**June Writing Retreat Summary**

On June 27, 2019 16 Writing Program faculty members and one Office Manager headed to Golden, CO for an all-day writing retreat. Held in the American Mountaineering Center from 8:30a-4:00p, everyone worked on individual writing projects. Following is a list of the projects:

* A book proposal for a collection of essays on nonfiction and teaching writing that I’m editing with Laura Julier
* Talked with the DU Help Desk b/c my whole DU account was hacked; wrote goals for the day and week; cleaned up my emails (finally); course prep for the week; teaching proposal for interterm; 100 word snapshots of my 12 participants (from a research study I did last year) for my co-researchers -- felt super productive, thanks, Doug! :-)
* Wrote 1500 words of my novel.
* Started by journaling to get myself energized. Finished annotating a series of articles in preparation for my RSA proposal. Then, worked on re-drafting my FSEM materials, with a very brief side quest editing my new game’s rulebook.
* I wrote 3.5 teaching observation letters, a task most mind-numbing even as it is beneficial to me and the colleagues for whom they are for.
* First did some planning for when to do and finish several writing projects this summer; then spent time fleshing out an argument that may mean I am writing two articles and not the one I thought I was. Thanks, Doug--most productive day I’ve had lately!
* I drafted some language for an RSA proposal and worked on a grant application.
* I created an outline for an IWCA grant and also followed Juli’s lead by planning out projects for the summer. Thank you, Doug!!
* I commented on 2.5 chapter revisions for the edited collection Richard, Matthew S. S. Johnson and I are doing on games and ethics.
* I wrote a draft of my annual report.
* Complete version of my RSA proposal, wrote to two people I’m hoping will visit my FSEM in the fall, and spoke with Juli about some people who may speak in FSEM as well.
* Sifted through survey data from transfer student research, applied opening/closing exit survey data to 15-page transfer student cohort proposal for Jennifer Karas to approve. Also started a budget for the proposal and language for a new grant for longitudinal transfer student study. Started to brainstorm RSA proposal. It was a very productive day. I would love to do more retreats like this : )
* First, I came up with a new plan for an article that I haven’t had much luck placing, seeking a less confrontational way in which to urge that it’s worth changing a great deal of how we frame the work of Writing so that we can make the Students Rights to Their Own Language statement more of an action plan than a scholarly exercise. Then I spent most of the time revising a very old article arguing for a stronger emphasis on Ann Berthoff’s central concept of forming imagination in writing pedagogy. I spent a decent stretch converting old MLA 5 (I said it was old) into MLA 8. Then I rode the bus and light rail home, mourning the lot of anyone stuck in I-25 traffic.
* Finished up and sent off all the materials from a two-month community-engaged writing-capacity-building project I just did with two groups of 1133 students and the Department of Health Promotion developing strategies for the use of inoculation messaging (a set of resistance-to-persuasion tactics that help you increase the strength of a desirable pre-existing attitude held by an audience and protect it from future attacks) in mental health promotion and wellness campaigns. Also, planned out a couple versions of an article for Prompt, tinkered with a couple RSA proposal ideas (inoculation and cognitive rhetoric/international community rhetorics and speaking-on-behalf), and tried to understand what I’m betting is some really good advice from Keith about writing to academic audiences. This was really, really great--thanks for setting this up, Doug!
* Worked on research for my upcoming presentation at ISHR New Orleans. The paper will look at the rhetoric of walking in early modern times, seeking to connect issues of urbanization, gentrification, nostalgia, etc. that we see now to this, particularly how texts about walking memorialized and ritualized spaces as they constructed a narrative of time/space. What I got done more specifically was to read through a major source, Alexandra Walsham’s Reformation of the Landscape, which ties changes in politics/religion to common spaces. Thanks Doug, hope we do more of this in the future as well!
* Got a jump start on my ISHR talk on Burke, Hawhee, and university archives, specifically failed university master plans. Great chance to dive into the work of the summer!
* I wrote to my representatives and the White House about the border camp crisis, finished scoring my last few portfolios, worked on an outline for my RSA proposal, and started doing more lit review work for that project.