

RIWP E-mail Newsletter

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"Teachers teaching teachers"



Presenters' Collaborative Network

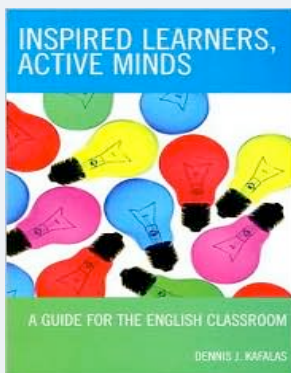
The Presenters' Collaborative Network (PCN) will have its first meeting on October 4, 2008 at 9:00 AM in Forman A. Come experience the continuing support of exemplary teachers, share your best practices, develop your leadership skills and be part of an active group of presenters.

Save the Date

MARCH 8, 2008 – Annual Spring Conference Donovan Dining Center

This year's Annual Spring Conference will feature Georgia Heard as keynote speaker. **Georgia Heard** is an internationally known writer, keynote speaker, and educational consultant. She has given workshops on writing throughout the United States as well as in Sweden, Canada, and Southeast Asia and has brought her love of writing to classrooms throughout the United States.

Ms. Heard is the author of several books on teaching poetry and writing including her most recent title, *The Revision Toolbox: Teaching Techniques That Work* (Heinemann, 2002). The popular *Awakening the Heart: Exploring Poetry in Elementary and Middle School* (Heinemann, 1998) is an inspirational and practical book for educators on how to engender a love of poetry among students. *Writing Towards Home: Tales and Lessons to Find Your Way* (Heinemann, 1995) and *For the Good of the Earth and Sun: Teaching Poetry* (Heinemann, 1987) are other favorites.



RIWP Fellow Dennis Kafalas Publishes Book

Dennis Kafalas, principal of Ponagansett High School, recently published a book for educators entitled *Inspired Learners, Active Minds: A Guide for the English Classroom*. The book is a step-by-step guide and year-long teaching plan that has easy-to-use best practice strategies for secondary English teachers.

RI Writing Project

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RIWP Gets Recognition from Senator Reed

This summer RIWP Fellows in the Summer Institutes wrote to Senator Jack Reed thanking him for his support. The letters paid off as the Senator responded. Below is an excerpt from his response:

“You may be pleased to learn that on July 8, 2008, the Senate Appropriations Committee, on which I serve, approved the FY09 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill. This legislation includes \$23.5 million for the National Writing Project. As you may know, the President's FY09 budget request eliminates federal funding for this important program.”

“Additionally, as a member of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee, I have introduced several bills this session of Congress to increase the literacy skills of students. These bills would provide educators with comprehensive, high-quality mentoring, support, and professional development; enhance the expertise of school library media specialists; and authorize a pediatric literacy grant program that provides low-income parents with age-appropriate reading tips and a children’s book at every pediatric check-up.”

Contact information

Please feel free to contact us by email at riwp@ric.edu or by phone at 456-8668 if you have questions about any of our programs or general questions about the Writing Project. The program assistant, Jill Usenia, is in the office Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 2:30-6:30. Information about all of our programs is available on our website at www.ric.edu/riwp. We do our best to keep the information on the website up to date, so please check it often.

