

Issue Preview

Tracy Bridgeford

University of Nebraska at Omaha

Karla Saari Kitalong

Michigan Technological University

Bill Williamson

Saginaw Valley State University

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *Programmatic Perspectives*. We're excited to present this new journal to our colleagues in the CPTSC and larger technical communication community. We see this journal as a place to share our scholarship and engage in the conversations that have resonated at CPTSC's annual meetings for more than 30 years.

Leading this first issue, James Zappen and Cheryl Geisler explain an exciting interdisciplinary initiative undertaken at Rensselaer to explore how what they call *deep collaboration* both shapes and is shaped by engaged humans, novel social processes, and digital communication technologies.

Following that discussion, Bruce Maylath and Jeffrey T. Grabill, the 13th and 14th presidents respectively, provide a retrospective of the CPTSC organization. Following the lead of Tom Pearsall and Tom Warren in their 1994 *Journal of Technical Writing and Communication* article, Grabill and Maylath write a sequel in which they measure recent accomplishments of the organization against the purpose statements from Article 1 of the CPTSC constitution.

Switching modes somewhat, Robert Johnson reflects on his experiences in the field, framing his work as a meditation. Drawing on Heidegger's distinction between meditative and calculative thinking, Johnson poses questions designed to help technical communication programs fit both with local departmental and institutional contexts as well as to the larger global academic landscapes.

The first issue of each volume will include the annual meeting's keynote from the previous year. In this first issue, we publish Dale Sullivan's keynote from the 2007 meeting in Greenville, North Carolina. Issue 2 of this year will include Karen Schnakenberg's keynote from the 2008 meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The editors also welcome editorials that expound on a particular issue or problem. In this first editorial, Bill Williamson traces the journal's genesis.

When appropriate, the journal will include narrative pieces in memory of members who have passed away. We include in this issue memorials for Kenneth Rainey and Teresa Kynell Hunt, written by their friends and colleagues. These poignant stories about our treasured colleagues remind us how much we truly miss not only their contributions to the discipline but also their faces, their voices, their laughter.

With an online journal, we don't have to wait until the next issue comes out to read what our colleagues think about the articles published here. To this purpose, each article in the journal will include a link to a blog space where readers can continue the conversation by posting comments, beginning discussions, or linking to related content. To post comments on the *Programmatic Perspectives* blog, you will need to subscribe to the blog. When you click on the "comment" link, you'll be directed to log in or register.

We hope you enjoy this issue and invite you to take the time to engage the authors and the community.