Strategic Plan
Writing Across the Curriculum
Updated June 2004

The strategic plan for Writing Across the Curriculum is grounded in our ongoing goals:

**Goal 1:** To promote the use of writing in all classes through interdisciplinary faculty forums, class lectures, and consultation on writing in the disciplines.

**Goal 2:** To offer easily accessible peer tutoring that helps Loyola students improve the quality of their writing.

**Goal 3:** To maintain and operate computer centers and classrooms consistent with up-to-date writing and research technologies.

**Goal 4:** To publicize effectively the services we offer to on- and off-campus students.

**Goal 5:** To reward and nurture outstanding writing as an essential feature of educational excellence at Loyola.

Our short-term (one-year) objectives to achieve these goals are as follows:

**Goal 1:** To promote the use of writing in all classes through interdisciplinary faculty forums, class lectures, and consultation on writing in the disciplines.

**Objective 1:** Help PIES faculty design writing assignments and revise syllabi to incorporate these assignments in a way that promotes learning/critical thinking in their freshman courses.

*Action Steps and Timeline:* WAC Director and Assistant Director meet with individual faculty to review syllabi and assignments and offer consultation. Summer and Fall 2004.

**Objective 2:** Incorporate lessons from year one of the WAC / Psychology department partnership in a writing-to-learn program for freshman psychology majors.

*Action Steps and Timeline:* WAC Director and Assistant Director meet with Dr. E. Hammer and L. Lewis of Psychology to finalize curricular plans. Summer 2004.

**Objective 3:** Work with the SACS Reaccreditation Team on university-wide assessment of seniors’ writing skills to determine whether writing should be assigned and taught in more classes across the curriculum.

*Action Steps and Timeline:* WAC Director, English Chair,
Freshman English Director, and Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness decide on evaluation rubric, sample size, and assessment implementation date during fall 2004; develop component of the QEP for improving writing during spring and summer 2005.

Objective 4: Work with the appropriate office (A&S Dean’s Office or Provost’s Office) to collect data on which courses include writing assignments and instruction in the College and/or the university.

Action Steps and Timeline: TBA, depending on decisions made in Provost’s and/or Dean’s office.

Goal 2: To offer easily accessible peer tutoring that helps Loyola students improve the quality of their writing.

   Objective 1: Review assessment plan to ensure that WAC tutoring is helping students improve their writing.


   Objective 2: Link assessment more closely to program planning.

   Action Steps and Timeline: a) Analyze data from assessment instruments. Spring 2005. b) Use results to revise WAC Five-Year Plan (if necessary). Fall 2005

   Objective 3: To continue to work with City College to ensure that ESL tutoring is available for all non-native writers at Loyola.

   Action Steps and Timeline: a) Assess demand for and effectiveness of ESL tutoring using assessment instruments implemented in Fall 2004. b) Use results to guide planning for ESL support. Fall 2005

Goal 3: To maintain and operate computer centers and classrooms consistent with up-to-date writing and research technologies.

   Objective 1: Supervise upgrade of WAC writing center equipment.

   Action Steps and Timeline: WAC Lab Manager work with Information Technology staff to plan and execute upgrade. Summer 2004.
Objective 2: Test upgraded equipment to ensure proper functioning of hardware and software.

Action Steps and Timeline: WAC Lab Manager work with Info Technology staff to test and de-bug new equipment.
August 2004.

Goal 4: To publicize effectively the services we offer to on- and off-campus students.

Objective: To continue publicizing our services through campus publications, classroom visits, distribution of our newsletter, and use of the WAC website.

Goal 5: To reward and nurture outstanding writing as an essential feature of educational excellence at Loyola.

Objective: To continue supporting the WAC Writing Fellows Program.

Our longer-range objectives (two to ten years) in support of these goals are as follows:

Goal 1: To promote the use of writing in all classes through interdisciplinary faculty forums, class lectures, and consultation on writing in the disciplines.

Objective 1: To work with appropriate faculty and administrators to implement the parts of the university QEP that involve increasing writing in courses throughout the curriculum. (This objective will take further shape after assessment of senior’s writing and development of plans to improve writing instruction across the curriculum).

Objective 2: To help A&S faculty designing first-year pilot programs/seminars incorporate writing instruction and support into their courses.

Objective 3: To participate in review of Loyola’s Common Curriculum, if such a review occurs, to assess where writing is being taught and to help integrate writing into courses where it is not being taught.

Objective 4: To develop and acquire funding for a plan to increase the number and quality of WAC writing tutors to provide support for expanded writing instruction.
Objective 5: To help the colleges develop writing-in-the-disciplines courses and assessment strategies for writing within the majors.

Goal 2: To offer easily accessible peer tutoring that helps Loyola students improve the quality of their writing.
   Objective 1: Continue to link planning for staffing, budget, and tutor training to assessment results.

   Objective 2: Based on ongoing analysis of assessment mechanisms and data, revise and refine assessment mechanisms.

   Objective 3: To secure increased funding for WAC tutors, so that we may select and pay Loyola’s “best and brightest” to offer tutorial help to their peers.

Goal 3: To maintain and operate computer centers and classrooms consistent with up-to-date writing and research technologies.
   Objective 1: Continue relationship with Information Technology to upgrade our computer facilities every three years.

   Objective 2: Ensure that WAC staff and tutors receive training on new hardware and software applications as they evolve.

Goal 4: To publicize effectively the services we offer to on- and off-campus students.
   Objective 1: To work with new faculty each year on incorporating writing and WAC tutorial support into their courses. By doing so, we will raise students’ awareness of our services as well.

   Objective 2: To make greater use of Loyola’s website to promote special programs and services on a daily, weekly, and monthly basis.

Goal 5: To reward and nurture outstanding writing as an essential feature of educational excellence at Loyola.

   Objective 1: Continue to support the WAC Writing Fellows Program.

   Objective 2: To work with departments to establish WAC Writing Awards for the best writing in that department each year.