**Connecticut Writing Project Leadership Council Meeting Minutes**

10/10/13

Stern Lounge, Austin Bldg. Storrs, 5-7 PM

**In attendance:** Jason Courtmanche (Director), Jane Cook (Grants Program Leader), Marcy Rudge (Youth Program Leader), Christiana Betts (Graduate Assistant), Kelly Andrews-Babcock (Summer Institute Program Leader)

**Funding updates**

***Foundation grants***

*Hartford Fund for Giving:* The Hartford Fund for Giving has rejected our grant proposal and suggested that we reapply next year.

*Barnes Foundation:* Jason submitted two potential projects – the CWP Summer Institute and Academy for Young Writers. They rejected both.

***NWP Request for Proposals (RFP) for Teacher-Leadership Grant***

The NWP Teacher-Leadership RFP should be coming out next week. Jason has a conference call with NWP tonight and may know more after that.

***Summer Revenue***

Jason still has a request in for summer revenue from the English Department. It is on hold currently.

**Opportunity for Teacher Quality Grant in Waterbury**

Waterbury has contacted Jason about a Teacher Quality Grant. They want to do CCSS Reading and Writing from K-8. Jason has agreed to partner with them. He will share more details when he knows them.

**Migration to new web platform, time, money, intern labor**

All CWP staff has been trained by UITS on the new Wordpress platform. The CWP staff has been working on moving the content from the old site to the new. Jason thinks it will be better and more user friendly once it is done. He projects that it will go live around the beginning of the next semester. If you want to check it out, go to <http://cwpwp.uconn.edu/>.

**Academy for Young Writers**

Christiana has been researching. We can get the space we need at the Student Union on the 3rd floor for a week-long summer Academy for Young Writing with no charge for using the space. Jason is thinking it should be for middle and high school but we may change to elementary if that seems like and will run concurrently with one week of the CWP Summer Institute. The only charges will be for food and for teacher presenters. We can partner with the Community School for the Arts and hope to piggyback with their summer advertising and vice versa.

**TC Writing Contest and Aetna Awards Night Oct. 24**

The TC Writing Contest went well. The judges have finished judging and the winners have been notified. Six different individuals won ten different awards. Christiana is almost finished putting the book together. It should be ready to go to press by the beginning of next week.

The Aetna Awards Night is on 10/24/13 at the Dodd Center from 6-9 PM. Jason encouraged everyone on the Leadership Council to come.

**Retirement of Lynn Bloom**

Lynn will be retiring at the end of next fall. Next year will be the 25th Aetna Awards Night. We should plan to do something to honor her either at the CWP 2014 SI or in conjunction with the Aetna Awards Night or both. We will continue this discussion at a future meeting.

**PD in New Haven and East Hampton**

Jason is having a PD planning meeting on 11/5/13 to plan three new days of PD. New Haven still owes CWP for seven days of PD that has already been delivered.

Jason met this week with the English Department Chair from East Hampton High School. They may be interested in having us provide PD on implementing the CCSS.

**Early College Experience (ECE) PD Nov. 18**

Jason is presenting at the ECE Conference on 11/18/13 at UConn. He’ll be presenting on the Common Core State Standards.

**CWP3 State Network Meeting**

Jason is participating in a CWP3 State Network meeting on 10/11/13. He’ll let us know the outcome of the discussion.

**Regional Network Meeting in Boston**

Jason is going to the NWP Annual meeting in Boston on 11/21 & 11/22/13. The NWP New England Regional Network Meeting will be taking place in Boston on 11/21 from 7:30-9:00 PM. Jason invited us to attend but doesn’t have funding to support us. The cost is $125 to attend for the two days.

**Scholastic Looking for Readers**

Jason has forwarded a request to the CWP TC LISTSERV from Scholastic to read and score student writing. He forwarded the email to the Leadership Council. We agreed to help Jason recruit about 20 teachers to do this reading so that CWP can receive a $2,000 honorarium for our participation.

**UConn Reads**

UConn Reads is looking for program submissions. For more information, go to <http://dailydigest.uconn.edu/publicEmailSingleStoryView.php?id=12489&cid=24&iid=601> for more information.

**Writing Center Conference**

The UConn Writing Center Conference is taking place at the Student Union on 10/18 from 9 AM-12 Noon.

**Program updates**

***Summer Institute:*** Jason has revised the schedule for the CWP 2014 SI. The postcard will be ready to go out soon.

***Writing Retreat:*** Michelle has been researching alternate sites for the Writing Retreat.

***CSW:***  Ethan has emailed Marcy so they can begin working on reported that she’s been working on a keynote presenter for the CSW Awards Night. Rita Williams-Garcia is the potential keynote. Marcy will be attending a presentation she is doing on campus in October and will try to negotiate with her.

***TO DO’s for CSW:***

1. Christiana will contact Gary Yakstis at Jorgensen about using the auditorium on the second Tuesday in May after UConn’s graduation.
2. Christiana will contact Lizzie in January about food.