CONSORTIUM OF DOCTORAL PROGRAMS IN RHETORIC AND COMPOSITION

CCCC NASHVILLE 1994

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 6:30 — 7:45

AGENDA:

1) dues for mailing, telephone?

2) report on membership: Lauer

3) on-line dissertations in Rhetoric and Composition: Lauer

4) on-line bibliographies, e.g., CCCC Bibliography, articles in anthologies, subject area lists such Writing in the Disciplines

5) on-line exchanges (e.g., newsletter) among graduate programs

6) lobbying for more appropriate dissertation categories in the DAI

7) fostering research strands at the CCC, perhaps similar to the MLA discussion groups or AERA SIG groups, where papers are selected in advance and shared before the meeting

8) collaboration with the CCCC Research Network and the NCTE Research Assembly.

9) regional networking and graduate student conferences

10) exchange visits of faculty members and other scholars

11) discussions of course requirements and course descriptions

12) support for developing programs

13) workshops for program directors

14) exchange of information about
   a) exams, their purpose, options, etc
   b) organization of programs
   possible workshops on these questions (Michael Flanigan)
Janice Lauer  
Dept. of English  
Purdue University  
West Lafayette, IN 47907

2 April 1994

Dear Janice,

At the meeting of the Consortium of Doctoral Programs in Rhetoric and Composition in Nashville last month, Janet Atwill, Lisa McClure, and I volunteered to organize regional networks among the doctoral programs listed on the recent roster. We have since discussed the project among ourselves, set up some short term objectives, and are ready to begin. However, the first step requires an updated roster, mailing list, and e-mail numbers. I have the one distributed at the conference, but I know that people were giving you changes, additions, and deletions. Could you send that new list to me as soon as it is ready? Before we begin contacting these folks, we would like to have the most up-to-date information as possible.

Thanks. You can have it sent either to the address below or have it e-mailed to me. We appreciate your help organizing all of this. We will certainly build on what has already been completed.

Paul Ranieri  
Ball State University  
Department of English  
Muncie IN 47306

00pwranierei@bsuvc.bsu.edu
Dear Colleague:

April 20, 1994

Here is the latest information on the Consortium of R/C Doctoral Programs, numbered to match the attached CCCC agenda:

1. Dues: we need dues to cover such items as mailing costs. As a continuing member of the consortium (for two years), please send $10.00 to Janice Lauer. Make checks payable to: "Doctoral Consortium in Rhetoric and Composition."

2. Membership: enclosed find the latest version of the membership list. If you find an inaccuracy, please notify me. (Several e-mail addresses were hard to read.)

3. On-line dissertations: A subcommittee (myself, Jim Porter and Patricia Sullivan) are investigating the use of Gopher through the THOR+ system at Purdue. If you haven't sent your list of dissertations to me, please do so now.

4. On-line bibliographies, etc.: If you wish to volunteer for a subcommittee to work on this item, please contact Gail Hawisher.

5. On-line exchanges: If you wish to volunteer for a subcommittee to work on this item, please contact Cindy Selfe.

6. Dissertation categories in the DAI: A subcommittee (Robert Johnson, Catherine Peadan, and Anne Rosenthal) are working on this matter.

7. Research strands at the CCCC: A subcommittee (Richard Young, Louise Phelps, and Michael Halloran) has drafted a memo on behalf of the consortium to send to the CCCC Task Force which is discussing the nature and format of the convention. The memo is attached for your perusal. If you have any feedback, please notify Richard Young by April 28, when the memo will be sent to the Task Force.

8. Collaboration with the CCCC Research Network Forum: The network forum will continue as usual next year. Please encourage your graduate students to submit proposals. If you didn't get a proposal form either at the CCCC or in the mail, contact Catherine Smith at Syracuse.

9. Regional networking, etc.: A subcommittee (Janet Atwill, Lisa McClure, and Paul Ranieri) are working on this matter. They will contact you soon.

10. Exchanges of faculty: If you wish to volunteer for a subcommittee to work on this item, please contact me.

11. Course requirements & descriptions: Lisa McClure and Gerald Nelms have volunteered to collect this information and produce a document in March, 1995. Please send your program descriptions to Lisa McClure as soon as possible but no later than September 30.

12. Support for developing programs: If you wish to volunteer for a subcommittee to work on this item, please contact Charles Bazerman.
13. Workshops for programs directors: If you wish to volunteer for a subcommittee to work on this item, please contact me.

14. Exchange of information on exams, organizations of programs: If you wish to volunteer for a subcommittee to work on this item, please contact Michael Flanigan.

I am requesting a slot at the CCC in the Special Interest Group time (hopefully on Friday evening). If you have other matters that you wish the Consortium to consider, please let me know.

Best,

Janice M. Lauer
April 1, 1994

Janice M. Lauer, Coordinator
Consortium of Doctoral Programs in Rhetoric & Composition
Department of English
1356 Heavilon Hall
Purdue University
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1356

Dear Janice,

After our meeting in Nashville, two thoughts occurred to me: first, we never returned to the topic of dues; and, second, it seems to me that unless some of us take, at least initially, individual (or small group) responsibility for some of our goals, it is going to take the Consortium a very long time to become a functioning and effective aspect of CCCC.

Concerning the first, I will happily send a check as a personal contribution to defray costs of mailings, etc., if you will tell me how to address it (to you, to Purdue, to the Consortium?). Also, many of us could probably get departmental contributions if a request for dues was sent formally.

Concerning the second, to facilitate discussion next year of "course requirements and course descriptions," (Item 11 on the Agenda) I would be happy to begin collecting and putting together a document of that information. Of the items on the Agenda, I see this as one of the more crucial as well as one which would facilitate others (e.g., exchange of faculty, support for developing programs, and workshops for directors). Although I have reviewed carefully the programs in Rhetoric Review, I am interested in knowing more about the other programs, especially since ours is a young and developing program which with Bruce Appleby's retirement (and my promotion and tenure), I will be directing. Furthermore, my colleague R. Gerald Neims has agreed to help me.

Will you let me know as soon as possible whether or not you think that it is acceptable to begin this endeavor without having discussed it with the Consortium? Also, if you think that beginning the project at this time is acceptable, will you send me an updated version of the membership list? I would like to circulate a request for information before the end of the semester, asking for responses at the earliest convenience, but setting September 30 as a final deadline. By March of 1995,
Jerry and I could produce a document (or a draft of one) that would, in the least, give us a starting point for discussion.

I enjoyed seeing you in Nashville, although I regret not having an opportunity to talk with you. I hope all is going well for you and look forward to hearing from you soon. (I'm still trying to get my E-mail set up at home and will forward that information to you as soon as possible.)

Sincerely yours,

Lisa J. McClure
Director, General Education in English
Assistant Professor, Rhetoric & Composition
Date: Wed, 13 Apr 1994 12:09:47 -0500 (EST)
From: LOUISE PHELPS/OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT <E7A8PHE@TÖE.TOWSON.EDU>
Subject: consortium
To: ry0e+@andrew.cmu.edu

Dear Richard:

An addendum to my recent message.

While at an MLA meeting I talked to David Laurence at MLA about the Consortium. He had some interesting thoughts for us to ponder, not so much for our immediate task as for the future of the Consortium and its goals. Maybe you could send this message on for me to Janice, Chuck Bazerman, Mike, and anyone else that seems appropriate since I am on my way to London shortly.

First, David strongly urged us to pursue the bibliographical and scholarly issues that I started to raise, beginning with and going beyond those measures already begun by Janice and others re on-line information, to secure us some recognition by librarians and bibliographers and educational organizations beyond the discipline, and to make us more visible as scholars. I wonder if someone might want to consult a librarian to list out some of these problems and issues and figure out how to address them through skillful lobbying as well as our own efforts. Purdue should presumably be the center for this. David believes that we could use some advice and help on the politics of all this re higher education organizations, the govt, etc. and suggests that Phyllis Franklin would be a good person to help. He also hopes we will affiliate with MLA as well as with 4Cs and will become a presence as a formal organization with access to their program. he points out that maybe we would want to try to get 4Cs to provide what he called "entitlements" to space on the program in the (strange if you ask me) way that MLA does. he also says MLA has repeatedly offered to add composition and rhetoric to the MLA bibliography and has been turned down. I'm not sure he has had any answer at all to the most recent offer. is this something we should be encouraging with the 4Cs Executive Committee?

All this suggests that as we formalize the organization we probably need some kind of small committee to pursue these matters continually and not just every year after 4Cs.

You may want to talk to David. i find him one of the most enlightened, sympathetic, and intellectually interesting people at MLA or anywhere around the profession. He is esp interested in rhetoric and comp and somewhat at his wit's end with the dominant MLA groups and philosophy.

Hope this is useful.

Louise
Janice Lauer  
Dept. of English  
1356 Heavilon Hall  
Purdue University  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1356  

26 April 1994  

Dear Janice,  

The check for the Graduate Consortium is enclosed.  

As for subcommittee assignments, I would be especially interested in working with you on item 13, Workshops for Programs Directors. The other idea I have concerns the job market for doctoral students. Included with this would be program reconfiguration to meet the changing/lack of job market I see on the horizon. This could be a component of the Workshop for Programs Directors committee or a distinct subcommittee. If we make it a distinct one, maybe we could entice Jack Selzer to get involved as he has some good ideas. 

Theresa Enos and I are also beginning to pursue a graduate student survey related to professional concerns. This was initially a task assigned to Theresa by the CCCC Executive Council (you may know about it or may want to check with Theresa on it), but cancelled at CCCC after we’d already drafted a questionnaire. Since we have invested some time in it, we’re not going to let it drop—rather we’re going to expand the focus. There may be links or needed info for the consortium that we could include. Neither of us has time to move on this immediately, but it is something for you to think about. 

Thanks for all the work on this. Seems as if things are really getting organized. 

Please let me know what else I can do or what I should be doing next. 

Best Regards,  

Stuart C. Brown  
sbrown@nmsu.edu  
(505) 646-2413
Dear Janice:

Theresa and I were doing the survey for CCCC but for some reason someone decided that it was unnecessary at the time so our subcommittee (Duane Roen and Brenda Jo Brueggerman were also involved) have been dissolved/disbanded. We've put the enterprise on the backburner.

What I would be interested in hearing/talking about is (ironically) graduate student enrollment/evaluation of application criteria/establishment of class size/recruitment etc. Basically look at the front end of the process. That's only a suggestion for discussion if you are looking for topics.

Brenda Jo, by the way, (her and others at Ohio State, I think) have done some sort of survey of grad student concerns although I'm not sure of its focus or results.

Stuart
ATTN: Janice Lauer

I have been in touch with Paul Ranieri and Janet Atwell concerning our subcommittee's report to the Consortium. As you know, Paul will not be arriving in DC in time to participate; however, Janet and I (with Paul's assistance, of course) have prepared some brief comments to update the Consortium membership about the work of our subcommittee.

Our committee has two major suggestions for proceeding. After dividing the membership into five regions, we will attempt to implement the following: first, establish regional clearinghouses for the collection and dissemination of information about graduate student conferences; and, second, initiate a matching of graduate students with common research interests. Both of these activities will function most effectively and efficiently via computer networking.

I will talk briefly about these ideas and activities. Then, Janet (who is, with Paul's input, dividing the Consortium membership into five regions) will discuss what information, etc., we need to proceed and will actually collect some of this information through a brief survey form which is to be completed during the meeting. I will then discuss how we might begin matching graduate students and initiating network conversations among them. I will also distribute a survey for graduate students to help us get started on the matching. Of course, throughout our discussion, we will ask for feedback and suggestions.

Does that seem appropriate? Have we covered everything? Do you have suggestions or concerns? Please contact me via e-mail if you think we're missing something important. Otherwise, I'll assume that we can proceed as planned.

Paul, Janet, and I plan to meet Thursday or Friday to discuss what happened at the meeting and how we should proceed.

As always, I look forward to seeing you.

Lisa J. McClure
Department of English
Carbondale, IL 62901-4503
618/453-6811 (work)
618/529-1889 (home)
618/453-3253 (fax)
lisam@siucvmb.siu.edu

P.S. As we discussed on the phone last week, I will also be prepared to talk about the progress of the subcommittee on course requirements and descriptions. I plan to talk about what might be in such a document and entertain suggestions about what should/should not be included. Actually, I see two document possibilities: first, a larger, hard copy document which amasses information (course requirements, descriptions, sample syllabi, readings lists, etc.); and, second, a smaller, on-line document which can be periodically update and distributed to interested members. Again, if you have questions, suggestions, or concerns, please let me know.

See you in DC.♫
Mailbox is '/usr/spool/mail/vwn' with 4 messages [ELM 2.3 PL11]

N 1  Feb 27  dhroen@mailbox.syr  (48)  dissertations
N 2  Feb 23  js193            (22)  letters
    Feb 19  Jim Porter        (50)  Purdue Job in Rhet/Comp
O 4  Feb 17  Gary Beason    (16)  check

You can use any of the following commands by pressing the first character; d)elete or u)ndelete mail, m)ail a message, r)eply or f)orward mail, q)uit
To read a message, press <return>.  j = move down, k = move up, ? = help

Command: Display message

Message 1/4  From dhroen@mailbox.syr.edu                 Feb 27 '94 at 2:26 pm -300
Date: Sun, 27 Feb 1994 14:26:28 -0500
To: vwn@mace.cc.purdue.edu
Subject: dissertations

Dear Janice,
I finally have a dissertation to report to you for the Consortium:

Diane Penrod, "Raising Our Voice: The Essay and Architecture--The Essay isArchitext"

Margaret Himley is Diane's dissertation director.

I hope that you are doing okay, Janice. I can only imagine how hard it
must be losing a colleague like Jim. His work has touched so many lives in
the field.

I'll see you in Nashville.

Warmest regards,
Duane