



center for writing

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER 2013

As we reflect back on the last academic year and begin a new one, we remember with fondness and appreciation the 18 staff members who completed their Center careers this past year: Maggie Archbold, Leah Bankson, Maddie Bien, Maija Brown, Buyu Chen, Candance Doerr-Stevens, Juan Fernandez, Kate Feuling, Julie Herber, Aaron Hokanson, Heidi Jones, Jessie Lieb, Rose Miron, Andy Osborne, Liza Pincsak, Angela Sprunger, Keely Vandre, and Amy Wolner.

In this year's newsletter, we are featuring a close look at the longest serving member of that esteemed group, someone whom many of you worked with and who embodies the passion, thoughtfulness, and generosity we see in the Center's staff, past and present. We'll also introduce you to three new professional staff members who joined the Center's Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) team last year and scoop you on the upcoming international WAC conference we are hosting in June 2014.



After 7 Years in C4W, Candance Doerr-Stevens Heads to UW-Milwaukee

After seven years in the Center for Writing (C4W) as a Student Writing Support writing consultant, Minnesota Writing Project (MWP) graduate assistant, and student in the Literacy and Rhetorical Studies minor, Candance Doerr-Stevens graduated in May 2013 with a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction, with a focus on literacy education. Since then, she has begun her new position as an assistant professor of reading at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee (UWM).

In her response to our 11 Questions for Alumni (z.umn.edu/candance), Candance indicates that working at C4W influenced her career choices and affirmed her desire to continue to work with both inservice and preservice teachers. With many leadership responsibilities in C4W and opportunities to participate in professional conferences, Candance developed her confidence to create new programs and courses. Drawing on her work developing and teaching courses for MWP's Edina Literacy Cohort, Candance is now working on a new series of literacy courses for UWM next spring. In June, right after moving to Milwaukee from the Twin Cities, Candance shared the digital storytelling creation

and instruction expertise she honed through MWP's Summer Institutes with the UWM Writing Project. She is excited about maintaining her connections with the National Writing Project through this site at UWM.



Candance points us to her office at UW-Milwaukee

As she continues her professional career, Candance intends to share the "truly collegial and intellectually stimulating" environment she found at C4W: "I hope to bring C4W's imprint with me as I plant my own seeds of collaboration and creativity in my current and future work spaces."

This fall brings more than a new job, a new medical residency for husband James, and a new home to Candance and her family; their third child will soon be born. Memories of her sons, Oliver (now 7) and Elias (now 4), in C4W during meetings and end-of-semester parties confirms for us that Candance will continue to balance her personal and work life skillfully and creatively. You can keep up with Candance at her personal

and professional blog, "making me(dia)":
<http://cyborgdance.wordpress.com>



Join us for the 2014 IWAC Conference!

We would love to see you back on campus for the 12th International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference (IWAC 2014), hosted by the Center for Writing and the Office of Undergraduate Education at the University of Minnesota, June 12–14, 2014. The conference theme, “Shifting Currents/Making Waves,” references the lively Mississippi River intersecting our campus, WAC’s history as a progressive pedagogical movement, and its current activity in an era of accelerated change. For more information and to register, please see <http://z.umn.edu/iwac2014>.

Welcome Molly, Tim, and Jules!

With more and more U of M faculty and instructors from across the disciplines integrating writing in their courses and undergraduate curricula, the Center welcomes three new members to the Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) team. Tim Gustafson and Jules Thompson joined us in October 2012 as WAC teaching consultants, providing consultations, discussions, workshops, and online resources, as well as facilitating the Writing-Enriched Curriculum process in departments. In June 2013, Molly Bendzick joined as administrative coordinator, overseeing communications, finances, and research data collection and storage.



Molly (left), Tim, and Jules

Whether you are a recent alum or someone whose connection goes back many years, we invite you to join our community of alumni and friends at writing.umn.edu/alums. You can tell us what you are up to by answering our 11 Questions for Alumni survey and read the responses of others. Your voices continue to inspire us to do our best work to support writers and those who teach with writing.

We also appreciate the many of you who have given gifts to the Center to support our work, and we hope you will consider us in your year-end giving this year (writing.umn.edu/home/giving.html). Even small gifts make a strong statement about the value of the Center for Writing and directly support our mission to enhance student learning, to improve writing instruction, and to deepen our understanding of literacy and the writing process.

Writing, editing, & layout: Debra Hartley, Kirsten Jamsen, Kelly O'Brien & Eva Widder

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center for writing

10 Nicholson Hall, 216 Pillsbury Dr SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455
612.626.7579 writing.umn.edu writing@umn.edu