

DISCOVER...

...what more than 250 teachers from seventy different school districts have already discovered.

MISSOURI WRITING PROJECTS NETWORK

THE LITERACY ACADEMY

A series of professional development opportunities.

WHAT IS THE LITERACY ACADEMY?

Sponsored by the *Missouri Writing Projects Network* (MWPN), The Literacy Academy is a one-week summer workshop with four or more follow-up meetings during the school year for K-12 Missouri teachers. This unique professional development opportunity strives to help every teacher develop expertise in teaching writing. Teacher Consultants confer with schools to schedule courses based on school and staff needs. Possible focus areas include:

Writing to Learn: How can we use written language to aid thinking and learning?

Writing Environments: What needs to be in place for a classroom to produce good writing?

Missouri Standards: What activities will help teachers and students address the Missouri Standards and Grade Level Expectations?

Writing Across Subjects: How can content-area teachers (e.g., arts, social and physical sciences) use writing to think, learn, and communicate?

Freewriting and Beyond: What happens when students write informally every day? How can this be turned into more formal pieces?

Response to Literature: How can reading and writing be integrated?

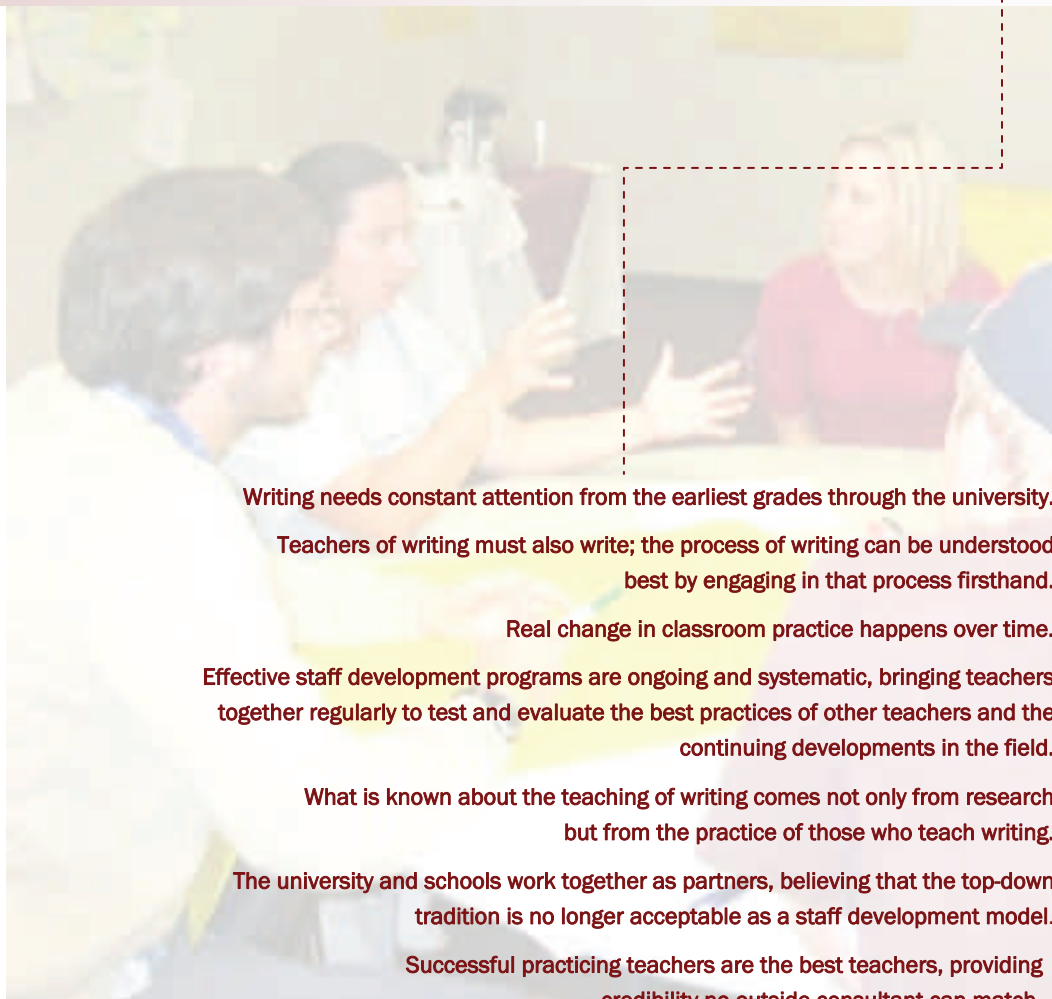
Teachers as Writers and Researchers: What can we discover in our own experiences with writing and learning?

“*The National Writing Project is the largest and longest standing Teacher Development Program in U.S. History.*”

Inverness Study, 2007

The *Missouri Writing Projects Network* is a consortium of the five National Writing Project (NWP) Sites housed in universities around Missouri. Closely following the National Writing Project Professional Development model that all teachers are agents of change in their classrooms and that teachers are the best teachers of teachers, the MWPN's Literacy Academy follows the basic assumptions about writing and learning:

Missouri Writing Projects Network



Writing needs constant attention from the earliest grades through the university.

Teachers of writing must also write; the process of writing can be understood best by engaging in that process firsthand.

Real change in classroom practice happens over time.

Effective staff development programs are ongoing and systematic, bringing teachers together regularly to test and evaluate the best practices of other teachers and the continuing developments in the field.

What is known about the teaching of writing comes not only from research but from the practice of those who teach writing.

The university and schools work together as partners, believing that the top-down tradition is no longer acceptable as a staff development model.

Successful practicing teachers are the best teachers, providing credibility no outside consultant can match.

The National Writing Project promotes no single "right" approach to teaching writing.

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National Writing Project
basic assumption

MISSOURI WRITING PROJECTS NETWORK

- ◇ Missouri Writing Project
University of Missouri
- ◇ Gateway Writing Project
University of Missouri-St. Louis
- ◇ Greater Kansas City Writing Project
University of Missouri-Kansas City
- ◇ Ozarks Writing Project
Missouri State University, Springfield
- ◇ Prairie Lands Writing Project
Missouri Western University, St. Joseph

MISSOURI WRITING PROJECTS NETWORK

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Started in 1974, the National Writing Project's mission is to improve the teaching of writing and improve learning in the nation's schools. Through its professional development model, the National Writing Project recognizes the primary importance of teacher knowledge, expertise, and leadership.

Originally developed as a three-year professional development program through the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and their Regional Professional Development Centers, the Literacy Academy is now available for participation by all school districts in the State of Missouri. The Missouri Writing Projects Network closely follows the NWP model of professional development.

The logo for the Missouri Writing Projects Network (MWPN) features the letters "MWPN" in a large, bold, serif font. Above the letters is a thick, dark horizontal bar. The letters are white and set against a dark background.The website URL is displayed in white text within a dark red oval. The text is arranged in two lines: the first line is the full URL "http://www.missouriwestern.edu/" and the second line is the acronym "mwpn/".