grants and Awards**

- UW-Platteville, Chancellor’s Opportunity Grant, 2009
- UW System, Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Grant, 2010
- UW-Platteville College of Liberal Arts and Education, Excellence in Teamwork Award, 2010
- UW System President’s Summit, 2011
- UW System, Institute on Race and Ethnicity Grant, 2011

Learn more about ‘baltering’ at the **THE ELECTRONIC WATR COOLER**

Like us on Facebook, facebook.com/uwplattevillewritingcenter.

Check out our website at uwplatt.edu/watr.
In spring 2013, the Writing Center hosted the third annual Essay Contest. The prompt focused on UW-Platteville’s inaugural Campus Read book, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, by Rebecca Skloot. In an essay of approximately 1,000 words, students were asked to reflect on the issues of bioethics, racism, poverty, science, and faith, all prevalent themes explored in the book. We had over 60 submissions, and a great amount of enthusiasm from students, staff, and faculty.

Four students were recognized for their writing efforts at the Writing Center Essay Contest Awards Banquet, held on May 6.

First Prize ($500) – *Brooks Lutes* – *Beyond the Cells: Bioethics in Medical Research*

Second Prize ($300) – *Hannah Schuler* – *A Growth in Life: A Growth in Faith*

Third Prize ($200) – *Aryan Rashidi* – *Praise and Consideration: The Henrietta Lacks Contributions to the Foundations of 21st Century Science*

Honorable Mention ($50) – *Jeremiah Rivera* – *Racial Conflict and the Embrace of Undeniable Pride*

We’d like to extend a special thank you to the UW-Platteville Foundation and Mittie N. Den Herder, UW-Platteville Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, who made the awards reception possible. Thanks is also due to Dr. Terri Burns, Chair of the humanities department; Dr. Kory Wein, Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Education and Professor of English; Dr. Amy Nemmetz, Director of First-Year Experience and Chair of the 2012–13 Campus Read committee, for their efforts in making the essay contest possible.

The Writing Center would also like to thank our 2012–13 contest judges

- **Dr. Sharon Klavins**, Professor of biology, College of BILSA representative
- **Dr. Ben Collins**, Professor of math, College of EMS representative
- **Dr. Adam Stanley**, Professor of history, College of LAE representative
- **Dr. Demisty Bellinger-Delfeld**, Instructor of English, English program representative
- **Morgan Spitzer**, Interim Coordinator of the Writing Center
- **Brianna Jentz**, WATR Program Assistant
- **Joe Kluever**, Student Representative from the Writing Center

**STAY TUNED FOR SPRING 2014**

The essay contest prompt for spring 2014 will be posted by Nov. 1. Please watch the Writing Center website for more details, www.uwplatt.edu/watr.

The Writing Center is a huge supporter of Campus Read!