

Master's Degree Consortium of Writing Studies Specialists Call for Program Representation

Consortium Mission Statement

Master's degree programs (those either fully or partially focused on composition and rhetoric) that are independent of Ph.D. programs serve a variety of needs for local student populations, needs that are often distinct from MFA programs and Master's programs linked to PhD programs. The goals of the Master's Degree Consortium of Writing Studies Specialists are defined primarily by the needs and demands of those of us working in Master's-granting, non-PhD departments. The Consortium serves as a clearinghouse and advocacy network to strengthen our programs, promote the value of the Master's degree, foster effective articulation between Master's-only programs and PhD programs in writing studies, and help undergraduate advisors direct students to MA programs. The Consortium meets annually at CCCC, and its website is intended to sustain the mission.

Listing your Program at the Consortium Website

Our goal is to be as inclusive as possible without distorting the mission or constraining the potential value of the Consortium to our core group. There are "Writing Studies Specialists" in diverse kinds of Master's programs—professional and technical writing, English education, and even non-MFA creative writing—and so our larger interests would not be served well by too fine a filter. At the outset, however, the founding members of the Consortium have agreed on the following criteria for programs to be listed at the website. A listed Master's program must

- Be the only or highest ranking degree in its offering department
- Include a minimum of three courses—required and/or are offered regularly—that are generally understood to be grounded in the scholarly field/s of composition and/or rhetoric

Information Required for Listing

To be listed at the Consortium website, you must provide the following:

- The full names of the program, department, and university offering the program—exactly as you expect them to be listed;
- A URL that will link directly to the program's main page
- The name and email address of a program representative who is willing to be contacted by anyone who might find the program's listing (this may or may not be the person submitting the listing).
- A statement of no more than fifty words describing the program (which may be taken from the program's website or authored specifically for this purpose)

Please note that by submitting the requested information it is assumed that you have whatever local permission is necessary to do so and the approval of any individual identified as a program contact. The Consortium webmaster will routinely check listings for dead links. Requests for updates will be sent to the individual identified as the program contact. Lack of response to such requests will result in the deletion of a program's entry.

Submission

Please submit the information necessary for your listing only directly to the Consortium's webmaster, Zac Brenner, at zbrenner@depaul.edu. Any questions about the Consortium or the Submission requirements may be sent to the Consortium Chair, Peter Vandenberg, at pvandenberg@depaul.edu.