

November 4, 2016

Maria Timberlake, Assistant Professor
Foundations & Social Advocacy Department
Cornish Hall, Room 1227

Dear Dr. Timberlake,

Thank you for participating in SUNY Cortland's Faculty Development Center and Research and Sponsored Programs Office *Sustaining Yourself as a Writer – Classroom, Scholarship & Grants* professional development program. As a participant in this learning community, you have been introduced to strategies that help incorporate writing into teaching, research and service. Your willingness to participate among a cohort of 24 faculty colleagues throughout all three Schools of SUNY Cortland indicates that you have already developed a habit of writing among peers for a long-term, successful writer.

This professional development writing series aligns well with the College's goal of enhancing the life of faculty and connecting them with campus leaders who are exemplary teachers and renowned scholars. Each of the nine presenters has made writing a part of her/his routine by focusing on what is central to sustaining a writing life: habits, colleagues, and audiences, including students. Their system of writing incorporates daily routines, uses instruction, and engages peers and mentors in feedback. Moreover, connection with others offers inspiration for further productivity and the gift of truth through honest feedback.

As participants you joined writing groups, learned curriculum design strategies for engaging your classes in conducting needs analysis to facilitate research and grant writing, and engaged in planning strategies to blend instruction and readiness for potential use in grant applications. You were then introduced to the varied opportunities of study abroad and global partnerships to consider hosting or serving as visiting scholars. Here, the importance of cross culture learning emphasized developing ideas and infusing multicultural perspectives to expand research and scholarship through support of SUNY Cortland's international resources.

The final two workshops provided participants with a wonderful way to collaborate on improving writing through peer review. The Quality Circle Review process, developed by alumnus David Bauer '66, has proven to have a 56% success rate for SUNY Cortland faculty applying his technique where support from faculty colleagues helps to improve proposal narratives. The final workshop on academic publishing provided an overview of how publishing is different in electronic mediums, and if left unchecked, can potentially impact scholarly careers.

Such unifying power of presenters and participants has made this UUP/Jt. Labor Management Campus Grant funded series different from other isolated professional development programs. Instead, this six-part workshop and their combination of presenters has offered a systematic way for you to contribute to scholarship and model an approach for enhancing publications and contributions to your discipline. As conveners of this series, we personally want to thank you for your commitment to Scholarly Writing at Cortland!

Sincerely,



Michael Kniffin, Ph.D.
Director Emeritus, FDC



Amy Henderson-Harr
Assistant Vice President



Thomas Frank, Ph.D.
Associate Director

pc: A. Lachance
J. Kim
E. Bitterbaum
M. Prus

Encl: Sustaining Yourself as a Writer Brochure and Workshop Descriptions