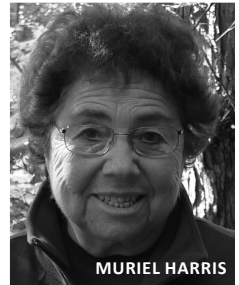


Editor's Note

Muriel Harris

As writing center people who are used to—and skilled in—dealing with constantly changing realities, you are, I hope, coping with the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. At some point, life will return to normal (whatever that is), and you'll be back on campus and looking for new challenges to take on. So this issue invites you to spend time now, considering the following solutions to some perennial concerns:



- *Can writing center tutors help instructors write effective assignments?* Erin Zimmerman and Emma Moghabghab looked into two ways to assist instructors with crafting writing assignments: 1) holding a workshop for instructors on designing assignments, and 2) assigning tutors to classes to help instructors with their assignments. Both approaches were studied, and results suggest ways that, with training and guidelines, tutors can effectively assist instructors with the difficult task of writing effective assignments (a genre that clearly needs attention).
- *For graduate student writers, is there a difference between being supported by graduate tutors or by graduate writing specialists?* Claire McMurray, a graduate writing specialist, offers the results of her survey along with a summary of the types of assistance graduate students think a graduate writing specialist can offer.
- *Are there more effective ways to help tutors reflect on their tutorials?* Bonnie Devet introduces us to the six steps in Gibbs' Reflective Cycle and describes her use of this approach with her tutors.
- *Might short, creative writing exercises be a tutorial strategy to help students see themselves as writers?* Annesley Anderson offers fellow tutors some informal exercises related to the assignment the student is working on, to help them gain confidence in themselves.

This issue wraps up volume 44 of *WLN*, but we'll continue through the summer to respond to queries, receive submissions, include notices of writing center conferences you send us, and discuss potential guest editor work on special issues. Wishing us all a summer in which life begins to return to normal and all the delight of being "normal" again.