

Editorial

With this issue the *WPA* assumes a new look, a change in design and type size we think makes the journal more readable. Although the type, the margins, the spacing, and the logo change, the editorial policy remains the same. Ken Bruffee's vision of the *WPA*'s purpose still guides editorial policy and outlines the kinds of articles we publish.

Our current editorial policy echoes the words Bruffee wrote in his Fall 1980

... In general *WPA* does not publish the types of material our kindred journals (*CCC*, *College English*, and the *CFA Forum*) publish. For example, although teaching composition is certainly relevant to what WPAs do, *WPA* is less likely to publish articles on how to teach composition than articles on how to deal with composition teachers; less likely to publish articles on how to put a curriculum to good use in the classroom than articles on how to get that curriculum put to good use in many classrooms.

More specifically, the *WPA* publishes articles that address issues confronting WPAs across the country. Rather than publishing an article on the successes and failures of a specific writing program, we publish articles that extrapolate the underlying administrative principles or the philosophical model that informs a specific program. Rather than emphasizing a particular program in New York, the *WPA* underscores the global qualities of that program and its implications for WPAs in North Carolina, Texas, California, and Utah.

If what we do as WPAs matters to the growth and development of our programs, then what we write about as administrators speaks to the profession at large. If not, we have in the crush of daily detail lost our direction. We have transformed ourselves from decision-makers into caretakers. And in the process, we have trivialized a complex, intellectual task into a simplistic, mechanistic one. As WPAs we focus our attention on the process of writing. And with the knowledge that writing program administration is always in process comes the realization that we must seek help from other WPAs in similar situations. To that end, *WPA* is a public forum that welcomes articles separating "administrivia" from administration, articles that research, speculate or reflect on the philosophical, economic, and political realities of writing program administration.

The articles in this issue of the *WPA* reflect the continuing editorial policy of the journal. Each author moves beyond specific program concerns and comments on the global principles underlying that program. As a result, the authors speak to each of us.