



(De)Center: Testing Assumptions about Peer Tutoring and Writing Centers

Salt Lake Community College, Westminster College, and the Rocky Mountain Writing Centers Association are pleased to host a joint conference of National Conference on Peer Tutoring in Writing (NCPTW) and the Rocky Mountain Peer Tutoring Conference (RMPTC) for fall of 2015 on November 5-8.

Call for Proposals

The theme of the 2015 National Conference on Peer Tutoring in Writing (NCPTW) is (De)Center: Testing Assumptions about Peer Tutoring and Writing Centers. Throughout its history, peer tutoring has often operated on a set of sometimes untested assumptions, such as that peer-to-peer tutoring is an effective way of learning, that peers can collaborate in non-hierarchical relationships, that a writer's role in the tutoring session is different than the tutor's, and that best methodologies are known and easily practiced. As the assumed divide between the classroom, writing center and community shifts, peer tutors are challenged to find a place for themselves within dynamic rhetorical situations. By (de)centering traditional notions of peer tutoring, we can re-imagine the idea of a center as a place and a praxis. Attendees are invited to contribute to the disciplinary discussion. Possible topics include but are not limited to

- Projects or programs that reexamine writing center theory and praxis
- Empirical studies that analyze or test assumptions about peer tutoring and collaborative learning
- Histories and ethnographies that examine the myths or lore of writing centers
- Future directions for peer tutoring and institutional configurations for writing centers

- The impact of different rhetorical spaces—classroom, center, and community—on writing processes, assumptions, and values

Presentations may take the following formats:

- Individual Presentation: An individually submitted 15-20 minute paper that will be combined into a panel by the program chairs
- Panel Presentation: Three to four 15-20 minute presentations assembled by the presenters on a particular theme or question
- Round Table: Fifteen minutes of introductory comments by the presenters and then a discussion among attendees
- Poster Presentation: A research-fair style presentation in which the presenter(s) create a visual argument and informally discuss their research with attendees.
- Post-conference Workshop Session: An interactive session of 75 minutes in which leaders will guide participants through the investigation of a new area of knowledge. These workshops will be held on Sunday morning.

Proposals can be made online at <http://ncptw.info/index.php>. Select “Call For Proposals.”

Proposal Deadline: May 1.

