

Yeah, Write

The Writing Initiative

An Update for University Senate

Office of University Writing

Dr. Margaret J. Marshall

October 4, 2011

Embedded Writing

Significant writing instruction beyond the core

Designed by each program to meet their needs

Follow principles developed by
a committee on writing

Periodic review by faculty committee to ensure
continued improvement in writing

Engaged Faculty

Writing... critical thinking... cool!

No problem – we're already doing that.

Isn't that the English department's job?

What do we know about teaching writing?

More assessment?

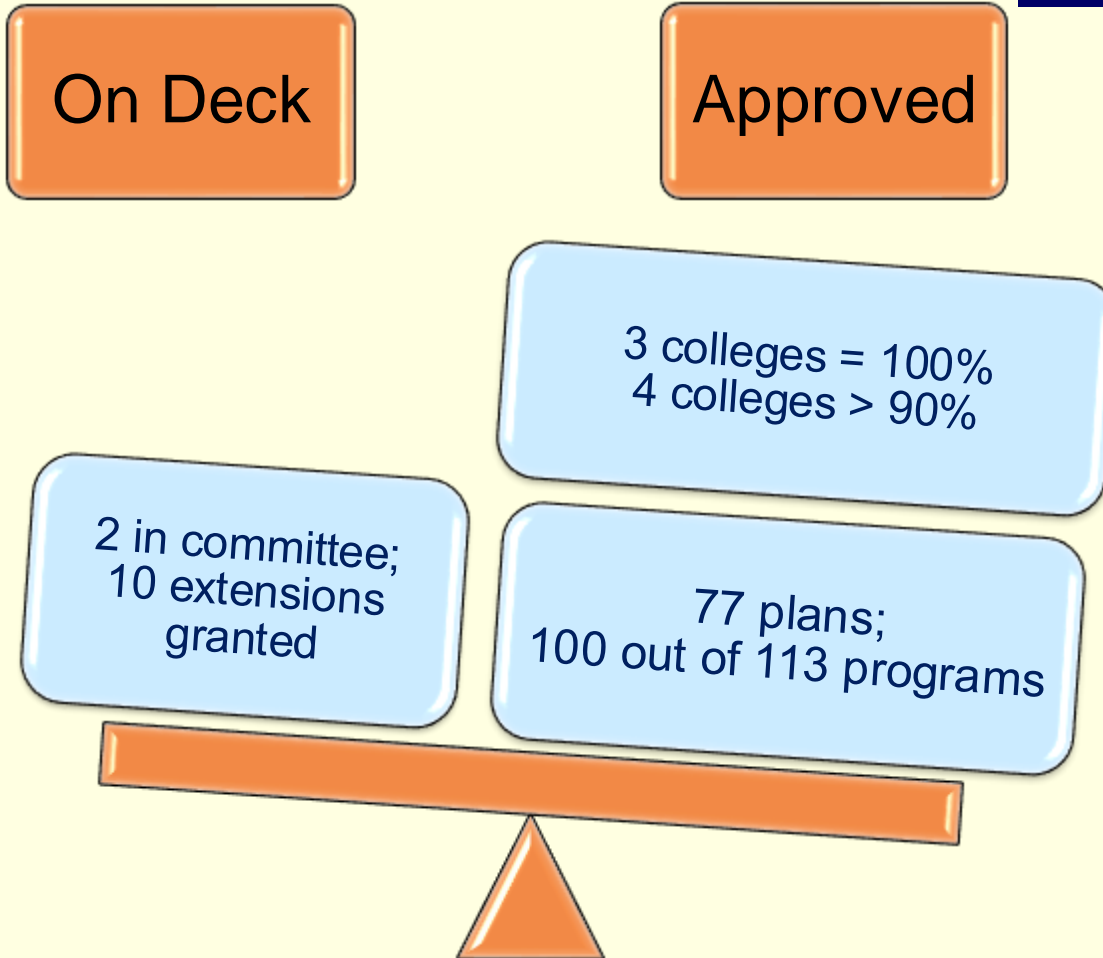
Where's the budget?

My classes have over 100 students!

with thanks to Tony Overfelt, Professor of Mechanical Engineering

Embed Writing in Every Major

Yeah, Write



Overall: 88.5% complete

Periodic Review

University Writing Committee work for this year:

How can we make this process most useful to departments and faculty?

How do we best support faculty efforts to improve writing and writing instruction?

What kind of rotation schedule makes the most sense for departments and the committee?

Enhancing the Culture of Writing

Yeah, Write



Support for Students



Support for Faculty



Celebrate and Promote Writing



Research and Assessment



Outreach

Support for Students



Miller Writing Center

- **New Coordinator of Student Services, Travis Adams**
- **Relocated Haley site to LRC**

Facilitated Graduate Writing Groups

- **Positive but not sustainable**
- **WriteFest instead**

Other Activities

- **Residence Life Programs**
- **Workshops by request**
- **Now hiring tutors for Spring 2012**

Support for Faculty

Writing Symposium – 2010-11

- 39 faculty from 29 different departments
- 18 earned Certificate of Completion
- 12 presented at Poster Reception earlier this term

2011-12 Writing Symposium

- Topics focus on assessment and writing to learn
- October 19 and 20 – scaffolding for student success
- November 9 & 10 –grading and program assessment

Digital Symposium – coming soon on website

Departmental and Individual Consultations

- Contact us to discuss your needs

Resources on line



AUBURN UNIVERSITY

Office of University Writing

WRITING CENTER STUDENT RESOURCES **FACULTY RESOURCES** CELEBRATING WRITING

Office of University Writing
Miller Writing Center
Who Are We?
Get Involved!

University Writing Archive
Register For An Event
Office of the Provost

We enhance the culture of writing and writing instruction at Auburn.

We provide resources for students and faculty.

We celebrate and promote literate practices.

We serve others through outreach.

We conduct research and assessment.

Incorporating Writing Into Courses

General Writing Across the Curriculum

Resources about the implementation of teaching and evaluating writing in specific disciplines.

Integrative Learning and Scholarship of Teaching

Resources about the exchange of pedagogical ideas and practices among faculty in the implementation of integrative learning.

Assessment and Response

Resources about the theories of writing assessment, including the use of portfolios, peer review, rubrics, etc.

Linguistics and ESL Writing

Resources about linguistic theories and how these apply to writing among diverse native English speaking students as well as to ESL students.

Plagiarism

Resources about the different perspectives of plagiarism and how they apply to the college classroom.

Discipline-Specific Resources

- Science and Engineering
- Mathematics
- Social Sciences
- Humanities
- Business
- Forestry

Common Errors

A list of common errors was compiled and categorized by level of seriousness according to findings of a study of written text in various academic fields. This list serves as a helpful resource to faculty members who aim to improve the grammar and mechanics of their students' writing.

Using the Common Reading in Upper Division Courses

Examples of using the Common Reading book in department-specific courses. Includes suggestions for courses that will implement the text with varying degrees of relevance to existing course material.

Faculty-Submitted Assignments

The Office of University Writing is compiling a set of faculty-submitted assignments, available only to other faculty members through password protection. If you would be willing to submit one or more of your assignments, please contact auburnwrites@auburn.edu.

Useful Links

- WAC Clearinghouse

This database offers various resources and information about writing and communication across curriculums. The site provides



Celebrate & Promote Writing



Auburn Writes



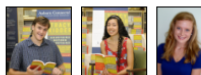
Norman Godwin

Director and Associate Professor of Accountancy

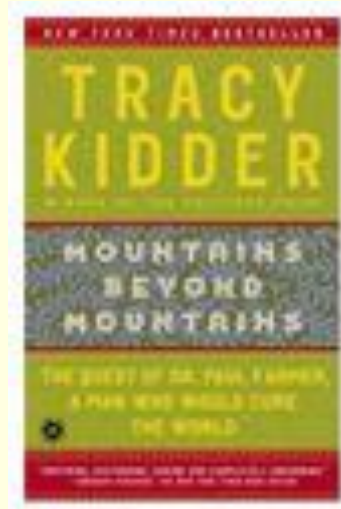
How do you take complex financial concepts and translate them into easily understandable and, more importantly, retainable ideas for students? You make them into 26 one-minute videos, of course! Welcome to Norman Godwin's series entitled "Enrich Your Life with Norman H. Godwin."

"Writing a 160-word script that clearly conveys a complex topic was quite a challenge," Godwin said. "After distilling the research to the one idea we wanted to communicate, we brainstormed on the visual metaphor that would support the idea. Once those two pieces were set, we wrote the initial draft. That sounds simple enough, but I can tell you, we went through draft after draft after draft until we were satisfied."

Godwin's attention to detail has led him and his team to strive for something all writers struggle with at times: conciseness.



[View All](#)



Auburn Speaks

A multi-disciplinary research anthology presenting work on a thematic issue of interest to a public audience

Auburn Speaks is a visually engaging, peer reviewed publication that showcases research and creative scholarship, promotes cross-disciplinary collaborations, informs and promotes public discussions and further study, and serves as a centerpiece for community programs. We are pleased to announce that the 2013 issue of Auburn Speaks will focus on water.

NOW ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE 2013 ISSUE

Your creative scholarship and research might not have water as its primary focus, but could it inform discussions about pollution, conservation, water-borne disease, transportation and development along waterways, public policy decisions, social or economic dimensions of these discussions, or technology related to water? Could your research contribute to a better understanding of water, water problems or the history connected to water, its use and misuse? Does your scholarship make use of water or water-related art and/or images? If you have something to say about water, your work belongs in this issue. We accept articles of varying lengths, co-authored as well as single-authored submissions, photographs and other visual submissions.

Questions about Auburn Speaks or possible submissions may be addressed to:

Margaret Marshall, University Writing Initiative, marshall@auburn.edu
 Jay Lamer, Caroline Marshall Drachman Center for the Arts & Humanities, lamaj@auburn.edu
 Larry Wilson, Auburn University Research Program Development Office, larry.wilson@auburn.edu



Research and Assessment

NSSE Consortium of Colleges Studying Writing

- More detailed view of writing practices at Auburn
- Being featured as a Lesson from the Field

Assessment of Our Activities

- 2010-11 = 4,369 consultations
- 41% return for another visit; average = 2.5 visits

Longitudinal Study

- 5 year study of change in faculty conceptions or practices



Outreach

Alabama Humanities Foundation
Super Emerging Scholars

With Other Auburn Units and
Departments

National Consortium of Writing
Across Communities

Office of University Writing

We believe in hard work



www.auburn.edu/writing

And we love it

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