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From the Editors

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From the Editors

Albert C. DeCiccio and Joan Mullin

We want to express our gratitude to all those readers who made complimentary comments about our first issue. Given all that we had to endure in putting the piece together, we were gratified that the issue was well-received. We believe that this issue will be just as provocative and informative; it will, at the very least, provide many hours of enjoyable reading.

Bonnie Sunstein's lead article, "Moveable Feasts, Liminal Spaces: Writing Centers and the State of In-Betweenness," explains the power of the writing center's ability to resist being defined as other institutional "units" in academe. Her piece celebrates writing center work and those who have toiled hard to professionalize that work. In "The Debate over Generalist and Specialist Tutors: Genre Theory's Contribution," Kristin Walker applies the axioms of "genre theory" to move writing tutors away from embracing either a generalist or specialist epistemology and closer to a unified methodology for addressing all writers' needs. Jane Cogie's article, "In Defense of Conference Summaries: Widening the Reach of Writing Center Work," advocates conference summaries, providing data to corroborate her conclusions that they enhance professor and tutor pedagogy as well as the writing produced as a result of such a collaboration.

The review articles authored by Paula R. Golombek and Molly Wingate provide useful commentary about two works that will impact writing center work. Golombek reviews *Writing in Multicultural Settings*, edited by Carol Severino, Juan Guerra, and Johnella Butler, claiming that writing center workers should read this collection of essays because they extend our knowledge and understanding of multicultural writing. Wingate reviews Toni-Lee Capossela's *Harcourt Guide to Peer Tutoring*, explaining to writing center workers why the guide is a timely and thoughtful addition to writing center libraries: it effectively engages prospective tutors.

There are a few details we want to review: First, your journal is

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now shrink-wrapped to guard against damage during mailing. Second, your mailing label now indicates when your subscription ends. At that point, you should re-subscribe (to Al, if you just want the journal; to Neal, if you want to renew your membership to NWCA and to *The Writing Lab Newsletter*).

We are also planning to have a special issue (probably Spring/Summer 1999) devoted to the discussion which was started in Park City at the NWCA Conference and picked up in Chicago at the CCCC Convention. We want to explore whether or not there is a “bankruptcy” of writing center scholarship, and we hope that authors will challenge this assertion by providing pieces that extend existing writing center research. Preference will be given to those articles that exemplify and theorize new directions for writing center scholarship.