

Call for Proposals

Inkshed 28: Work-in-Progress, Work-in-Conference University of Toronto, May 29 & 30, 2012

Inkshed's goal is to provide an alternative to the conventional academic conference format, encouraging innovative, interactive, and generally unconventional sessions. The title for Inkshed 28, CASLL's first full-scale, free-standing conference since 2008, alludes to both Inkshed's nature as a *working conference* and its focus on *work in progress*. It's a conference devoted to asking questions as much as (or even more than) presenting answers, as well as one that tries to maximize opportunities for conversation and the exchange of ideas.

With that in mind, we invite proposals that address any of the following themes:

- New ideas and approaches in writing studies and writing instruction:
 - Creative writing, learning through creativity
 - Collaborative writing – how it works, how to teach it
 - Rethinking writing as process and writing as product
- Writing in the disciplines, writing across the curriculum
- Current issues, problems, and practices in English language learning
- Reciprocal learning: teachers learning from students, students learning from peers
- Stories and histories: the evolution, present condition and future prospects of writing instruction and writing centres in Canada
- The philosophies, politics, and ethics of teaching writing in Canada

We will happily consider proposals that go beyond these themes. If you're engaged in the study of language and learning in Canada, in theoretical, pedagogical, and/or institutional terms, come to Inkshed and bring your questions, explore your puzzles, share your findings, float your theories!

Proposals for presentations of all kinds are welcome:

- Discussions of pre-read texts, especially works-in-progress
- Roundtables, panels, other forms of group presentation (including sessions involving student participation)
- Workshops, demonstrations, exercises in collaborative teaching and writing
- Standard "talking head" papers (they're not forbidden!)
- Performance art, performance scholarship
- ...and presentations in other forms that are new and innovative—whatever you can think of, we'd like to hear about it.

Proposals should generally be for 20-minute sessions, with some flexibility: if you want to propose a session that will need 40, 60, or 90 minutes, let us know why and we'll consider this.

We here at U of T have an ulterior motive for organizing this conference—we want to dedicate it to our colleague Margaret Procter, a veteran Inkshedder, to mark her impending retirement. Because Margaret has devoted much of her career to nurturing U of T's fourteen writing centres, we particularly want to invite proposals relating to the evolution, present condition, and future prospects of writing centres in Canadian universities.

Proposal length: maximum 500 words (proposals for multi-presenter sessions can be longer, to allow descriptions of the session as a whole and the contributions of individual presenters)

Deadline: Friday January 27th

Email to wb.macdonald@utoronto.ca