

THE WRITING CENTER

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS RIO GRANDE VALLEY PRESENTS:

# MIGRATION

THE 2018 NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PEER TUTORING IN WRITING  
SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, TEXAS // NOVEMBER 1-4, 2018

## CALL *for* PROPOSALS

Who gets to travel, for recreation, hobbies, personal fulfillment, intellectual growth, or profit? And who has to travel, to make a living, or to escape war, other violence, poor living conditions, shortages, and environmental degradation? In the most extreme cases, genocide, ethnic cleansing, and human trafficking may all include people being forcibly moved from one place to another.

Meanwhile, unless we are directly cultivating them to feed ourselves, the non-human species that inhabit our planet are, if not extinguished altogether, being forced to occupy smaller and smaller portions of it. This bodes especially ill for those species who need to make regular seasonal, transnational migrations.

The theme of "migration," in all senses, including the movement of populations both human and non-human, voluntary or involuntary, and with an eye to environmental sustainability, invites peer tutors and scholars alike to not only consider their own experiences and materialities of writing, but to explore the reciprocal effects of writers, objects, and spaces.

Additionally, considering our border location and students' self-identification as multilingual, multimodal,

and transnational learners, a complex perspective to writing tutoring can organically help us to think about how students write in multiple genres, how to effectively respond to their writing as they negotiate diverse contexts, and how teachers and tutors can collaborate with students to reconcile various translanguaging rhetorical situations.

Possible inquiries for this conference include, but are not limited to:

- What are the borders - national, linguistic, economic, etc. - that shape, inform, and inhibit the work of writing centers?
- How do the material spaces of writing centers impact student writing?
- What can writing centers learn from students identifying with groups and language practices traditionally marginalized by the academy?
- What are the considerations of bodies and movement on writing and tutoring work?
- What are other questions you're asking or are interested in?

We will accept up to two proposals per individual, as long as at least one of those proposals involves other presenters. The guidelines for proposals are as follows:

**Individual Presentations** // a 15-20-minute presentation that will be combined into a conference panel by program chairs.

**Panel Presentations** // 3-4 presentations of 15-20 minutes organized around one particular issue, question, or theme.

**Roundtables** // 15-20 minutes of introductory remarks to framing a question or issue; presenters then facilitate discussion among attendees.

**Poster Presentations** // organized as a research fair, presenters offer a visual representation of their research to discuss informally with attendees.

**Workshops** // a 75-minute interactive session in which organizers facilitate engagement among participants to explore an issue, question, or theme.

**Something else** // concurrent sessions will be 75 minutes long; come up with something else that you can do in that time--present, perform, model, interact, etc.--and pitch your idea.



Proposals will be accepted until April 30, 2018

Conference website and submission information forthcoming January 2018.

In the meantime:

Contact Conference Chair Randall Monty at [randall.monty@utrgv.edu](mailto:randall.monty@utrgv.edu) or the organizing committee at [rgvwc17@gmail.com](mailto:rgvwc17@gmail.com) with any questions. We look forward to seeing you at NCPTW 2018 in the Rio Grande Valley!

