

WRITING LAB NEWSLETTER

Vol. I, No. 1

(April, 1977)

WE ARE LAUNCHED!

Here is the first issue of THE WRITING LAB NEWSLETTER proposed at the 4 C's, and our first order of business is to have each other's names. Enclosed is an initial list, but as you spread the word and encourage other lab people to join us, supplementary lists will be included in future newsletters.

Equally important are your contributions to the newsletter. Send your questions, announcements, news, evaluations of some materials you use, suggestions for the format, content, and title of the newsletter, offers to take on projects, requests for some particular bit of information, etc. Our intention is to keep the newsletter brief, useful, and informal.

In the interest of mollifying my department's keeper of the budget, I would appreciate some small donation (perhaps a dollar?) to help cover duplicating and mailing costs, but this will certainly not be mandatory. Most of all, at this embryonic stage of our newsletter, we need your interest and your input. Let's keep in touch!

Send your notices to:

Muriel Harris
Dept. of English
Purdue University
West Lafayette, In. 47907

SET IT WRITE-A Conference on the Teaching of Writing

You may be interested in a conference, on May 6-7, at Illinois State University (Normal, Il.), described as follows:

Teachers are being held accountable for the quality of their students' writing, yet new developments in linguistics, psychology, and mass media make it increasingly difficult to know how to teach composition and creative writing. This conference offers writers and teachers in the midwest an opportunity to meet and discuss common problems. The focus will be on all types of writing--exposition, creative writing, technical writing, writing for children, and journalism--with an emphasis on teaching. The conference features workshops as well as papers and an address by Ray Kytle.

The deadline for pre-registration is April 25. For a brochure which describes the program in detail and includes the pre-registration form, contact:

Janice Neuleib, Program
Coordinator
Dept. of English
Stevenson Hall
Illinois State Univ.
Bloomington-Normal, Il. 61761

WE CAN-An ESL Newsletter.

If you are interested in subscribing (at no cost) to WE CAN, a newsletter emphasizing reviews of materials and techniques for ESL, both reading and writing skills as well as basic education, contact:

Florence E. Snyder, Editor
 Manhattan Adult Learning
 Center
 2031 Casement Rd.
 Manhattan, Ks. 66502

At the Saturday morning 4C's session there was some discussion of the Auto-Tutor branching system of self-instruction. Can someone who is familiar with it send in a brief description and an address?

If you are interested in making contact with an Illinois group working in learning skills centers or would like a list of materials, an announcement of a meeting in the fall, or a mailing list, contact:

Janice Neuleib
 Dept. of English
 Stevenson Hall
 Illinois State Univ.
 Bloomington-Normal, Il.
 61761

Has anyone used the Westinghouse self-instruction materials with speakers of non-standard English, and, if so, with what results? Please send comments and other information to:

Mary Epes
 York College of CUNY
 Jamaica, N.Y. 11451

Amy Richards (Wayne State) has suggested that we consider the possibility of forming a bank or repository for copies of our own home-made lab materials. If anyone is interested in undertaking such a project and has funds for copying, secretarial help, let us know. Might someone find some grant money for such a project?

Until this gets off the ground, you may want to send us notices, for future newsletters, of what you have available that you'd be willing to share. Please include a short description of the material, its format, and any stipulations you might have for sending out a copy (e.g., reimbursement for mailing costs, duplicating a tape, etc.).

There is an obvious interest in and need for a list of established labs. Does anyone have any lists to start our collation? Would anyone care to volunteer to be the compiler?

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