Dr. Khalilah T. Watson

International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference Report

Savannah, Georgia

June 6-8, 2012

1.List three sessions you attended.

**Creating a Culture of Writing Through a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP)**

The panel discussion for this session included two presentations that primarily focused on how to improve as well as deepen the teaching and learning of writing across the disciplines by strengthening its relationship with the Writing Center and the First Year Writing Program. Both presenters were from Elon University, so they spoke of their QEP proposal, which indicated their programs goals and strategies, in hopes that all they are requested will be fulfilled.

**Developing WAC Communities**

The panel discussion for this session included three presenters speaking about the various methods one can use to make sure WAC is a viable, visible and valued program on anyone’s campus. Buzz words from this session include E-Portfolios, Faculty Consultancy Model, WAC Club, WAC Mentorship and Recommended WAC Models.

**Revising and Growing a Faculty Workshop for Teaching with Writing**

In this roundtable presentation, the presenters shared stories as well as survey results collected over multiple years of conducting a faculty workshop for teaching writing. They were also quite frank about their frustrations, triumphs, revisions and future developments as they continue to revise their workshop and develop their individual and group experiences.

2. I was introduced to the Lunch Keynote Speaker, **Chris Anson’s Eight Lessons** that one should consider when one is Implementing, Organizing and Growing a WAC Program.

1. You can’t mandate what matters.
2. Change is a journey not a blueprint. (Student engagement=student success)
3. Problems are our friends.
4. Premature vision and strategic planning can blind us to other possibilities.
5. Individualism and Collectivism MUST have equal power.
6. Neither centralization nor decentralization works alone.
7. Connection with wider environment is critical for success (learning internally and externally).
8. Every person is a changed agent.

I am grateful for these lessons because it helped me to see that we are on the right track at OHC, yet we also have so much to learn and to look forward to.

3. I am interested in receiving the support to mandate that we establish a small cohort of WAC Full-Time Faculty across the Disciplines that are willing to make their courses Writing Intensive and implement WAC Strategies. (This would swiftly move us beyond just our Brown Bags Discussions and Committee work; although, I think it is essential that continue these Faculty Development Models.) Furthermore, this implementation will include assessments before and after, so we can record the data for such as well as make the necessary improvements. In addition, there needs to be a partnership between the WAC Coordinator and The Writing Center Director to improve the writing in our overall college community, especially the students.

4. I would like to see us bring in one of the infamous WAC Scholars that I met at this conference, so that we can receive Professional Development externally. This is highly recommended when conducting a WAC Program. Thereafter, as part of our Professional Development Week, we need funds to include a two day training for the Faculty on how to use writing in their courses across the discipline.

5. Funds need to be allocated for the WAC Budget, which will include the following during the academic year:

 A Small Stipend for Faculty who want to be a part of the (initial) cohort and agree to make their course Writing Intensive.

WAC Week Supplies: Yearly Advertisement: Campus Visibility, Art Supplies, Paper Supplies, Flip Camera

WAC Website—Online Visibility