Part 2. Fostering Students’ Development of Writing Identities

In Part 2, authors focus on students’ own development as agentive writers, in and because of FYC. Helen Collins Sitler showcases her Basic Writing course, where students are given the task of writing in public campus spaces and proclaiming “I am a writer!” if anyone asks what they’re doing. Sitler shares perspectives from two former students and describes how specific class activities led students to conceptualize their own writing identities.

Martha Wilson Schaffer focuses her attention on students’ abilities to assess their own writing potential. Her conversations with student interviewees show how self-assessment within the liminal space of FYC can enable students to tell their own stories of where they’ve been and where they might go as writers.

Jo-Anne Kerr discusses an approach to FYC that fosters students’ writerly dispositions. Kerr’s FYC course demystifies academic writing expectations and prompts students to define their writing selves so they might transfer their writing abilities beyond the FYC course.

Finally, Brian D. Carpenter describes how teaching cohesion as a writing strategy and socializing students into academic writing expectations empowered students in Basic Writing and in communicative contexts outside the course. Carpenter shares experiences from multilingual writers developing academic writing identities.

Extras

- Listen to a podcast conversation among Part 2 authors Helen Collins Sitler and Jo-Anne Kerr and editor Ann Amicucci for ideas on how to challenge students’ preconceived notions of what writing should be: 🎧Listen to the Part 2 Podcast
- Watch short videos of:
  - Helen Collins Sitler sharing classroom practices for promoting students’ writing identities: 📹View the Video
  - Jo-Anne Kerr discussing how to validate students’ beliefs about writing while offering opportunities to revise these beliefs: 📹View the Video
  - Brian Carpenter describing classroom practices for facilitating students’ academic socialization in FYC: 📹View the Video