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University of Washington — Seattle Awarded 2019-2020 CCCC Writing Program Certificate of Excellence

Urbana, IL – November 1, 2019 – University of Washington — Seattle, Expository Writing Program has won a 2019-2020 CCCC Writing Program Certificate of Excellence. The Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC) is a constituent organization within the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE). The University of Washington’s program is the only recipient of this award for 2019-2020.

Established in 2004, this award honors up to 20 writing programs a year. To be eligible for this award, programs must be able to: demonstrate that the program imaginatively addresses the needs and opportunities of its students, instructors, institution, and locale; offer exemplary ongoing professional development for faculty of all ranks, including adjunct/contingent faculty; treat contingent faculty respectfully, humanely, and professionally; use the best current practices in the field; show that the program administrator (chair, director, coordinator, etc.) has academic credentials in writing; use effective, ongoing assessment; use effective placement procedures; create appropriate class sizes; and model diversity and/or serve diverse communities.

This year’s selection committee was impressed by the University of Washington — Seattle Expository Writing Program’s expansive and outward-facing vision of writing, and the variety of course experiences and partnerships. They were particularly struck by the thoughtful integration of service-learning in community-based writing courses and partnerships sustained by the UW in the High School Program. The committee also found most impressive the Expository Writing Program’s sensitivity to translanguaging, home languages, and a variety of modes of writing and composing: on-line, podcasts, storytelling, and other forms of reflective practice. The portfolio allows for ongoing, process-oriented feedback. They admired the program’s attentiveness to the needs of diverse learners, including its support for multilingual writers, and its integration of anti-racism into professional development opportunities. The committee also appreciated the discussion of ongoing assessment, and the rich evidence provided, which included documentation of student outcomes. This was varied and extensive, including evidence from teacher evaluations, independent student surveys, and responses from community partners.

The University of Washington’s program will be announced as a recipient of the CCCC Writing Program Certificate of Excellence on March 27, during the 2020 CCCC Annual Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

For more information about the CCCC Writing Program Certificate of Excellence, including past winners, see <https://cccc.ncte.org/cccc/awards/writingprogramcert>

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The Conference on College Composition and Communication, with more than 4,500 members and subscribers, supports and promotes the teaching and study of composition, rhetoric, and communication skills at the college level, both in undergraduate and graduate programs. College Composition and Communication is the group's journal. For more information, visit <http://www.ncte.org/cccc>.

The National Council of Teachers of English, with 25,000 individual and institutional members worldwide, is dedicated to improving the teaching and learning of English and the language arts at all levels of education. For more information, visit <http://www.ncte.org>.