Carolinas WPA Meeting in the Middle 2020
Call for Proposals: Language, Translingualism, and Multilingualism

We are excited to send out this call for proposals to present at the Carolinas Writing Program Administrators' fourteenth annual spring conference, "Meeting in the Middle," to be held on February 14, 2020, at UNC Charlotte.

Our theme for the meeting is language, particularly translingualism and multilingualism, and how the complex systems of meaning we use to communicate inform our composing practices as well as the teaching thereof.

How do students employ their languages and literacies in different situations and environments? For that matter, how are *we* doing so? How can we recognize and discuss code-switching, code-meshing, and translanguaging as they relate across a variety of contexts? How can we help our students, and learn with them, about how to do so in more rhetorically effective fashions?

Jennifer Eidum from Elon University will present a morning workshop that presents key theories of translingualism and multilingualism as they play out in higher education, with particular focus on first-year writing classrooms. Then, we will shift from theory to practice, exploring specific linguistic & cultural challenges WPAs and writing faculty might encounter in writing spaces (including their own). With an emphasis on collaboration and community-building, participants will leave the workshop with resources, connections, and new ideas for recognizing (and building upon) the linguistic and cultural diversity in their writing programs.

Time will be provided for participants to begin planning activities and assignments for their courses and/or to sketch out structures for relevant language-focused faculty workshops or projects.

Proposal Details

Proposal Deadline: Wednesday, January 29, 2019. We have a quick turnaround and presenters will be notified by Monday, February 3, in order to have as much time as possible to make travel arrangements.

You do *not* have to present to attend! We welcome you regardless! That said, those whose proposals are accepted will be listed on the formal agenda for the conference--which might help

you advocate for travel funding. Proposals will also help us plan appropriate groups and design activities around members' goals.

We encourage both individual and team proposals from people in the Carolinas who are working in any teaching or administrative positions related to writing. We also welcome creative interpretation, and deviation, from this year's theme.

Three different presentation types reflect members' interests:
1. Problem: Describe a teaching, program leadership, or research problem that you would like help thinking about with other attendees. 10-15 minutes includes feedback time.
2. Showcase: Share a teaching method or writing program leadership strategy that is working well at your site. Or present findings from a study you're involved in that would interest writing teachers and WPAs. 10-15 minutes includes feedback time.
3. Other: You have an idea that doesn't fit either category. Explain! You still have 10-15 minutes to present.

Proposals should include:
● Name and contact information (email, phone, home institution) for each person associated with your proposal
● Type of presentation (problem, showcase, other)
● Title and brief description of your presentation for the conference agenda
● Your specific goals for presenting

Please use this proposal form.

Registration

The registration price of $40.00 includes lunch and the opportunity to bring a guest for free (who also gets lunch!). Parking options are limited near the building (see "Parking" below). Carpooling is encouraged!

The registration deadline is Friday, February 7, 2020. Registration opens soon on the Carolinas WPA website.

When you "bring a guest for free," you must register the guest when you register yourself.

Parking

In the past, attendees had the option to purchase event parking passes as part of conference registration. Unfortunately, event parking is currently unavailable, although there are several pay-to-park options nearby. *From the UNC Charlotte Center City website:*
"Due to construction and other activity surrounding UNC Charlotte Center City, parking is extremely limited. The parking lots adjacent to Center City (422 E. 9th Street and 319 E. 9th

Street) are currently reserved for faculty, staff and students with a University-issued parking permit. Please encourage visitors to prepare and plan for their visit to Center City, including consideration of carpooling and ride services."

"Visitor parking for events is currently not available. There are a number of pay-to-park options within walking distance of Center City. Seventh Street Parking Deck is a short walk through First Ward Park. Visitors can pay to park by the hour. Additional pay-to-park options can be found on the Preferred Parking website. The closest of these is 422 E 9th Street on the corner of 9th and Brevard Street. Other nearby lots are at 8th & College, 9th & College, and 9th & Tryon. There are metered spaces on Brevard and 8th Street to pay during the day. These meters are free after 6pm weekdays and all day on weekends."

Map (in .png image form) of parking options in the Center City vicinity.

Hotels

Google map of hotels near the conference.

Questions or comments? Direct them to Kevin Brock at brockkm2@mailbox.sc.edu.