

Proposal Models

The International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference

Contents

IWAC 2020, Colorado State University

IWAC 2018, Auburn University

IWAC 2014, University of Minnesota

IWAC 2012, Georgia Southern University

IWAC 2010, Indiana University Bloomington

IWAC 2008, University of Texas at Austin



April 6, 2018

To: IWAC Executive Committee

From: Mike Palmquist, Associate Provost for
Instructional Innovation and Professor of English,
Colorado State University

Re: Proposal to Host the IWAC 2020 Conference

Thank you for considering this proposal to host the 2020 International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado.

Proposed Theme: (Re)Envisioning WAC: An Agenda for the Next 50 Years

In their history of the Writing Across the Curriculum movement, Bazerman and his colleagues (2005) observe, “As far as has been documented, the earliest Writing Across the Curriculum faculty seminar was led by Barbara Walvoord in 1969-70 at Central College (a four-year liberal arts college in Pella, Iowa). Carleton College also played a key early role” (p. 26). The 2020 conference will mark the 50th anniversary of Dr. Walvoord’s early seminar. With that in mind, it is both a time for celebration and a time to take stock as we consider, individually and as a field, how this well-established educational movement might continue to grow and change over the second half-century of its existence.

As educational movements go, WAC is both successful and widely recognized. Early in the effort to identify high-impact practices, it was listed (under the phrase “writing in the disciplines”) as one of a handful that showed demonstrable impact on student learning and success. And while we might question the subsequent growth in the number of educational and co-curricular practices that are characterized as having “high impact” (a number that is now into double digits, depending on which sources you consult), to my knowledge WAC has never been characterized (at least by serious scholars) as anything other than a useful means of improving learning in courses across the disciplines.

That said, the WAC movement is far from a finished product and I hope that interrogating its role in enhancing learning, teaching, and student success will be a key part of any IWAC conference. As David Russell, Charles Bazerman, Susan McLeod, and many others have noted, the use of writing in courses outside English and communications departments has a long and rich history. When it finally gained the sense of identity that characterizes it today, we were able to begin thinking about it as a set of practices that could be assessed and improved. This active and ongoing examination of what makes WAC work has been a central part of what has led to its long-standing success as a movement. It has brought about significant changes in our understanding of its goals, characteristic practices, and relationship to other issues, such as critical thinking, educational assessment, civic engagement, and professional preparation. It has given rise to an awareness of the need to implement WAC differently in small colleges, community colleges, secondary institutions, research universities, and online institutions. And it has fostered important innovations, including the use of technologies to support writing instruction and new

approaches to WAC program design, such as the writing-enriched curriculum approach developed at the University of Minnesota.

If Colorado State University were fortunate enough to be selected as host of the 2020 IWAC conference, I would work with colleagues at and beyond CSU to foster discussions of how we can continue to make and remake WAC. In particular, my colleagues and I would hope to continue the kinds of discussions that have emerged from past IWAC conferences and foster the sense of community that has grown over the years to include a broader and more diverse group of scholars from disciplines inside and outside of writing studies.

We would, as has been the practice at past IWAC conferences, welcome workshops, panel presentations, roundtables, posters, 5x10s, and breakout sessions.

- We would create workshops with specific audiences in mind, including new WAC program directors, faculty from various disciplinary groups (e.g., STEM, the arts and humanities, the social sciences), faculty who seek basic information about using writing in their courses and those who seek more advanced or nuanced training, and so on. In keeping with the IWAC 2018 conference, we would offer one workshop for free and charge for additional workshops.
- We would organize plenary sessions to foster discussion of the conference theme. I've been in contact with a few of the early WAC pioneers and I hope to put together plenary sessions that will inform discussions of where we've been. I've also been in touch with younger and mid-career scholars who could share ideas about where we might be heading. I'm excited about the idea of putting these folks into contexts where they can share perspectives, generate ideas, and reflect on possibilities. I believe this would engage conference attendees in some exciting discussions.
- We would develop a call for proposals to encourage proposals on topics similar to those identified for IWAC 2018, and we would encourage attention to the growing importance of social media, learning analytics, data privacy, media bubbles, and more generally working with information.

We would also build strong connections with the growing number of WAC organizations that have emerged over the past few years, including the WAC Clearinghouse, WAC GO, and the yet-to-be-established Association for Writing Across the Curriculum (AWAC). Each of these organizations, with the possible exception of AWAC, which is not yet officially in existence, would sponsor the conference and would have some role in activities such as creating panels, hosting receptions, and offering workshops. In addition, I've been in contact with the organizers of the new WAC Institute, which will offer its first event in summer 2019; if Colorado State University is identified as the host institution for IWAC 2020, they have agreed to offer their institute immediately before the conference.

We would expand efforts to bring in related groups, particularly those involved in open educational resources, such as Lumen Learning and local Colorado OER advocates. Our sense is that we could both provide exhibit space and sponsor sessions that would explore the use of OER in conjunction with WAC initiatives.

Finally, we would work to develop a set of resources that could be used at subsequent IWAC conferences. This would include a proposal review system that would be built from the ground up to

support future conferences, a conference account that could be used for IWAC conferences, and a more formalized process for producing IWAC conference archives and proceedings.

Proposal Review System. I have a great deal of experience in programming these kinds of tools and would seek advice on architecture, feature sets, and lessons learned from past conference chairs, from CCCC, and from the organizers of the Computers and Writing Conference. It's possible that we could repurpose an existing system, but my sense from developing these kinds of systems is that it is often easiest to start with new code and create an open-source solution. Regardless of the system architecture, once it was built, it could be used at this and other conferences.

IWAC Account. My discussions with past IWAC conference directors has helped me understand that you have long sought a method to simplify the transfer of funds from one conference host to the next. Along with some of you, I've been considering how AWAC might help in this area. In a recent discussion of the AWAC organizers, I asked once again a question I had asked 18 months ago: "When can we expect a 501(c)3 organization to be created?" The answer, apparently, is soon. I also asked how AWAC accounts for the conference, the WAC Clearinghouse, and WAC GO might work. The answer was encouraging. The expectation is that AWAC would provide accounts for WAC organizations; the organization would not draw any funds from those accounts beyond a small amount needed to cover the cost of filing tax statements for the 501(c)3. I believe this will be codified in the bylaws of the organization. I will add, however, that should the paperwork for creating the organization be delayed or unsatisfactory, I would work to find another solution. My discussions with past directors of IWAC conferences has convinced me that a solution is needed and would be welcomed. We should not delay implementing that solution.

IWAC Proceedings and Conference Archives. For several years, the WAC Clearinghouse has housed materials from past IWAC conferences. This has built on the archive Rice University produced in the early 2000s (see <http://nationalwac.rice.edu>). For the 2018 IWAC conference, Lesley Erin Bartlett, Sandra L. Tarabochia, Andrea R. Olinger, and Margaret J. Marshall are editing a collection that will provide proceedings of the conference. We'll learn a great deal from the development of the proceedings of the 2018 conference and I would expect, in my role with the Clearinghouse, to continue this. If CSU became the host for the 2020 conference, I would begin planning for it immediately.

Proposed Dates

We have reserved June 3-7, 2020, for the conference. If this proposal is accepted, we will also reserve the previous three days to host the WAC Institute.

Support – Institutional and Otherwise

I expect strong institutional support for hosting the conference. Our College of Liberal Arts has committed significant funding to the effort (within an hour of asking, which was pretty gratifying) and I expect to obtain funding from the Office of the Provost and the College of Natural Sciences as well as other, smaller colleges at Colorado State. The University Composition Program will provide significant support for the conference, largely through involvement in planning and implementation. Several faculty members and graduate students will be involved in organizing and hosting the conference. I have commitments from faculty, graduate students, and administrators (associate deans, in particular) from across the University to serve on an internal organizing/advisory committee.

I have also asked for involvement from related organizations in the WAC community. Several members of the WAC Clearinghouse editorial board and staff have agreed to participate in an external advisory group. Every person I asked expressed a willingness to offer advice and, in several cases, they offered to help with the work of organizing the conference and reviewing proposals. Similarly, the WAC GO group has indicated that they wish to play a role in sponsoring and supporting the conference. I expect them to do a great deal to increase attendance among younger scholars. My hope, in turn, is that we can offer scholarships to younger scholars who might otherwise find it difficult to attend the conference.

We will expand the external advisory group that by adding scholars from outside of North America. I would appreciate your advice in establishing this group. I will also rely on my contacts and those of the WAC Clearinghouse editorial board to create this group. I have a number of contacts in China, Europe, and South America. That will provide a good starting point, but I know that we'll need to rely on the help of others to establish the external advisory group.

I understand that past conference directors might also offer support. I'm counting on advice from you as a group and I hope that some or all of you will be willing to help with various aspects of the conference, such as reviewing proposals and encouraging international participation.

Finally, I would seek support from publishers and other learning tools vendors. I recognize the difficulty of attracting support from these groups, but I believe that at least some publishers will be willing to underwrite some of our costs.

Local and Institutional Context

The following information is provided by our Conference and Events Services Group. Please forgive the marketing focus. I can attest, however, that everything they say is true. Really.

Colorado

"With 300 days of annual sunshine and the world-famous Rocky Mountains at your doorstep, Colorado offers countless activities, from the extreme to the extremely relaxing. Colorado is a year-round travel destination where urban sophistication meets outdoor adventure. Offering a rich cultural heritage and historic attractions, impressive arts and entertainment, award-winning cuisine, 25 renowned ski resort areas, 42 Colorado State Parks, 12 national parks and monuments, 13 national forests and grasslands, and countless other attractions, it's no surprise that many guests never want to leave!" (Conference and Events Services Proposal).

Seriously, Colorado is a nice place to visit and, as I've learned, to live. But wait, there's more.

Fort Collins

"Situated at the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, with 14,000-foot peaks visible to locals, Fort Collins is located just north of Denver and less than an hour away from one of the nation's leading airports, Denver International Airport. Fort Collins is a craft culture hub. This unassumingly, hip northern Colorado college town is home to entrepreneurs and craftspeople at the top of their trade. Fort Collins prides itself on the plethora of restaurants, outdoor activities, family fun, diverse cultural attractions, a vibrant downtown and of course, our beer. So, bring your sense of adventure, bring your thirst and

appetite, bring your energy, bring your curiosity and, most of all, bring your smile. Welcome to Fort Collins!" (Conference and Events Services Proposal).

Colorado State University

"Located where the Rocky Mountains meet the Great Plains, Colorado State University is an awe-inspiring conference and event site. CSU is located in the heart of Fort Collins and offers endless opportunities to eat, sleep, work, and play. Our welcoming campus features sunny open spaces, newly-renovated facilities and provides a serious educational aura, found only at a University. Sustainability isn't a buzzword at Colorado State; it's a way of life. We're leading the way when it comes to the best buildings and practices" (Conference and Events Services Proposal).

On a less marketing-oriented note, CSU has been home to WAC since the late 1970s, when Kate Kiefer and Steve Reid established the first WAC program. While the program has evolved over time—it shifted significantly in the early 1990s to address challenges associated with our institutional rewards structure and expanded significantly in the mid-2000s to accommodate a large infusion of writing assignments into foundational courses in the arts, humanities, and social sciences (100 new GTA lines were involved)—and while it has had its funding crises, including being put on hiatus during the Great Recession, the institution has continued to be strongly committed to using writing in its courses. For the past several years, CSU has been rated one of the top institutions for writing in the disciplines by *US News* (and while I have misgivings about the methodology behind their rankings, I think it's a fair rating).

Facilities and Events

Our Conference and Events Services group is a full-service group that has been in operation for more than 50 years. On an annual basis, it supports more than 100 conferences and events ranging in size from under 50 to more than 7,000 participants. They are an ACCED-I certified group. The proposal they've made for IWAC 2020 seems well thought out and reasonably priced. They have already assigned an event manager to the conference and have reserved meeting rooms, dining areas, ballrooms, and on-campus housing for the conference; if CSU is selected as the next host, they are ready to begin work on the conference. I've been impressed with the help they've already offered and, based on my past experience working with them and the feedback I've received from colleagues, I'm confident they will provide excellent support.

Campus Meeting Facilities

We have reserved two spaces in CSU's new on-campus stadium. We will host a reception in the New Belgium Porch, which is located at field level on the north end of the stadium. We will host a banquet on the west (mountain) facing side of the stadium's sixth floor. This space can accommodate up to 700 diners and has complete technology support for presentations.

Plenary sessions, exhibits, poster session, and concurrent sessions will be held in Lory Student Center. Recently remodeled, it is a light and airy space (that's my language) that provides over 50,000 square feet in 24 meeting rooms, 6 ballrooms, a 500-seat theater, and other multi-purpose meeting space, along with free computer stations for accessing the Internet.

Conference attendees will be able to reserve, on a complimentary basis, multi-function areas in residence halls that can accommodate groups from 10 to over 100.

Housing Facilities

We have reserved on-campus housing at a reasonable price. The rooms have air conditioning and private bathrooms and guests will be able to obtain support from on-site staff. All on-campus housing includes bed and bath linens, on-campus parking, and free wi-fi connection for overnight guests.

Our conference services group can also reserve blocks of hotel rooms in Fort Collins. Depending on the hotel(s) involved, this may require a commitment to cover the cost of any unused rooms. There are, fortunately, hotels near campus that will release the rooms and not charge us.

Meals

Some meals, such as the conference banquet, will be included in the registration fee. Conference attendees will also have access (for a fee) to on-campus dining centers, which offer "Marché" (made to order) style service including special concept stations offering Italian, Mexican, and Asian. The Lory Student Center also provides access to a food court, a convenience store, and a pub.

Recreation Center

Conference attendees can use our recreation center on an individual "drop-in" basis for a \$5 fee per drop-in without prior arrangement. My colleagues and I can attest that this is an outstanding recreation center, with everything you'd expect, including pools and a climbing wall.

Events

We will arrange several events for conference attendees, including tours of local breweries and Fort Collins' Old Town, the Poudre Canyon, and Rocky Mountain National Park. Costs for these events would be borne by participants.

Note: Please see the end of this proposal for photos of Colorado State University facilities and the Fort Collins area.

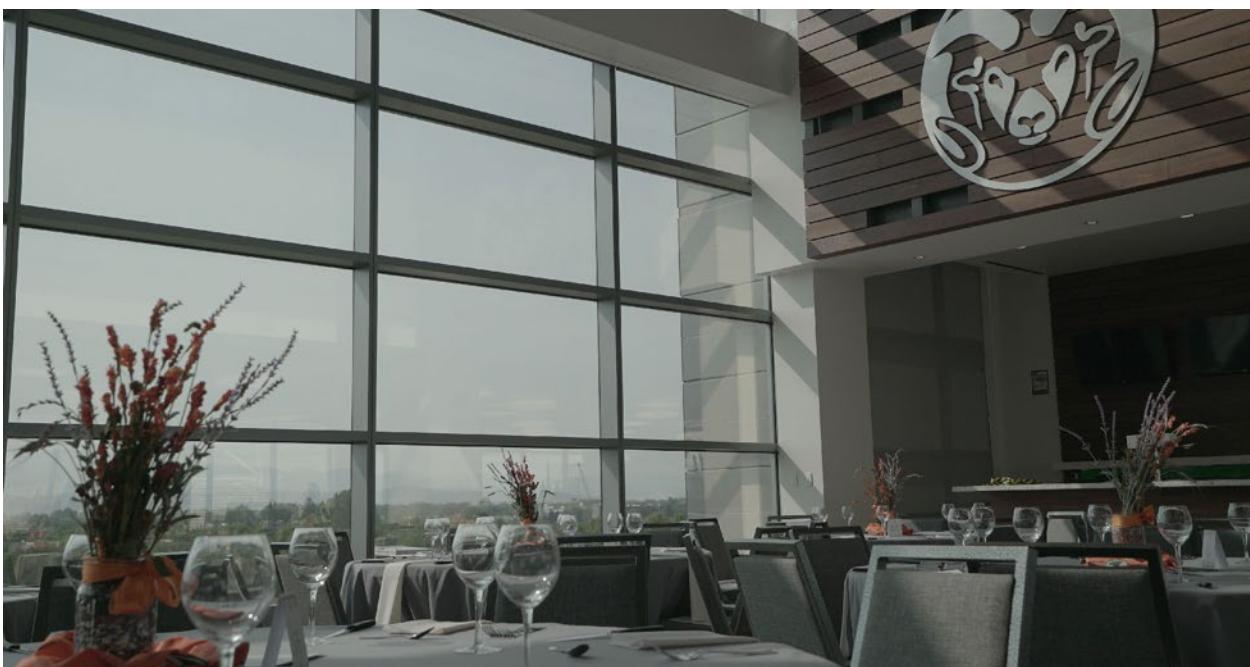
Transportation

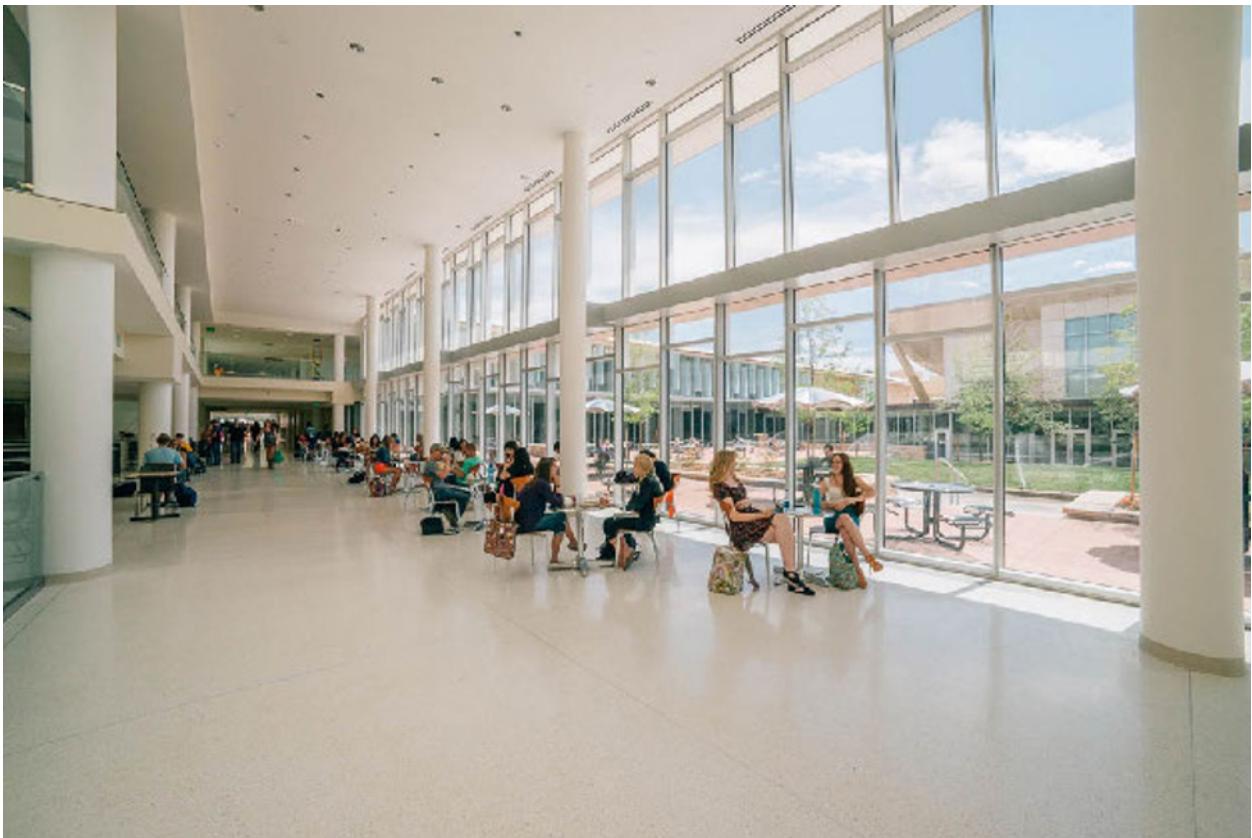
Conference attendees can get to and from the CSU campus via airport shuttle, rental car, taxi, city bus and the new MAX transit system. Denver International Airport is a central hub located roughly an hour southeast of Fort Collins.

Budget

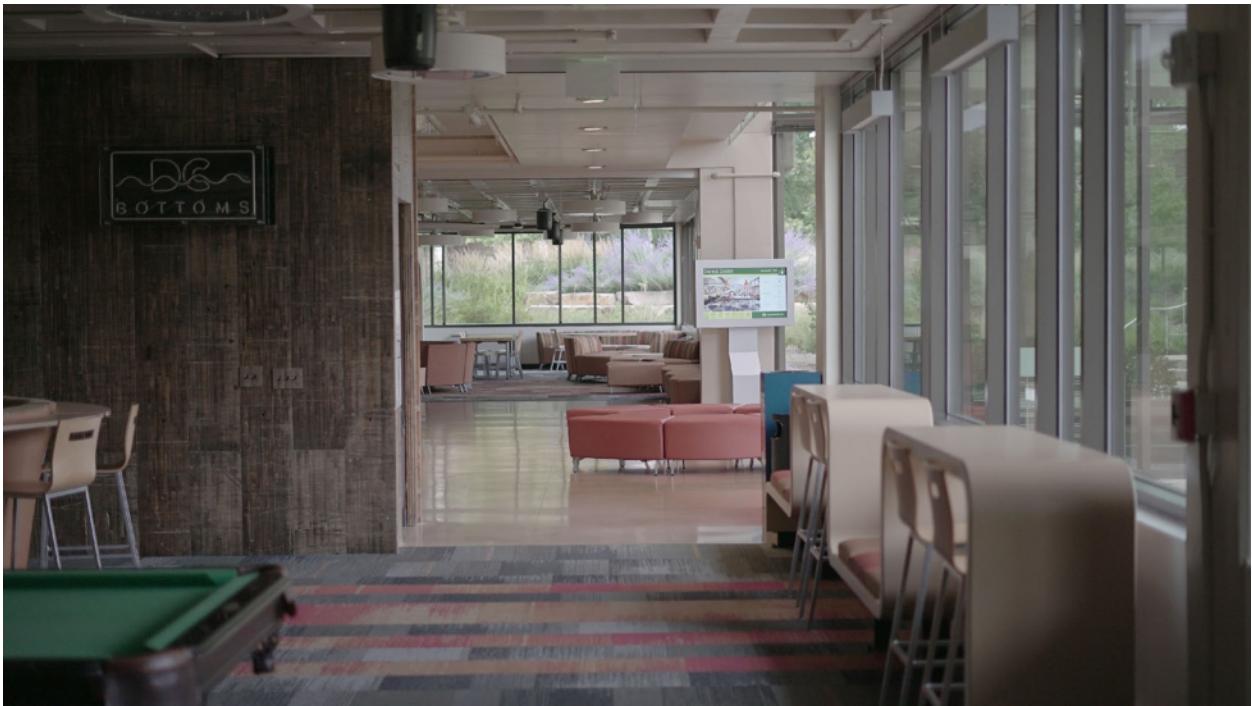
Based on my discussions with our Conference and Events Services group, we anticipate total costs charged to the conference (room rentals, banquet and reception costs, display technology support, parking, and so on) to be less than \$250 per person (including support costs, and depending on our menu choices for the banquet and whether we choose to buy drinks for attendees at our receptions or just use a cash bar). With support from the University, we believe we can put on a conference with 300 attendees (and we would expect quite a few more than that) with a registration fee of roughly \$350 per attendee. We would be able to discount this significantly for graduate students and faculty in contingent positions.

CSU Campus and Fort Collins Scenes





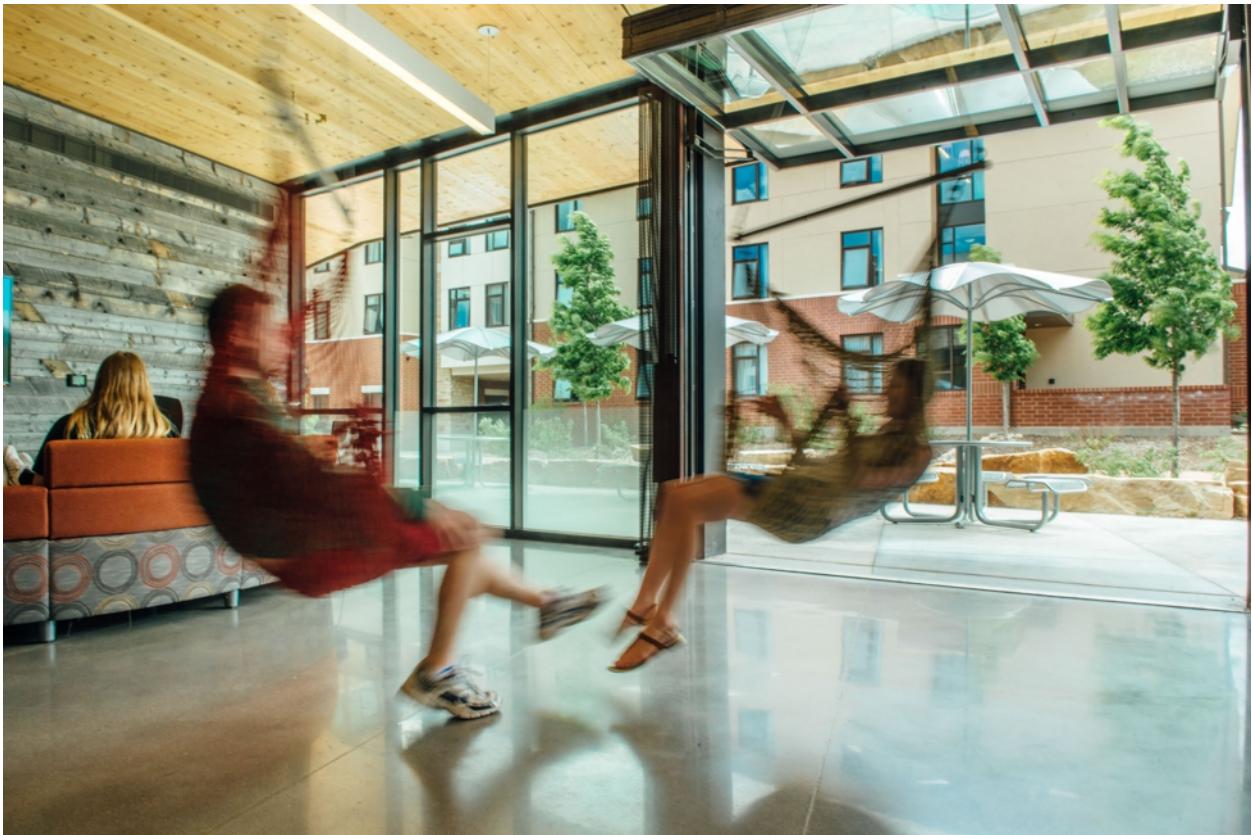








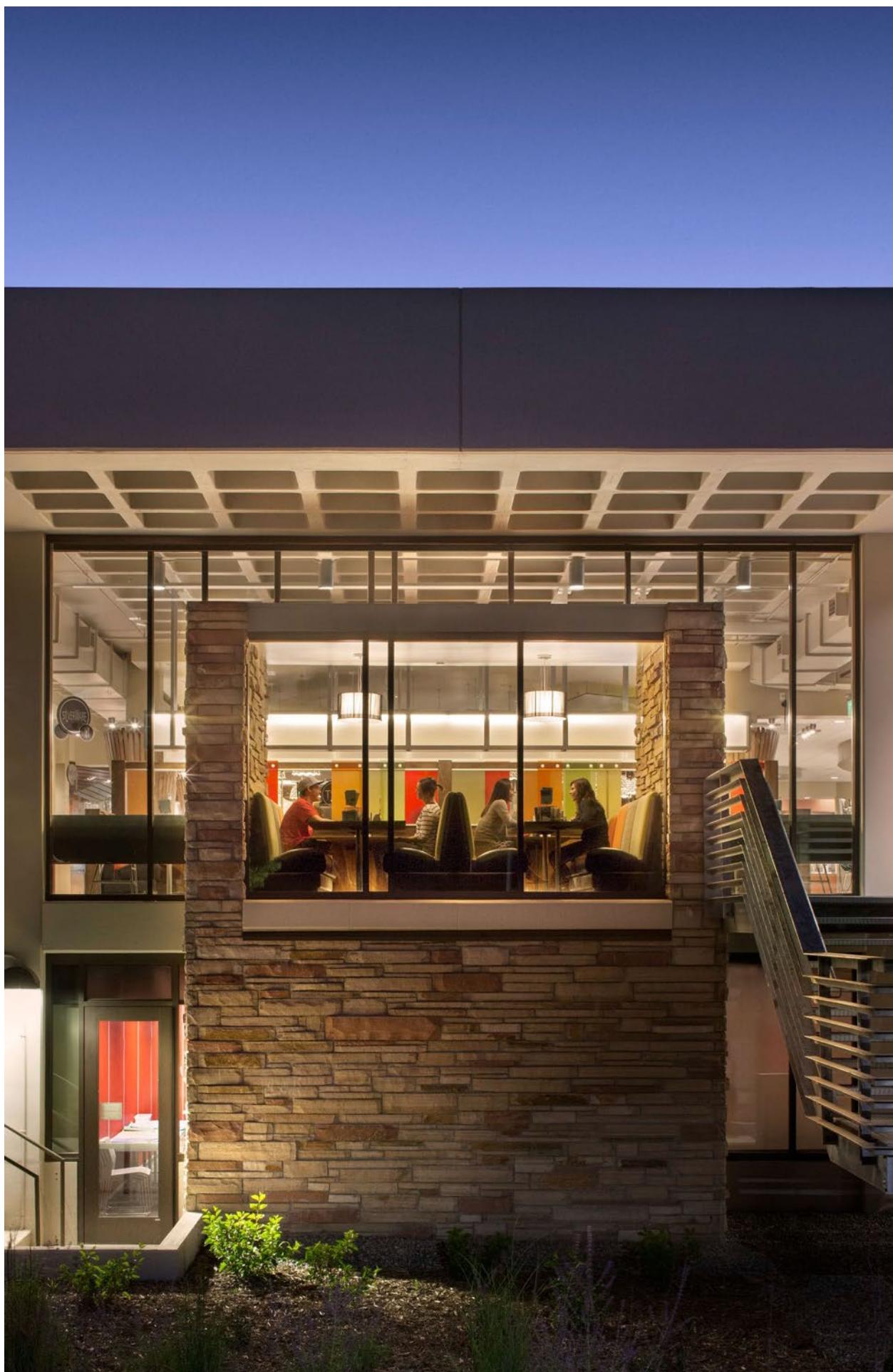














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OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY WRITING

To: IWAC Executive Committee
From: Margaret J. Marshall, Director of University Writing, Auburn University on behalf of the Office of University Writing
Re: Proposal to host the 2018 IWAC conference
Date: May 13, 2016

Auburn University's Office of University Writing is prepared to host the 2018 IWAC conference.

Proposed Theme: Making Connections

Our proposed theme and working title, "Making Connections," emphasizes how WAC fosters connections: within and across institutions and programs, between people and positions, and among ideas and practices. In a historical moment when divisiveness, rancor, and disconnection are so pervasive on the national and international stage, our theme aims to underscore the power of collaboration, integration, inclusion, and the search for common ground. We invite participants to remember why we chose—and continue choosing—our work, and then to envision more connected futures.

To say that work in higher education too often happens in siloes is to state the obvious. Recognizing that academic work is often isolated (and isolating), we aim to continue IWAC's long tradition of bringing many different kinds of people together and of valuing the wide range of important work that happens at all levels and in all disciplines. We especially want to foster curiosity and conversation about how the values of disciplinary faculty connect to the values of writing specialists, about how academic courses connect to learning that happens in co-curricular programs, about how art is related to written texts, and about how K-12 teachers and university teachers can learn from one another. For our students' sake as well as for our own, we aim to create a conference experience where people with differing expertise can connect, learn from each other, and carry that learning back to their classrooms, labs, faculty meetings, extension offices, and learning centers.

This conference will welcome interactive workshops, panel presentations, roundtables, 5x10s, and posters that explore the many interpretations that our proposed theme invokes. To facilitate generative connections, we invite participants to interpret our theme in the ways that are most meaningful to them. With the understanding that this list is far from exhaustive, we invite you to consider connections among, across, and between WAC and the following topics:

- Disciplinary Content
- K-12 Curriculum and Teaching
- Research (including Scholarship of Teaching and Learning)
- Transfer and Transitioning (for students and faculty)

- Multimodality
- Multilingual Writing
- Globalization
- Visual Rhetoric
- ePortfolios
- Faculty Development
- Mindfulness
- Visual Arts
- Outreach
- Co-curricular Programs (e.g. Study Abroad, Internships, Co-ops, etc.)
- Undergraduate Research
- Assessment
- Writing Centers
- Teaching and Learning Centers
- Learning Communities
- Summer Bridge Programs

We also plan to create a new event, tentatively called *Collaboration Salon*, to invite participants to establish relationships with others who might undertake collaborative inquiry, joint programming, shared assessments, or other productive connections.

Why our institution: Auburn University is a large, land grant, research heavy institution. Like other research universities, we understand the challenges disciplinary faculty members face in trying to include writing in their courses and put more time and effort into their teaching. Like other land grant institutions, we understand the need to reach beyond our own campus to serve the state and even the region. And, as a large institution with a majority of our student population at the undergraduate level, we understand the importance of balancing strong teaching with research and the preparation of future faculty. Our strategic plan set a goal of expanding our international student enrollment, ensuring student success, and strengthening our faculty, goals that are sometimes difficult to balance but certainly represent common issues in higher education.

Members of our campus have been attending the IWAC conference since 2008 and the initial faculty task force that shaped our university-wide writing initiative found the conference, and the professionals they met there, extremely helpful. When our writing initiative officially began in 2010, two members of the University Writing Committee and the newly appointed Director of University Writing, Margaret Marshall, attended IWAC in Indiana. By the 2012 IWAC conference in Savannah, we had about 18 faculty and students ready to make presentations of their efforts to include writing in disciplinary courses and the work required to expand the writing center to serve all students. Approximately 10 of us presented at the IWAC in Minnesota in 2014, and we will be bringing roughly 20 people, almost all presenting, to the 2016 conference in Ann Arbor. We believe this participation indicates the enthusiasm and interest of our faculty, and we expect that hosting a local conference will let us bring in other faculty to join the conversation, contribute to the conference, and strengthen our local initiatives. In addition to the support of our Provost, the faculty representatives on the University Writing Committee, the ePortfolio Project Steering Committee, and our current and past Ralph "Shug" Jordan Professors of Writing have all endorsed the idea of Auburn hosting the 2018 IWAC conference; collectively, we believe it is time to give back to the community that has helped us in so many ways. As one faculty representative said, "it's time we do something like this and it will be good for us."

Why the Office of University Writing: When the campus-wide writing initiative began in 2010, the [Office of University Writing](#) was created to direct that initiative, undertake the expansion of the Miller Writing Center to serve all students, and provide support to faculty and departments as they embedded significant writing experiences throughout each undergraduate major. We have established a strong reputation for collaborating well with other units as we launched an [undergraduate research journal](#), created an annual, multi-disciplinary [publication](#) to present research done at Auburn to a public audience, and host an [annual showcase](#) of innovative work on teaching. In 2012, the Office's proposal for an [ePortfolio Project](#) as our institution's Quality Enhancement Plan was accepted and we were selected to implement that project, in part because we had already established ourselves as capable of delivering on what we promised and of being sensitive to the needs of different stakeholders. We will use our ability to collaborate and our experience managing complex projects to bring in a diverse audience of presenters and participants and manage the logistics necessary to deliver a productive conference experience. We have already secured partners to serve on the Planning Committee (see resources below). Because of our campus-wide connections and our mission, we are in a better position to host IWAC than any single department on campus but are prepared to draw upon and provide professional development experience to graduate students in English, Higher Education, and other programs.

Attractions and Accommodations: We are well situated to attract a diverse audience of participants and accommodate those who come from near and far. Alabama is home to 73 colleges and universities, but our central location means that potential participants from Mississippi, Tennessee, Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina are all within driving distance of our campus. Because our theme will be of interest to faculty from Community Colleges as well, we estimate a target audience of 284 higher education institutions within a 300 mile radius. Similarly, the theme is designed to encourage participation from K-12 teachers and administrators, libraries and museums, extension and outreach educators and we have the connections to make advertising and recruiting these less traditional participants possible. In addition, a major [new classroom building](#) with interactive teaching spaces is underway and will be completed in time for us to use these new spaces for pre-conference workshops and other sessions with special needs.

[Auburn](#) is approximately 100 miles southwest of Atlanta, an international hub for those traveling by air. A [shuttle service](#) runs hourly from the [Atlanta airport](#) to Auburn with delivery to any of the hotels in the area. All service providers are very familiar with international travelers given our significant international population of students and the local international industries like KIA. The city has several parks and recreation areas and a lively music and nightlife scene. Accustomed to doubling in size for home football games, Auburn has abundant hotel facilities and numerous restaurants with award-winning chefs, including ones that focus on farm to table fare, southern cuisine, many authentic ethnic offerings including Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, and Indian, and the usual college-town fare with affordable choices and familiar chains. We believe visitors from all over the world will find the Southern hospitality and diversity of our region worth a visit.

We are also well suited for those who combine coming to IWAC with family travel and vacation or research. Alabama is well known for its historical importance to the Civil Rights movement. In 2019, [Alabama](#) will celebrate its 200th birthday and a special commission is hosting an array of programs and special events beginning in 2017 that will make it an even better time to visit. Auburn itself sits 54 miles east of [Montgomery](#), home of the state capital, the Alabama Shakespeare Festival, the Southern Poverty Law Center, and the Rosa Parks Library and Museum. [Birmingham](#), [Huntsville](#), and [Selma](#) with similar cultural and historical sites are within a few hours' drive. For those interested in a beach vacation,

[Mobile](#) and the Gulf Coast are also within 4 hours. [Atlanta](#), of course, has similar diverse offerings and numerous universities for those whose research involves archival collections.

The Ralph Brown Draughon Library at Auburn University houses an extensive [Special Collections and Archives](#) Collections, including holdings on Agriculture and Rural Life, Aviation and Aerospace, The Civil War, Alabama Writers, and Alabama Architecture as well as specialty libraries in Architecture and Veterinary Medicine. The University is also home to the [Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Arts](#) with strengths in American art, ceramics, and an Audubon Collection. Depending on the timing selected for the conference, it may be possible for children who accompany conference participants to enroll in the many sports, recreational, art, and educational camps offered by both the university and the city.

The [Auburn Hotel and Conference Center](#) is centrally located and has hosted conferences as large as 600. The hotel has 225 guestrooms and eleven suites, a fitness center that is open 24 hours a day, a pool, and a restaurant and jazz bar. We have secured a preliminary quote from the Hotel for room rates of \$140-\$149 for deluxe king or double rooms. There are currently fifteen meeting rooms in the conference center, two formal ballrooms that can accommodate up to 600 and are capable of being divided for smaller groups, and an auditorium that will accommodate 356. The Hotel and Conference Center is scheduled for renovations this summer and next so by 2018, everything will be newly updated. As mentioned above, we have already secured permission to use the new classroom building for pre-conference workshops and sessions with special needs.

Conference Organizers and staff: We have a team of six full-time colleagues and have experience hosting an annual local event for faculty that brings in approximately 200 participants. In addition, members of our staff have hosted regional conferences at other institutions and members of the Provost's Office with considerable experience in marketing and event planning are eager to help us. We are also prepared to hire an additional graduate student or temporary employee to focus on logistical details for the conference.

The following individuals have agreed to serve on a Planning Committee should we be selected to host IWAC 2018:

Margaret J. Marshall, Director of University Writing
Lesley E. Bartlett, Assistant Director of University Writing for the ePortfolio Project
James C.W. Truman, Assistant Director of University Writing for the Miller Writing Center
Chad Wickman, Associate Professor of English and Director of First-Year Composition
Brandon Sams, Assistant Professor of English Education
Stacey Nickson, Director K-12 Outreach
Diane Boyd, Director, Biggio Center for Teaching and Learning
Scott Bishop-Wagner, Curator of Education, Jule Collins Smith Museum of Fine Art
Bonnie MacEwan, Dean, Auburn University Libraries
Julie Huff, Director, Strategic Initiatives and Communication, Provost Office
Rebecca Barlow, Ralph "Shug" Jordan Professor of Writing and Associate Professor of Forestry and Extension Specialist
Miriam Marty Clark, Chair, ePortfolio Steering Committee and Associate Professor of English
Kelly Bryant, Professor of Industrial and Graphic Design
Jay Lamar, Executive Director, Alabama 200

In addition, we have the support of Provost Tim Boosinger and the current Chair of the English Department, Jeremy Downs. If our proposal is accepted, we are prepared to solicit financial and in-kind support from other Deans and Directors, the leadership of regional institutions, the local public schools, Extension Services, and area museums and arts programs as necessary to off-set costs or enlist

participation. We have made initial inquiries about getting local industry partners to provide scholarship support for K-12 teachers, adjunct faculty, and graduate students to attend.

The Provost and the Office of University Writing are prepared to contribute \$10,000 towards the expenses of the conference. The estimated cost of the Auburn University Hotel and Conference Center and a target attendance of 400 means we will be able to charge participants about the same as the last several years (approximately \$325) and cover most expenses from registration and vendor fees, but we are confident other financial support will be forthcoming from our campus and regional partners.

Proposed dates: To avoid the summer orientation programs for incoming students and their parents, our preference would be to host the conference from Thursday, July 19 to Saturday, July 21, 2018. We could also run the conference from Wednesday through Friday of that same week to maximize opportunities for visitors to have the weekend free. Alternatively, we would be able to ensure local accommodations by holding the conference from Monday, June 4 to Wednesday, June 6 or from Monday, June 18 to Wednesday, June 20. Though Sunday, June 17 is Father's Day, we hope some participants might want to spend the holiday at the beach or on the [Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail](#), including the [Grand National](#) right here in Auburn, and then join the IWAC conference on Monday.

Contact:

Margaret J. Marshall, Director
mmarshall@auburn.edu
334-844-7475

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Twin Cities Campus

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<http://writing.umn.edu>*

DATE: May 15, 2012

TO: WAC Conference Advisory Board

FROM: Pamela Flash, Director, Writing Across the Curriculum; Associate Director, Center for Writing

RE: Proposal Host, 2014 International Writing Across the Curriculum conference

The University of Minnesota Twin Cities would like to host the 2014 International Writing Across the Curriculum conference on our campus. We would like to welcome this summer conference to more temperate, northern climes!

Proposed dates: May 15-18 (Thursday-Sunday) or June 12-15 (Thursday-Sunday). No religious holidays in either selection; Fathers' Day is Sunday, June 15. If selected, we will confer with the advisory board for preferred dates.

Proposed Theme: Our proposed theme, "Shifting Currents/Making Waves," references the dynamic Mississippi River (about a quarter mile from the on-campus conference hotel) and allows us to focus on WAC's movement into an era of accelerated shifts. One dramatic shift occurs as many programs reduce their emphasis on centralized instructional support (workshops and consultations which lure individual faculty members and other instructors from across campus) and increase intra-disciplinary curricular efforts (which require WAC consultants to travel outward to diverse departmental offices and to engage in faculty discussions and literacy cultures they find there). Simultaneously, the field is experiencing tectonic shifts as writing and instruction move away from paper and face-to-face venues and into digital and multi-modal realms.

To facilitate constructive discussion of these and other field-relevant shifts and waves, we hope that we can inspire innovative formatting in concurrent sessions. While we will welcome traditional panel presentations, we will also plan sessions that include formal respondent remarks and focused roundtable discussions of presented perspectives, teaching demonstrations, and interactive workshops. We will particularly welcome proposals for sessions that include faculty members and instructors from diverse academic disciplines and proposals for demonstrations and workshops that can take effective advantage of the wired active learning classrooms available in the University of Minnesota's Science Teaching classroom building: <http://www1.umn.edu/twincities/maps/STSS/>.

Financial Support: To date we have received financial commitments of at least \$4,000. These commitments come from the Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education and the Department of Writing Studies.

Administrative endorsements: We have received administrative endorsements from the Department of Writing Studies, the Center for Writing, and the Office of the Vice Provost and Dean for Undergraduate Education.

Conference organizers and staff: Conference leadership will be coordinated by an eight-member team.

Led by WAC Director Pamela Flash, this team will be composed of two members of the WAC program staff (Angela Sprunger and a TBN Asst. WAC Director), two members of the Center for Writing Staff (Katie Levin and Terri Wallace), two members of the Department of Writing Studies faculty (Lee-Ann Kastman Breuch and Patrick Bruch), and the Associate Director of First Year Writing (Tim Gustafson). The team will take advantage of services offered by the University of Minnesota's comprehensive Conference and Event office (<http://www.uces.umn.edu/index.shtml>). This office regularly assists with all aspects of academic conferences, from online and print promotion to fiscal and logistical management (conference registration, proposal filing, lodging and food services, room scheduling, AV, etc.). Graduate and undergraduate students who teach in the Center for Writing and in the Department of Writing Studies can be available to assist with the event itself.

Prior conference experience: Writing Studies and the Center for Writing have hosted a variety of conferences over the past decade. Most recently, Writing Studies hosted the 2009 Writing Program Administrators' conference (WPA) and the Center for Writing hosted the 2005 International Writing Centers Association Conference (IWCA). Recent national and international conferences that have been co-sponsored by the Department of Writing Studies include the 2010 Rhetoric Society of America (RSA) and the 2008 Council of Programs on Technical and Scientific Communication (CPTSC).

Facilities: The University Hotel, which can accommodate most if not all conference activity, is on campus and is available during both of the suggested dates. The hotel will be undergoing renovation in fall 2012 and spring 2013, so by spring 2014 it will be in terrific shape. The hotel has 304 guest rooms and suites. Overflow could be easily accommodated by the Holiday Inn, located just across the river. The hotel offers complimentary use of University of Minnesota Recreation Center and Olympic-sized pool, and complimentary shuttle service within five miles of the hotel. Finally, the hotel is located on campus and is surrounded by a lively assortment of restaurants, coffee shops, copy services, and bookstores and by the capacious University of Minnesota campus, art museum, natural history museum, etc.

Sessions and meetings will be held both in the hotel and in classrooms on campus. The University Hotel provides over 20,000 square feet of meeting and banquet space that can accommodate up to 1,200 people. The 5,200-square-foot ballroom can provide 3,300 square feet of presentation space and is divisible into four separate rooms, each able to accommodate up to 120 people. An additional ballroom and 11 meeting rooms are also available. On-campus classrooms and meeting spaces, including active learning classrooms that accommodate both small (25 people) and large (180 people) groups will be available.

Reasons WAC 2014 should be hosted by the University of Minnesota: The University of Minnesota is a large, public research institution with an enduring commitment to graduating agile and relevant writers. Since the 1990s, the University of Minnesota has been actively involved in promoting an entwined model of WAC instructional support and literacy research. We have built a critical mass of faculty members and graduate students who are sincerely interested in discussing and revising their approaches to writing and writing instruction—surprising at an institution that prioritizes research and enrolls more than 50,000 students.

Since 2006, faculty members in 30 undergraduate departments representing all undergraduate colleges have been creating, implementing, and assessing undergraduate Writing Plans as part of our pioneering Writing Enriched Curriculum program (WEC) (<http://wec.umn.edu>). To date, the program has held two university-wide WEC symposia in which faculty members and graduate students have presented models of discipline-relevant writing instruction and research to colleagues on campus. Hosting this

international conference will allow University of MN faculty opportunities to contribute to international discussions on these topics and will allow others a chance to consider the WEC project in situ.

Reasons WAC 2014 should be held in Minneapolis. Minneapolis is a dynamic and vibrant city offering conference participants multiple options for independent and group expeditions. For the conference, we can make arrangements to see a play at the Guthrie Theater, take a Segway tour of the Historic Mill District, and take in a Minnesota Twins baseball game. Area attractions include:

- **Nearby theatres and museums** include the on-campus Frank Gehry-designed Frederick Weisman Museum of Art (<http://www.weisman.umn.edu/>). Also on campus is the Bell Museum of Natural History (<http://www.bellmuseum.umn.edu/>). Across the river, conference participants can visit the Mill City Museum (<http://www.millcitymuseum.org/>) to learn about how one product--flour--fueled the development of a city. Two other art museums, the renowned Walker Art Center (a premier contemporary art museum that also sports and expansive sculpture garden) <http://www.walkerart.org/> and the Minneapolis Institute of Arts (ranked among the top comprehensive U.S. art museums) <http://www.artsmia.org/>, are also nearby. Finally, the Guthrie Theater, (<http://www.guthrietheater.org/>), founded in 1963 and located just across the Mississippi, offers three stages and both group and rush tickets.
- **Other attractions** include the Loft Literary Center (<https://www.loft.org/>), a non-profit literacy education center; the Minnesota Center for Book Arts, <http://www.mnbookarts.org/>; and, of course, the gargantuan Mall of America <http://www.mallofamerica.com/home>.
- **Baseball:** We can arrange a conference expedition to either a Minnesota Twins game at the new downtown Target Field stadium, or a St. Paul Saints (minor league) game at the nearby Midway Stadium.
- **Transportation:** In 2014, the conference hotel and campus will be easily accessible from the airport and to downtown by a new light rail service, and a comprehensive system of light rail and buses is also available for those who wish to go further afield. The primary conference hotel offers free shuttles within a five-mile area. In addition, Minneapolis hosts Nice Ride, one of the most progressive bicycle-share systems in the country. Nice Ride is a non-profit organization, and anyone can become a short-term subscriber. Conference-goers can simply use bikes when they need them, and return them to any station in the system. It's a convenient and extremely affordable mode of transportation, already enthusiastically adopted by both residents and tourists alike.

WAC 2012 Conference Hosting Proposal—Savannah, GA

From

The Department of Writing and Linguistics and the Division of Continuing Education
Georgia Southern University

The Department of Writing and Linguistics in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences and the Division of Continuing Education at Georgia Southern University propose that the International Writing Across the Curriculum 2012 Conference be held in the Coastal Georgia Center in the Historic District of Savannah, Georgia. If selected as the site, the team from Georgia Southern will confer with the WAC Conference Advisory Board for preferred dates.

POTENTIAL THEME

The proposed theme and working title for the conference is “The Future Is WAC.” In recent years, we have seen many changes in our institutions, from the increasing importance of digital communication technologies to challenging economic climates and changing demographics both in and outside of our institutions. “The Future Is WAC” will focus on the ways in which WAC programs and professionals may need to expand their efforts in response to these challenges and how these initiatives can lead the way for our institutions to be self-sustaining and proactive in meeting the changing needs of our students and the societies of which we are a part. It will welcome presentations, interactive workshops, and posters that explore the ways in which WAC has been sustained and enhanced its presence in K-12 schools, colleges and universities, and around the globe. We hope that the conference will include multiple voices and a variety of perspectives on WAC today.

LOCATION

Savannah, Georgia would provide a location that would be easily accessible by air, train, bus and automobile. The Savannah Hilton Head International Airport is 20 minutes from the conference location—The Coastal Georgia Center—with dozens of full service and pre-arranged taxis, shuttles and courtesy vehicles as well as all the major rental car companies available. Savannah is also served by Amtrak and Greyhound, and I-95 provides easy access by car.

The Coastal Georgia Center (managed by Georgia Southern University’s Continuing Education Division) is located in Savannah’s Historic District; therefore, conference participants will be within walking distance of River Street, City Market and the famous and beautiful Squares of Savannah filled with museums and museum homes, art galleries, antique shops, and restaurants—not to mention the wonderful bus tours and carriage rides around this historic city.

The Coastal Georgia Center (CGC) itself has been the location of many conferences sponsored by Georgia Southern University and managed by their Continuing Education Center Team of program development specialists. Team members will provide logistical and budgetary assistance for the WAC 2012 Conference and are very familiar with this facility and the ways that this facility best serves a conference and its particular needs. Here are the main CGC features:

- Auditorium with stadium seating for 370 attendees
- A Spacious Lobby with optional exhibit tables
- Multipurpose Room reconfigurable from 1-3 rooms
- Eleven Meeting/Break-out Rooms
- Three Computer Labs with 18-30 stations (with tech support)
- Two Executive style Conference Rooms

ACCOMMODATIONS

Within 15 minutes' walk of the Coastal Georgia Center are several hotels that will be able to provide room blocks for the WAC 2012 Conference. These include:

- The Courtyard by Marriott
- The Residence Inn
- The Hampton Inn and Suites
- Four Points Savannah
- The Country Inn and Suites

Continuing Education has had great success with using these hotels for conferences at the CGC in the past. They are familiar with the Center and with meeting the needs of conference attendees. It has been their experience that conference attendees appreciate the ability to choose their hotel and like the variety that these properties provide.

EVENTS

We plan to offer several special events, including an opening reception, ghost tour, and riverboat ride. We would like to offer a writing marathon event as well, perhaps partnering with local sites of the National Writing Project.

ENDORSEMENTS FROM ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Writing and Linguistics and the Division of Continuing Education have the support of the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences and the Interim Dean of Continuing Education at Georgia Southern University.

PRIOR CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

The Department of Writing and Linguistics and the Division of Continuing Education at Georgia Southern University have worked together to host conferences for more than a decade. Their co-sponsored events include the Student Success in Writing Conference (now in its 13th year) and the Georgia Conference on Information Literacy (now in its 6th year). Their collaboration also earned the privilege to host the 2013 international Writing Program Administrators Conference.

RESOURCES

The Department of Writing and Linguistics will provide leadership for the conference by forming a planning committee chaired by the department chair, Randall McClure. Serving on this committee will be department members Michael Pemberton, Janice Walker, and Kathy Albertson along with Janice Reynolds, Program Development Specialist for the Continuing Education Center. Ms. Reynolds and her associates in the Continuing Education Center will be responsible for all conference logistics related to collection of conference proposals, website design, registration, facility and AV reservations, exhibitors, hotel rooms blocks, catering and any contracts related to payment of speakers and their travel reimbursements. She will build a budget with a goal that all conference expenses will be paid from registration and exhibitor fees.

The Department of Writing and Linguistics will provide support for the conference sessions and presenters by providing faculty members and graduate students as volunteer session chairs and support staff. Faculty in other departments in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at Georgia Southern will be invited to participate on the conference committee as will faculty from colleges and universities in the Savannah area and across the state of Georgia.

DATE: April 12, 2006
TO: WAC Conference Advisory Board
FROM: Laura Plummer, Director, Indiana University Campus Writing Program
RE: Proposal to host 2008 WAC Conference

Indiana University Bloomington would like to host the 9th International Writing Across the Curriculum Conference in 2008; having been the site of the 2001 conference, this would be our second tour.

Proposed dates, all of which have been vetted with our religious holidays, IU Conference, and regularly attended national conference calendars:

March 27, 28, 29 (Thurs., Fri., Sat.) 2008 (between Easter and CCCC)
April 24, 25, 26 (Thurs., Fri., Sat.) 2008 (in week between holy days of Passover)
May 9, 10, 11 (Fri., Sat., Sun) 2008 (note days; Sunday is Mother's Day)
May 30, 31, June 1 (Fri., Sat., Sun) 2008 (note days of week)

If selected as a site, IU will confer with the Advisory Board for preferred dates.

The proposed theme and working title for the conference, "Fostering WAC Within and Without our Institutions," focuses on the ways in which WAC facilitates connections, both theoretical and practical, academic and professional, for a variety of constituents—in classrooms; among teachers, students and administrators; between schools and local non-profit and governmental agencies; among colleagues around the world—using both high- and low-tech means. It will welcome presentations, interactive workshops, and posters that explore the ways in which WAC programs build connections that promote teaching and learning, assess the efficacy of collaboration and instruction, and project our place in the future. In short, we wish this to be a rich, widely attended conference amenable to multiple voices and perspectives.

Conference organizers and staff

Three fulltime members of the CWP staff, as well as additional graduate student hourly support, will be available to work on the conference. The CWP customarily works with the IU Conferences office throughout the conference planning process; they provide one full-time staff person to the account, and supply hourly help as needed during the conference itself to oversee registration, presentation rooms, catering, and guest services. Our previous partnerships with IU Conferences have worked well, and their expertise is a welcome contribution to the smooth running of our conferences.

The CWP will provide hourly technological assistance for participants during presentation sessions, as well as a number of hourly staff as general dogsbodies throughout the conference.

Facilities

The 2008 WAC Conference would be held in the Indiana Memorial Union (IMU) in the heart of the Bloomington campus. The IMU, one of the largest student unions in the country, accommodates several hundred conferences annually. It comprises a 186-room

hotel as well as 14 meeting rooms of varying size, a banquet hall for meals, copy center, coffee shop, food court, bookstore, and lounge space. Facilities will also include a small computer cluster with internet and printer access for conference participants. These arrangements worked well for the 2001 WAC conference, and we anticipate similar success in 2008.

Depending upon the number of presentation submissions accepted and scheduling requests made by conference participants, we can hold the entire conference within the IMU, or use annex space in the adjacent classroom building. Additional hotel space will be available at one of several of Bloomington's newly opened downtown hotels, as well as some limited spaces in IU residence halls. All of these options are within walking distance of the campus.

Transportation

IU is centrally located: roughly 25% of the country's population lives within 250 miles of Bloomington, IN. For those intending to fly to the conference, we recommend using the Indianapolis International Airport. The nearest alternative destination, Louisville, KY, is a 2 1/2-hour drive from Bloomington. Regular university shuttles to and from the Indianapolis airport, and private limousine service, are available and require reservations; the rental-car drive from Indianapolis is roughly 45 minutes on a 4-lane state highway. Bloomington's downtown, which boasts Indian, Thai, Italian, Tibetan, Mexican, Cajun, Moroccan, and traditional American food, is within very easy walking distance of the IMU; guests do not need a car once in town.

To make the transportation arrangements for our visitors as convenient as possible, Indiana University Conferences establishes a relationship with a major international travel-management company who will upon request make all arrangements for a conferee's travel to Bloomington, including ground transportation from the Indianapolis airport, as part of their passenger ticketing service. In addition to securing the lowest fare to Indianapolis from the point of origin, they will reserve shuttle service to Bloomington from the Indianapolis airport.

Financial support

To date, we have at least \$7000 in commitments to this conference. Both the Provost and the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs have pledged \$2500 in seed money. In addition, Instructional Support Services and the Campus Writing Program can provide \$2000.

Administration endorsement

The Campus Writing Program has the support of the Executive Director of Instructional Support Services (Ray Smith), the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculties (Jeanne Sept), and the Provost (Michael McRobbie).

Prior conference experience

The IU Campus Writing Program hosted the 5th National WAC conference in 2001, the East Central Writing Centers Association in 1995, and the International Writing Centers

Association conference in 1999. The WAC conference attracted 421 registrants, and was well reviewed by conference attendees. Highlights included Keynote speakers Gail Halwisher, Kathleen Blake Yancey, and Barbara Walvoord, four pre-conference workshops, and a conference reception in Indiana's I.M. Pei-designed art museum.

WAC CONFERENCE HOSTING PROPOSAL
From
University of Texas at Austin
(Joan A. Mullin)

The Writing Across the Curriculum Initiative, Division of Rhetoric and Writing, and College of Liberal Arts propose to serve as the local hosts for the 2008 Writing Across the Curriculum Conference.

Proposed dates: Thursday, May 29 through Saturday, May 31, 2008. (This date does not fall on any religious or other popular holidays we could find.) The previous weekend is Memorial Day weekend.

Potential Theme: [Reflection and Evaluation: Translating \(Ourselves\) to Others](#). WAC has roots in early research in the UK, in various scholarly movements around the world and in the programmatic movements of the US since the 70s. [transition? Maybe leave out the next sentence, or put it right after the theme?] The call for proposals may include something like the following:

This year's conference would focus on how well we articulate our theory/practices in order to benefit from each others' work, and how those of us in the field find ways to translate what we do, so that students, academic staff, administration, and those outside our institutions understand and support the scholarship and curricular reform we promote. We invite people to take up an exploration of the many forms in which disciplines communicate to themselves and others, and also investigate the implications of our global conversations:

- We suggest looking at the multiple forms of writing that make up disciplinary communication; in particular, those that may not often be discussed (e.g., the uses, genres, and eventually employment of field notes within a discipline): How do we communicate these to our students? How do they shape our discipline(s)? How do these compare across borders?
- How does technology foster international research and writing in our disciplines? How does it foster writing and learning for our students? How does technology complicate our practices (e.g., issues of plagiarism, technological equity, first and second language partnerships)?
- How do we evaluate writing? What practices of assessment differ across disciplines? Across geographic borders? How does that affect how we teach our students to communicate globally?

- How are we measuring the success of our teaching? Of our programs? How do our cultural ideas about learning and education contain or foster particular practices and programs? How do we successfully design programs and speak to academic staff and administration in those contexts so as to gain support? What forms do we use to communicate our work to others (e.g., text, report forms, images, graphs)?
- What applications of theories successfully translate across borders, both disciplinary and geographic? What differences do we need to be aware of as we research and practice across disciplinary and/or geographic borders? How can these “crossings” promote teaching and learning and/or build mutual partnerships that help our students understand and respect the international conversations in which *they* will engage?

We encourage participants to propose thoughtful sessions or individual presentations that demonstrate or would be interactive, and that allow for questions. We suggest innovative and experiential presentations: for example, participants may want to “teach” a class during their session, recreating for participants a mock student experience. We encourage participants to submit a poster rather than a session in order to explore this form of presentation. We invite forum sessions: collaboratively-run sessions during which participants and leaders explore a similar problem and work on solutions together.

We would hope to feature guest speakers to address these issues and perhaps have featured speaker-panels that highlight the intersections among various educational systems represented—and the implications of these for our students, theories, and teaching practices.

Local Contact:

Joan Mullin. Mullin has designed and run numerous local conferences in Ohio, the regional East Central Writing Centers Association Conference (250 people), and helped initiate and run the first three National Writing Centers Association Conferences (now the International Writing Center Association) (500 – 800 people). In addition, there are support services for conferences at the University of Texas should we choose to use them.

Resources Provided By The College And The Department Of Rhetoric And Writing

- \$6,000.00 in seed money has been committed by the Dean of the College.
- One faculty member to act as local chair for whom the conference would be a substantial service assignment. Other faculty members to volunteer, (e.g., providing tours/demos of our facilities).
- Graduate student volunteers to staff the registration tables.
- A graduate volunteer to build and maintain a Web site for the conference.

- One Graduate student assigned to help with the conference from the ground up.
- Services of the WAC Coordinator to help with paperwork and organization.
- Assistance from the College's conference coodinator
- Loans of portable computer equipment (laptops, LCDs) for specified sessions if needed to help defray costs (more hotels are including this in packages). Technically proficient volunteers from the Computer Writing Research Lab to set up and troubleshoot as needed. Loans of up to 6 overhead projectors (if needed) from Audio-Visual services.

Proposed Resources

- Coffees or fees provided by book exhibitors.

Events

We would plan

- An evening event/party at a colorful Austin venue such as Scholz's Beer Garden <http://www.scholzgarten.net/default.htm> or Threadgills's <http://www.threadgills.com/>.
- An exhibit of the rare book and manuscript exhibit at the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, which houses one of the best collections in the world. We'll arrange for an exhibit that highlights disciplinary writing (potential). Conference participants can arrange to use the collections
- A reception for WAC participants on-campus (potential).

Reasons WAC 2008 Should Be Held In Austin (International)

Austin has an international reputation for being a fun place—and it is! From the honky tonk dance floor of the Broken Spoke with its shrine to Bob Wills and The Texas Playboys (<http://www.brokenspokeaustintx.com/>) to its internationally famous Cactus Café on campus (<http://www.utexas.edu/student/txunion/ae/cactus/?cactus=current>) to the Bass Concert Hall and World Theater, there is every kind of music or entertainment available—and all accessible by car, cab or even public transportation (http://austin.about.com/cs/tours/p/vt_dt_dillo.htm). Austin is a gathering place for film and music makers around the country and the saying is that if you see someone at the local restaurant who looks like Willie Nelson—it IS him.

Austin is a casual, outdoor city with running and biking trails up and down each side of the river downtown; there are lots of green spaces, and kayaks and canoes for (cheap) rental. People might want to visit the new 90,000 square foot international headquarters of Whole Foods and enjoy lunch at one of its many food stations (or excellent gelato), and then cross the street to the continually-voted best independent bookstore in the States—BookPeople; they could cross the street again and buy every kind of music they might want at Waterloo Records—or walk down the street and experiment with new music at

Cheapo's (resale) Discs.

Drives through the hill country (including horse back riding) or wine country tours are also available. There are comedy clubs and the famous Alamo Drafthouse (<http://www.drafthouse.com/>), a typical Austin venue that offers unusual and usual entertainment on its eat and drink premises. However, conference participants might just want to hang out on the well-known Sixth Street and let the music from a multitude of clubs find them. Visitors will find music in the variety of restaurants featuring barbecue, Tex-Mex, interior Mexican, Thai, sushi, or delicious hamburgers that recall the plenty of the 60s. They can enjoy outdoor eating or the finest of up-scale dining. In short, Austin offers a great conference site with

- Culture and Fun: a very attractive travel destination, featuring outdoor activities, live music, fine dining, and world-class research opportunities. [Should we mention the weather is usually good in May and not too hot yet?]
- Accommodations: As the capital of the state and Live Music Capitol of the World, Austin has a variety of venues prepared to handle conferences such as ours.
- Location: Austin is more or less centrally located in the country, and accessible by a variety of airlines, trains and highways.

In addition, participants can also partake of the rich writing resources of the University, including its sixteen libraries (e.g., Harry Ransom Center <http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/>), its Computers and Writing Research Lab (<http://www.cwrl.utexas.edu/>) or the On-Line Learning Record (<http://www.cwrl.utexas.edu/~syverson/olr/>).

Advantages for UT

- There is a twenty-one-year-old WAC requirement in place at the University of Texas-Austin, and 2004 marked the start date of the College of Liberal Arts' Writing Across the Curriculum Initiative (<http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/wac/>), designed to foster, assess and develop new initiatives for the teaching of writing across disciplines (including outside the College). The conference would be welcomed by UT faculty who could present and participate in it. It would introduce faculty here to colleagues around the world who use WAC strategies and theories.
- The conference would provide professional development opportunities for our Rhetoric/Writing graduate students.

Appendices **(Details: Air, Lodging, and Entertainment)**

Airport Information

Austin's Austin-Bergstrom airport is served by the following airlines:

American Airlines, 1-800-433-7300	Continental Airlines, 1-800-525-6100
Delta, 1-800-221-1212	Frontier Airlines, 1-800-432-1359
JetBlue, 1-800-538-2583	Northwest, 1-800-225-2525
Southwest, 1-800-435-9792	United, 1-800-241-6522
US Airways, 1-800-428-4322	America West, 1-800-2FLY-AWA

Nonstop service is available to and from 34 destinations:

Atlanta; Boston; Baltimore/Washington (BWI); Chicago (O'Hare/Midway); Cincinnati (Int'l); Cleveland; Dallas/Fort Worth (Dallas/Love Field); Denver; Detroit; El Paso; Harlingen; Houston (Bush Intercontinental/Hobby); Las Vegas (Int'l); Los Angeles; Lubbock; Memphis; Midland/Odessa; Minneapolis/St. Paul; Nashville; New York/Newark (JFK/EWR); Orlando; Phoenix (Int'l); Raleigh-Durham; St. Louis (Int'l); Salt Lake City; San Diego; San Francisco; San Jose; Tampa; Washington (Dulles)

Lodging And Meeting Information

There are thirty-three hotels in Austin from which to choose, as well as a convention center. The University has an especially good relationship with the Hyatt

(http://austin.hyatt.com/hyatt/hotels/events/index.jsp;jsessionid=R2NNNQL4QOMFRTQS_NWIVAGWOCJWYOUUP4). However, we have several hotels that serve this kind of conference.

And the Rhetoric Society of America recently held a c=similar sized conference at the Radisson Hotel (111 E. Cesar Chavez)

Six large and eight small rooms; accommodates up to 600. High Speed Internet Access and Automated Projection Screens. Guest rooms do not have high-speed Internet.

http://www.radisson.com/hoteldirectory/hotelbio.jsp?hotelCode=TXAUSTDT&hotelBrandCode=RAD&key=webextra.meetings.&submenu=webextra.meetings.highlight.&origin=&bac_kURI=&maintitle=Groups+%26+Meetings

Other popular hotels with conference facilities include the Four Seasons Hotel, Inter-Continental, Stephen F. Austin and Driskill Hotel .

Austin Attractions

University of Texas at Austin. Conference hotels in Austin are in close proximity to the UT campus; its libraries (<http://www.utexas.edu/libraries/>) will be very attractive to conference participants from smaller institutions. The Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center (<http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/>) has an internationally known collection of rare books and archives of major British and American writers.

Town Lake and Barton Springs. Scenic walking/running trails and spring-fed swimming pool alongside Town Lake are located right downtown.

<http://www.texasoutside.com/townlake.htm>

Music and film. Austin prides itself on being the "live music capitol of the world." The Austin Chronicle lists 607 music venues, many easily accessible from downtown:
<http://www.austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Guides/Clubs>

Political History. The University of Texas at Austin is home to the LBJ Presidential Library (<http://www.lbjlib.utexas.edu/>), the Texas Capitol (<http://www.tspb.state.tx.us/tspb/NS/Capitol/TexCap/TexCap.htm>) and Governor's Mansion (<http://www.txfgm.org/>), and numerous other venues of interest, such as the Historic French Legation.

Museums. Austin offers more than thirty different museums that appeal to a range of interests, including the Mexic-Arte Museum; Bob Bullock Texas State History (<http://www.thestoryoftexas.com/>); Austin Children's Museum; O Henry Museum; George Washington Carver Museum; Austin Museum of Art; Texas Music Museum; Women & Their Work Gallery; and the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center.

Food. The Austin Chronicle Restaurant Guide lists plenty of restaurants in all price ranges, (<http://www.austinchronicle.com/gbase/Guides/Restaurant>), from barbecue and Tex-mex to Thai, Pan-Asian, vegan, Brazilian, and Cuban.