

## Editor's Note

Muriel Harris

The articles in this issue of *WLN* focus on writing center concerns that remain endlessly open for discussion and reflection as we continue to seek answers, debate solutions, and come up with new approaches. The first article, by Scott Pleasant and Deno Trakas, considers whether direct assessments should be done qualitatively or quantitatively, so to take a closer look, they compared their centers' different assessment methods. Their article reports on these assessments and discusses how the data led to improvements in their centers. Another current topic, diversity in the writing center, is discussed by Elizabeth Kleinfeld, Sohui Lee, and Julia Prebel with specific regard to diversity in writing center scholarship. They report on two surveys, one of writing center workers interested in publishing and another of those who have published in *WLN*. After studying twelve volumes of articles in *WLN*, they note the homogeneity of authors in terms of the institutions they work at, their positions, and their race.



Yet another recurring question is how to introduce the writing center to students in the most effective way. Salena Anderson's answer, after a close reading of one international student's journals detailing his difficulties in using the center, was to revise the way her writing center is introduced. In the Tutors' Column article, Rachel Stroup dives into an issue in the minds of many directors and tutors—how to respond to students who “mansplain” to their female-presenting tutors—and offers workable solutions for tutors to employ.

If you are interested in responding to any of these articles, please share your thoughts (in 350 words or less) with other *WLN* readers. Please send your response to the *WLN* website ([wlnjournal.org/submit.php](http://wlnjournal.org/submit.php), using “other” as the category) by April 15, 2021. Also on the *WLN* website, in the Resources section, you'll now find a new, open-access Digital Edited Collection (the third in the series), *Wellness and Care in Writing Center Work*, edited by Genie Nicole

Gaiimo. And our blog, "Connecting Writing Centers across Borders," keeps you updated on CFP's and conference announcements, as well as offering a wealth of interesting posts about writing centers around the globe.

## STAY TUNED FOR THE *WLN* BLOG'S "SLOW AGENCY" PODCASTS

The editors of *WLN*'s blog, *Connecting Writing Centers across Borders*, are excited to announce that they are adding a new feature to the blog: the "Slow Agency" podcast! The goal of our podcast is to open up time and space in this productivity-saturated culture to slow down and dialogue with leading thinkers and practitioners in Writing Studies worldwide. Rather than trying to distill our conversations into neat sound-bites or twenty-minute clips, we are choosing to embrace the longform interview so that we have time to really listen, process, think, and dialogue about ideas and issues that either directly or tangentially impact writing center praxis.

This season, we interview North American scholars on a wide range of issues including standard language ideologies and anti-racist practices, emotional labor in WPA work, writing center care-work, writing as a way of being and a way into well-being. Our inaugural episode features *WLN*'s journal editors whose wisdom and hard work make this journal and the blog possible.

Next season, stay tuned for interviews with scholars and practitioners from around the world!

## GET INVOLVED WITH *WLN*

**Interested in serving as a reviewer?** Contact Karen Gabrielle Johnson (KGJohnson@ship.edu), Ted Roggenbuck (troggenb@bloomu.edu), Lee Ann Glowzinski (lglowzinski@wheeling.edu), and Julia Bleakney (jbleakney@elon.edu).

**Interested in contributing news, announcements, or accounts of work in your writing center to the Blog (photos welcomed)?** Contact the Blog Editors (writinglabnewsletterblog@gmail.com).

**Interested in guest editing a special issue on a topic of your choice?** Contact Muriel Harris (harrism@purdue.edu).

**Interested in writing an article or Tutors' Column to submit to *WLN*?** Check the guidelines on the website: ([wlnjournal.org/submit.php](http://wlnjournal.org/submit.php)).