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ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

IATE is a professional organization for teachers of English/language arts. IATE publishes the *Illinois English Bulletin* and the *IATE Newsletter* and hosts an annual fall conference. IATE is organized by districts throughout the state, each district having a district leader and providing local activities to members throughout the year.

IATE also maintains standing committees that address a number of professional interests and works with other professional organizations to further the interests of teachers. Composed of nearly 1,500 teachers throughout the state, IATE provides a working network for the exchange of teaching tips, current research, and professional development as well as enduring friendships.

PUBLICATION INFORMATION

The *IATE Newsletter* is an official publication of the Illinois Association of Teachers of English, Inc. Published two times a year by IATE. Member: NCTE Information Exchange Agreement.

Newsletter Editor: Claire Coleman Lamonica

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SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Manuscripts should usually range in length from 500 to 2,500 words (roughly two to ten typed, double-spaced pages). Query about longer manuscripts before you submit them.

If possible, submit your article electronically in Rich Text Format (.rtf) as an e-mail attachment. Alternatively, you may submit your article in hard copy (x3) to the editor's address (see above). Follow current MLA style—including documentation of references and using internal citations wherever possible.

Avoid lengthy notes and references.

Follow the NCTE guidelines for nonsexist use of language.

Include a separate title page with the following information: title of submission, author's name, author's professional affiliation, author's address, and author's telephone number.

Include a cover letter summarizing the article and stating that the work has neither been published nor submitted elsewhere.

The editors will acknowledge receipt of your manuscript and may make minor changes (for clarity, length, or language) in the manuscript without notifying you.

IATE OFFICERS

Jean Black	President
Elizabeth Kahn	1st Vice President
Deborah Will	2nd Vice President
Richard Pommier	Secretary
Herb Ramlose	Treasurer
Janice Neuleib	Executive Secretary
Sandra Flannigan	District Leader Coordinator
Martha Frieberg	IATE Office

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JEAN BLACK



Jean Black

“The Company We Keep” was a wonderful celebration of IATE’s one-hundredth anniversary this past October. A huge thank you to all who helped commemorate one hundred years of IATE by being part of the conference, and very special thanks to Ken Holmes and George Shea, Jr., for compiling the fascinating history of our presidents featured in the summer 2007 *Illinois English Bulletin*. And, of

course, many, many thanks to Elizabeth Kahn and her committee for planning and delivering such a tremendous opportunity to celebrate what IATE means to all of us through the collaboration, friendships, and acquisition of knowledge we shared.

All who attended the conference saw familiar and new faces; experienced a myriad of excellent sessions and workshops given by conversant, enthusiastic presenters; and heard stimulating speakers share their insights and expertise. In addition, there were opportunities to visit terrific exhibits from our supportive book vendors and perhaps experience the thrill of winning a door prize or sharing a poem at the Beatnik Café on Friday evening. It was exhilarating to hear comments, especially from first-time attendees and presenters, remarking how valuable the sessions were, how much was being gleaned from the conference, and how many were looking forward to participating next year!

The excitement and fervor was awe inspiring as we became enthusiastic learners and anticipated how we would apply our knowledge in our own classrooms, but mostly as we were enriched by realizing the connections we made that will impact our lives forever. For those who were not able to attend, please enjoy the conference review in this *IATE Newsletter* and read the write-ups of many of the great sessions in the next issue of the *Illinois English Bulletin*.

As I was flying to New York for the NCTE convention, anticipating the experience of attending a national convention, I considered that I probably would not be attending this convention if it were not for IATE. Thinking back, I remembered attending my very first IATE conference and how it impacted me. I was instantly “hooked” with the excitement that was abundant in every aspect of the conference. There was so much to learn, so many people to meet, rewarding conversations to be had, superb sessions to attend, the Illinois Author of the Year award presentation and speech, awards honoring those who have dedicated their careers to enriching the lives of students through English education, the exhibits, abundant door prizes, and the list goes on!

I was amazed at how many people I knew as well as the new and lasting friendships I made. I couldn’t wait for the next conference—I wanted to present and to really become involved. It was truly a magical experience! And, once the conference was over, district meetings helped to keep me inspired. (Do you know your IATE district and district leader? Do visit <http://www.iateonline.org> to find more ways to continue professional enrichment throughout the school year.) Every IATE conference I have attended since has been as tremendous as the first and my belief in this organization remains strong.

“101 Conferences: Take A Classic and Make It Current” is the theme for our next annual conference, which will be held in Oakbrook this October 17 and 18. As IATE looks toward the next one hundred years, what a great way to begin—by keeping the foundations of what we know and love about the English language and helping to make those connections in our students by adapting to changing technologies and current practices. Let’s awaken the passion of the love of English in our students’ lives! I invite you to join us in shaping the future of English/language arts education by your participation in our 101st annual fall conference. □

DISTRICT NEWS

Members of the South Central District met at Millikin University on February 23, 2008, to participate in a poetry workshop sponsored by Millikin and the Illinois State Writing Project. Dr. Jim Meyer organized the workshop that focused

on encouraging students to write their own poetry. Dr. Randy Brooks was the keynote speaker, and several classroom teachers demonstrated lessons on poetry writing. The workshop provided creative, useful ways to support student writing. □

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

JANICE NEULEIB



Janice Neuleib

IATE has just celebrated its one-hundredth anniversary, and the celebration was amazing. IATE appreciates the 356 attendees at the conference. These teachers and students represented 45 schools from throughout the state. Each part of the conference celebrated the long history of the organization. It was especially exciting to

have past presidents participate in the conference, many of whom made a special effort to attend. As exciting was the group of new faces both attending and presenting sessions. Each session was a tribute to the success of language arts in Illinois.

We look forward to the next conferences in Oakbrook in 2008 and Rockford in 2009. The conference site for 2010 is now being chosen. And don't forget that that in 2011 NCTE's will celebrate it's 100th anniversary with a national conference in Chicago in November. IATE will serve as the local arrangements organization.

Be sure to check out the IATE website at <http://www.iateonline.org> or <http://www.english.ilstu.edu/iate> for current information and new events. Amy Lucas is web master, most ably supported by Illinois State University English Department Associate Chair Jim Kalmbach, technical writing professor.

And mark your calendars now for the 2008 CITE (Conference of Illinois Teachers of English) which will be held at Illinois State University on Friday, April 11.

The young writers issue of the *Illinois English Bulletin* was amazing this year, proof that Illinois students are very creative. Once again our poet laureate chose winners and added an introductory note to the issue. We send our thanks to him.

Finally, the one-hundredth anniversary *Illinois English Bulletin* is beautiful. Our thanks go to Ken Holmes and George Shea, Jr., who pulled together all the biographies for the issue. We look forward to the essays from our one-hundredth anniversary conference. If you were not able to attend, you can still read some of the best information from the conference. Keep an eye out for the next *Bulletin*. □

REBECCA CAUDILL YOUNG READERS' BOOK AWARD MOVES INTO ITS 21ST YEAR

DONNA BLACKALL

While celebrating the twentieth anniversary of their Illinois children's choice book award for grades four through eight, the Rebecca Caudill Young Readers' Book Award (RCYRBA) participants have been busy reading and selecting the next winning title. On March 14, 2008, the 21st RCYRBA book will be announced simultaneously at the 28th Annual Children's Literature Conference at Northern Illinois University and the Illinois Reading Council conference in Springfield. Last year's winner was *So B. It: A Novel* by Sarah Weeks.

A brochure listing the 2009 Master List of books and all the information necessary to participate in next year's award

procedures will be available in April. All IATE members will receive this mailing. Teachers and librarians are encouraged to register early to ensure that materials will be on hand for the start of the 2008-09 school year.

A session featuring the RCYRBA and Abraham Lincoln, the high school student choice award, will take place at the CITE Conference at Illinois State University on Friday, April 11, 2008.

For more information about the RCYRBA, including a list of all previous winning titles, go to <http://www.rcyrba.org>. For information on the Lincoln Award, go to <http://www.islma.org> and click on Grants/Awards. □

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2007 FALL CONFERENCE: “THE COMPANY WE KEEP: CELEBRATING 100 YEARS”

ELIZABETH KAHN

Over 350 participants gathered in Peoria, Illinois, at the Hotel Père Marquette on October 12 and 13, 2007, for the one-hundredth IATE fall conference. The group included teachers at the high school, middle school, elementary, and college levels, as well as 128 college students preparing for careers in teaching. The 2007 conference included the following highlights:

- Illinois Author of the Year Scott Turow delighted attendees with a book signing after his talk about the interplay of his work as writer and lawyer.
- Robert Probst enlightened and entertained us with his Keynote Address, “There’s Never an English Teacher around When You Need One.”
- Featured Speaker Vera Wallace engaged the audience in composing and then acting out dialogues, as she illustrated an approach to teaching narrative.
- Entertainment at the Friday banquet featured the surprising, intense, and thought-provoking poetry performed by slam poet George Miller.
- After the banquet, participants stepped back in time at the Beatnik Café as they performed poems by Allen Ginsberg, Lawrence Ferlinghetti, and others to the jazz rhythms of a bongo drum.
- Over fifty breakout sessions focused on topics ranging from peer editing to interactive Shakespeare and wikis to digital storytelling.
- Over twenty vendors exhibited the latest books and technology.
- Richard Pommier received the IATE Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Thirteen past presidents of IATE were honored at the Saturday brunch.

- The annual Student and Beginning Teacher Seminar gave novices a forum for open discussion of issues and problems with their peers, as well as with experienced teachers.
- Special one-hundredth anniversary conference bags were generously provided by Lake-Cook Distributors.
- Participants received a one-hundredth anniversary IATE lapel pin designed by Mary Phillip.

The success of the conference was a result of the efforts of a number of different people. Amy Lucas, chair of the local arrangements committee, planned the meals and provided table decorations. John Strauch and Illinois Central College provided technology support, Michelle Beck and Martha Frieburg worked with publishers and the book exhibits, Sandy Flannigan provided door prizes and gifts, Jean Wallace planned the centennial events, Deborah Will arranged the Beatnik Café, and Martha Frieburg supervised the registration tables. Also, the presenters, the session chairs, the recorders, the volunteers at the registration tables, and the friendly and helpful staff of the Hotel Père Marquette all contributed to making this an outstanding conference.

IATE is also grateful for the generous contributions of our sponsors: Lake-Cook Distributors, Vantage, Prentice-Hall, McDougal Littell, Longman, and Flashpoint Shakespeare.

If you missed the opportunity to attend the 2007 fall conference to gather new ideas, to collaborate with colleagues, to be inspired and re-energized, and to enjoy and enrich “the company we keep,” then be sure not to miss this opportunity in 2008. Mark your calendar now for the 2008 IATE fall conference at the Oakbrook Marriott, October 17–18, 2008, as we begin our next one hundred years. □

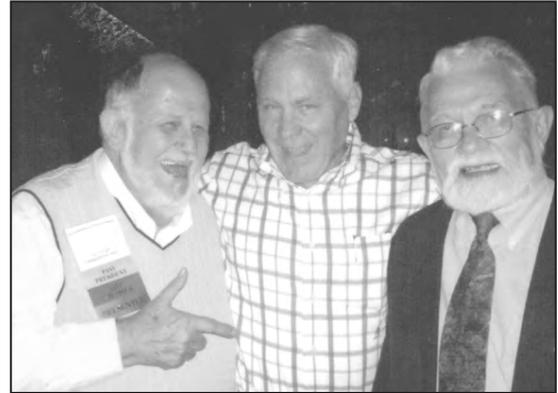
Editor’s note:

*See the following page for images from
“The Company We Keep: Celebrating 100 Years”*

“THE COMPANY WE KEEP”: SELECTED MEMORIES



The 100th anniversary brought more than a dozen past presidents together to celebrate.



Ken Homes, Bob Probst, and George Hillocks share a laugh.



District Leader Coordinator Sandy Flannigan and accompanist reveal their inner beatniks.



Author of the Year Scott Turow was introduced by Second Vice President Deborah Will.



Martha Frieburg, IATE office manager; Nina Hamilton; and Past President Jean Wallace greeted conference attendees at the registration table.



Conference meals offer IATE members the opportunity to visit with colleagues from across the state.

ZION-BENTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL'S NAKISHA USHER-BROOKS RECEIVES NCTE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AWARD

DEBORAH WILL

The Illinois Association of Teachers of English has selected Nakisha Usher-Brooks as the recipient of our affiliate's NCTE Leadership Development Award for 2007–08. This award is given to a teacher with one to five years teaching experience who has demonstrated a capacity for professional leadership and a willingness to serve the affiliate during the 2007–08 school year.

Usher-Brooks is originally from Chicago and is now teaching at Zion-Benton Township High School (ZBTHS). She attended Barat College and graduated with honors. She joined the ZBTHS teaching staff during her student teaching experience. Usher-Brooks has begun graduate work at

Benedictine University to obtain her certification as a reading specialist. She has also attended training in reading and writing across the curriculum and will be providing professional development for other staff members at ZBTHS. She will serve IATE by working on the local arrangements committee for the 2008 IATE conference in Oakbrook, Illinois.

Usher-Brooks was honored, along with other winners of the award, at the Affiliate Roundtable Breakfast at the NCTE convention in New York, New York, on Saturday, November 17, 2007.

The award is supported by the NCTE and Prentice Hall-Pearson Education. □

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD! CELEBRATE NCTE ADVOCACY MONTH THIS APRIL

Education policies affect us all, yet all too often teachers' voices are the ones left out of the conversation. You can change that by participating in the National Council of Teachers of English's (NCTE) Advocacy Month this April. There are two ways to participate:

First, you can join other members of the NCTE in Washington, DC, on April 17, 2008, for Education Policy and English Language Arts Day. Participants will:

- learn how educational policies affecting English/language arts teachers are shaped;
- hear key educational policymakers discuss English/language arts legislation issues and participate in question and answer sessions;
- gain a deeper understanding of trends in federal legislation;
- receive a briefing from NCTE's legislative counsel;

and

- learn how to schedule meetings with congressional representatives and staff.

Registration is free to all NCTE members. Participants are responsible for their own transportation, housing, and meals.

If you are interested in participating in NCTE's Education Policy and English Language Arts Day, go to <http://www.ncte.org/forms/advocacy> and fill out the online registration form.

If you can't travel to DC in April, you can still be a part of the conversation by visiting members of Congress in your home district. Sign up for Advocacy Month by sending an e-mail to slate@ncte.org and let that office know that you would like to participate. For more information, visit the NCTE Action Center at <http://www.ncte.org/about/issues/action> or phone (877) 369-6283, ext. 3644. □

THE ILLINOIS STATE WRITING PROJECT

JANICE NEULEIB

The Illinois State Writing Project (ISWP) is in its fifteenth year and going/growing strong. In the years since 1992, we have expanded from a Summer Institute and a few in-service activities to an active, multifaceted site. We now offer Summer Institutes in both Normal (at Illinois State University) and Peoria (at Bradley University), and we have grown steadily in our number of participants.

In the 2004 school year, we added an open workshop at Eureka College, led by codirector Janice Wirsing and and

more recently by Joan Glowicki. We have also begun several teacher-research initiatives in areas of diversity and student need (Peoria and at-risk schools in the Bloomington-Normal area). During the school year, we offer workshops, writing activities, and renewal experiences.

For details about other events and applications for the 2008 Summer Institute, visit us at the ISWP Web site: <http://www.iswp.ilstu.edu>. □

First-Year Teacher Free Membership

Attention: First-Year English Teachers

IATE offers a free, one-year membership to all teachers who have not previously been members of IATE. IATE membership entitles you to three issues of the *Illinois English Bulletin* and two issues of the *IATE Newsletter* as well as convention information and district news. Stay current with trends in our profession and gather tips for surviving and thriving during your first year in the classroom. Please fill out the information below and return it to: IATE, Department of English, Campus Box 4240, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790-4240; e-mail: jneuleib@ilstu.edu

Name: _____ Grade levels taught: _____

School: _____

School street address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ County: _____

Home street address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Mailing preference (please circle one): School Home

THE CHICAGO AREA WRITING PROJECT

MARILYN J. HOLLMAN

If you live in Chicago or its suburbs and want to renew yourself as writer and teacher of writing, apply to be part of the Chicago Area Writing Project's 28th Summer Institute, which will be held Monday, June 23–Thursday, July 17, 2008. The application deadline is April 14, 2008, and the interview day will be Saturday, May 3. For more information or to receive an application, contact Dr. Barbara Kato, Director of CAWP, at bjkato@sbcglobal.net.

CAWP's spring conference, "Getting it Right: Teaching Language Usage and Grammar in the Context of Inquiry and Writing Specific Genres" will be held on Friday, April 4,

and Saturday, April 5. Jeffrey D. Wilhelm, author of *Reading Is Seeing: Learning to Visualize Scenes, Characters, Ideas, and Text Worlds to Improve Comprehension and Reflective Reading*; *"You Gotta BE the Book": Teaching Engaged and Reflective Reading with Adolescents*; and coauthor of *"Reading Don't Fix No Chevys": Literacy in the Lives of Young Men*, will be the featured speaker. Registration for this event is \$50.00. Contact Dr. Barbara Kato for more information.

The CAWP Teachers' Flea Market is tentatively set for Saturday, April 19, 2008. You can contact Dr. Kato for more information about this event as well. □

IATE Membership

Name: _____

School: _____

Level of Instruction: ELEM__ JRH__ HS__ COL__

School Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____ County: _____

IATE District: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

Mailing Preference: School _____ Home _____

Membership type: First-Year Teacher / First-Year Member__ Student__ Regular__ Patron__ Retired__

Free: First-Year Teacher / First-Year Member/Student

IATE Yearly Membership Dues (please circle one):

\$25 Regular \$30 Patron \$5 Retired

IATE Membership Pin: \$5 _____

Check enclosed for amount: \$ _____

Mail to: IATE, Martha Frieberg, Membership Secretary, 4240 English, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790-4240; Phone: (309) 438-3957; Web Site: <http://www.iateonline.org>; e-mail: mrfrieb@ilstu.edu

Calls for Papers

PUBLISH YOUR WORK IN THE ILLINOIS ENGLISH BULLETIN

Illinois English Bulletin is the written forum in which Illinois teachers of English share their ideas. Please see any recent issue of the *Bulletin* (starting with spring 2005) for a detailed “Call for Submissions.” The deadline to submit materials for possible inclusion in the spring issue is the previous November 1, and the deadline for the summer issue is the previous January 15. If you need any further information—or encouragement—to complete a teacher-research project and submit it for possible publication, please contact *Bulletin* coeditor Ron Fortune at: rfortune@ilstu.edu.

PUBLISH YOUR WORK IN THE IATE NEWSLETTER

Do you have news or an idea worth sharing? The *IATE Newsletter* welcomes articles, reviews, reports, announcements, brief teaching narratives, calls for papers, and other material important to the professional lives of English teachers in the state of Illinois. The deadline for submitting material for the fall 2008 *Newsletter* is Friday, November 14, 2008. Please send inquiries or submissions via e-mail to Claire Coleman Coleman Lamonica at cclamon@ilstu.edu.

Announcements

IATE NEW TEACHER/ INSTRUCTOR PROGRAM

English Education methods course instructors and/or directors of English education programs who would like to get their students involved in key professional organizations will be happy to know that IATE offers a “New Teacher/Instructor Program” to encourage preservice teachers to join the Illinois Association of Teachers of English.

All you need to do is send an e-mail to Martha Frieberg in the IATE office at mrfrieb@ilstu.edu. Tell Martha how many students you have in your methods class(es), and she will send you a box of materials for each student. Kits include:

- IATE membership forms (preservice and first-year teachers may join for free)
- A recent issue of the *Illinois English Bulletin*
- The *IATE Newsletter*

- The IATE brochure, “What IATE Can Do for You”
- Information about the organization from the Web site
- A free IATE tote bag

These materials will introduce students to the many benefits of IATE membership, and they will receive something they can use right now that shows their pride in being a member of the Illinois Association of Teachers of English.

TEACHER-RESEARCHERS: APPLY FOR AN IATE PAUL JACOBS RESEARCH AWARD

The IATE Research Committee is currently accepting applications for Paul Jacobs Research Awards. Members of IATE considering any form of research in English language, literature, writing, speaking, or teaching are encouraged to apply. The research may be part of a candidate’s work on a

master's thesis or doctoral dissertation, or the project may be unrelated to any work connected to one's graduate studies. The Research Committee will consider proposals from teachers and school administrators, as well as from full-time students seeking advanced degrees. Professionals who have thought about conducting a research project in the past but who have hesitated because of lack of funding may find in the Paul Jacobs Award the financial backing necessary to complete their work. The Research Committee can grant an award for a maximum of \$500.

It is surprisingly easy to apply for an award. Here is how to do it:

1. Write a brief proposal that includes the following:
 - a. A cover letter: Let us know who you are and announce the fact that you are applying for a Paul Jacobs Research Award. Also provide your address (U.S. mail and e-mail) and phone number.
 - b. A brief description of your project: Identify a central research question or focus, and describe a method for conducting the research. The reviewers will need to see at least a distinct and substantive research question.
 - c. A timeline: Project the timeline for completing the research, or at least the portion that will be funded by the Paul Jacobs Award.
 - d. A budget: Identify how much money you would need and how it would be used. Here are some examples of appropriate costs: duplicating instructional materials, paying raters to score papers, or paying fees for data processing. Here are some questionable expenses: covering travel costs, purchasing instructional materials that a school normally funds, or paying incentives to participants in the study. The research grant is modest and should be used to support the essential costs of a study.
 - e. A status report: Let us know what you have done so far. Perhaps you have done some initial reading and can supply a brief bibliography.
2. Mail the proposal to IATE Research Committee, Campus Box 4240, Department of English, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790-4240.

Applications for awards to be reviewed at the fall Executive Committee meeting must arrive at IATE headquarters at Illinois State University no later than October 1, 2008. The members of the IATE Research Committee anticipate that recipients of the Paul Jacobs Award will be able to share their completed research at an IATE Fall Conference or through publication in the *Illinois English Bulletin*.

IATE OFFERS SCHOLARSHIP FOR MINORITY TEACHER EDUCATION

College juniors and seniors of color who are currently enrolled in teacher education programs and majoring in English, English Education, or Elementary Education with a specialty in language arts and who plan to teach in Illinois are invited to apply for an IATE Scholarship for Minority Teacher Education. Applications for the 2008 scholarship should be mailed to Janice Neuleib, IATE Executive Secretary, Campus Box 4240, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790-4240 **before September 15, 2008**. The specific goals, procedures, and criteria are as follows:

GOALS

The Illinois Association of Teachers of English is committed to recruiting minority* language arts teachers for both humanitarian and practical purposes. To meet that commitment, IATE reserves \$1,000 each year for one scholarship as designated by the Minority Scholarship Committee, a subcommittee of the Minority Affairs Committee.

PROCEDURES

The Minority Scholarship Committee will issue a call for applications to the chairs of public, recognized language arts teacher education programs in Illinois colleges and universities in the spring. A follow-up call will be issued in August.

After applications are received, the Minority Scholarship Committee will judge the applications, issue an invitation to the winner to attend the fall conference (October 2008), at which the award will be given, and assist the winner in making arrangements to attend the conference. Whenever possible, the winner will be escorted by an IATE member.

In addition to the cash award, winners will receive a complimentary one-year membership to IATE, free registration for the 2008 conference, luncheon and banquet

tickets, and paid lodging and mileage (if an escort cannot be secured).

CRITERIA

1. The candidate must be a member of a minority* group.
2. The candidate must be duly enrolled in a four-year or upper-division, public, recognized teacher-education program in an Illinois college or university.
3. The candidate must have declared a major in English, English education, or elementary education with a specialty in language arts (junior or senior status), and plan to teach in Illinois.
4. The candidate must have demonstrated potential for academic success.
5. The candidate cannot be an individual already on full scholarship, and some degree of need for the scholarship must exist.
6. The faculty member who recommends a student for one of the awards must submit these items in one envelope:
 - a. A sample of the candidate's writing done for a class in the past year (instructor comments included).
 - b. A candidate essay on this topic: "What piece of literature by a person of color would you especially like to teach? Explain why you chose this particular piece and how you would go about teaching it."
 - c. A sealed recommendation that addresses items 1–5 above in some detail.
 - d. A cover sheet with the full name, home address, and phone number of both the candidate and the recommender.

*As in other IATE matters, "minority" here is defined as nonwhite minority, a person of color.

**ILLINOIS HOME
TO THREE NEW SITES OF
THE NATIONAL WRITING PROJECT**

Teachers in Illinois will soon have increased access to high-quality professional development programming through three new National Writing Project sites at Eastern Illinois University, Southern Illinois University–Edwardsville, and the University of Illinois–Urbana-Champaign.

As noted on the National Writing Project Web site, "The National Writing Project (NWP) is a professional development network that serves teachers of writing at all grade levels, primary through university, and in all subjects. The mission of the NWP is to improve student achievement by improving the teaching of writing and improving learning in the nation's schools."

To learn more about the opportunities available to Illinois teachers through the state's newest sites, contact the site directors listed below:

Eastern Illinois Writing Project

Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, Illinois
Director: Robin Murray

Piasa Bluffs Writing Project

Southern Illinois University–Edwardsville
Edwardsville, Illinois
Director: Ralph Córdova

University of Illinois Writing Project

University of Illinois–Urbana-Champaign
Urbana, Illinois
Director: Gail Hawisher

SAVE THE DATE FOR CITE 2008

Conference of Illinois Teachers of English (CITE)
Friday, April 11, 2008
Bone Student Center
Illinois State University

To register online, go to <http://www.exu.ilstu.edu/conferences> and click on "Register for a Conference."

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

**Illinois Association of Teachers of English
Conference 2008**

**101 Conferences:
Take a Classic and Make It Current**

October 17 and 18, 2008
Marriott Hotel, Oak Brook, Illinois

Wikis, blogs, text messages, and social networking sites are invading our students' literary spaces. How are we adapting our instructional practices to incorporate the changes our students see as part of everyday life? How can we make classic literature a current concern for our students? How can we address the writing styles our students use daily and help students create a unique voice in their academic writing? As an organization, we have just passed our century mark, and now we are faced with a significant challenge: How do we honor tradition as we move forward to a new era? The IATE 2008 fall conference invites program proposals that address any and all issues related to the teaching of English/language arts, but special consideration will be given to proposals addressing the ways in which classroom teachers adapt teaching practices to reach students who are living in a fast-paced, technologically advanced world.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION

Proposal submitted by: _____

Home Address: _____

City & Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

School Name and Address: _____

_____ School Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Are there others presenting with you?

Name: _____ School: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____ School: _____

Address: _____



Can you name a colleague or two who might serve as chair or recorder for your session if accepted?

Name: _____ School: _____

Address: _____

Name: _____ School: _____

Address: _____

Are you an IATE member? Yes No (IATE District: _____)

Have you presented at an IATE convention before? Yes No

Please check the type of equipment you will need:

TV/VCR internet connection

screen overhead

other (please specify): _____

Please note: LCD projectors cannot be provided, as laptops and projectors vary. If your presentation requires this equipment, please be prepared to bring it to the conference. Thank you for understanding this issue.

This proposal is for a 50-minute session 90-minute workshop

The intended audience is

elementary middle school high school general

Presentation title: _____

Type or print a fifty-word description of your presentation. Your description will be printed in the program booklet.

NOTE: All conference participants, including presenters, are required to register and pay for their conference attendance. As a not-for-profit organization, IATE relies on this support from its members to be able to host this annual event.

Proposals should be returned by **March 28, 2008** to:
Deborah Will, Program Chair
IATE Fall Convention
Zion-Benton Township High School
3901 West 21st Street
Zion, IL 60099

The NCTE Institute for 21st Century Literacies

July 20–23, 2008

Indianapolis, IN



Photo credit: Michael Vaughn Photography

Save the date! Plan to attend an exciting and engaging institute.

- Discover what 21st century literacies can mean for schools, teachers, and learners in every community—*it's more than technology!*
- Create a plan for incorporating 21st century teaching, assessment, and professional development practices in all aspects of your work.
- Exchange ideas with some of the leading teachers, authors, administrators, and policy leaders who are shaping 21st century literacy practices.
- Participate in break-out sessions for literacy educators and leaders at each academic level, elementary through college/university.
- Extend your learning and growth for a full year after the Institute by using your free license for the NCTE's PD Program, Pathways to Advance 21st Century Literacies.

NCTE National Council of
Teachers of English

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For more information, and to register
for the Institute, visit <http://www.ncte.org>
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