INSTITUTIONAL ETHNOGRAPHY AS WRITING STUDIES PRACTICE





Edited by Michelle LaFrance and Melissa Nicolas

INSTITUTIONAL ETHNOGRAPHY AS WRITING STUDIES PRACTICE

PERSPECTIVES ON WRITING

Series Editors: Rich Rice, Heather MacNeill Falconer, and J. Michael Rifenburg Consulting Editor: Susan H. McLeod

The Perspectives on Writing series addresses writing studies in a broad sense. Consistent with the wide ranging approaches characteristic of teaching and scholarship in writing across the curriculum, the series presents works that take divergent perspectives on working as a writer, teaching writing, administering writing programs, and studying writing in its various forms.

The WAC Clearinghouse and University Press of Colorado are collaborating so that these books will be widely available through free digital distribution and low-cost print editions. The publishers and the series editors are committed to the principle that knowledge should freely circulate and have embraced the use of technology to support open access to scholarly work.

Recent Books in the Series

- Phoebe Jackson and Christopher Weaver (Eds.), *Rethinking Peer Review: Criti*cal Reflections on a Pedagogical Practice (2023)
- Megan J. Kelly, Heather M. Falconer, Caleb L. González, and Jill Dahlman (Eds.), *Adapting the Past to Reimagine Possible Futures: Celebrating and Critiquing WAC at 50* (2023)
- William J. Macauley, Jr. et al. (Eds.), *Threshold Conscripts: Rhetoric and Compo*sition Teaching Assistantships (2023)
- Jennifer Grouling, Adapting VALUEs: Tracing the Life of a Rubric through Institutional Ethnography (2022)
- Chris M. Anson and Pamela Flash (Eds.), Writing-Enriched Curricula: Models of Faculty-Driven and Departmental Transformation (2021)
- Asao B. Inoue, Above the Well: An Antiracist Argument From a Boy of Color (2021)
- Alexandria L. Lockett, Iris D. Ruiz, James Chase Sanchez, and Christopher Carter (Eds.), *Race, Rhetoric, and Research Methods* (2021)
- Kristopher M. Lotier, Postprocess Postmortem (2021)
- Ryan J. Dippre and Talinn Phillips (Eds.), *Approaches to Lifespan Writing Research: Generating an Actionable Coherence* (2020)
- Lesley Erin Bartlett, Sandra L. Tarabochia, Andrea R. Olinger, and Margaret J. Marshall (Eds.), *Diverse Approaches to Teaching, Learning, and Writing Across the Curriculum: IWAC at 25* (2020)
- Hannah J. Rule, Situating Writing Processes (2019)
- Asao B. Inoue, Labor-Based Grading Contracts: Building Equity and Inclusion in the Compassionate Writing Classroom (2019)

INSTITUTIONAL ETHNOGRAPHY AS WRITING STUDIES PRACTICE

Edited by Michelle LaFrance and Melissa Nicolas

The WAC Clearinghouse wac.colostate.edu Fort Collins, Colorado

University Press of Colorado upcolorado.com Denver, Colorado The WAC Clearinghouse, Fort Collins, Colorado 80523

University Press of Colorado, Denver, Colorado 80202

© 2023 by Michelle LaFrance and Melissa Nicolas. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International license.

ISBN 978-1-64215-202-9 (PDF) | 978-1-64215-203-6 (ePub) | 978-1-64642-572-3 (pbk.)

DOI 10.37514/PER-B.2023.2029

Produced in the United States of America

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names LaFrance, Michelle, editor. Nicolas, Melissa, editor.

Title Institutional ethnography as writing studies practice edited by Michelle LaFrance and Melissa Nicolas.

Description Fort Collins, Colorado The WAC Clearinghouse, [2023] Series Perspectives on writing Includes bibliographical references.

Identifiers LCCN 2023038647 (print) LCCN 2023038648 (ebook) ISBN 9781646425723 (paperback) ISBN 9781642152029 (adobe pdf) ISBN 9781642152036 (epub)

Subjects LCSH Writing centers--Social aspects--United States--Research. Report writing--Study and teaching--Social aspects--United States--Research. English teachers--United States--Attitudes--Research. Tutors and tutoring--United States--Attitudes--Research. School environment--Research--United States. Critical ethnography--United States. Educational anthropology--United States.

Classification LCC PE1404 .I477 2023 (print) LCC PE1404 (ebook) DDC 808.0663--dc23eng20231018

LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2023038647

LC ebook record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2023038648

Copyeditor: Don Donahue Designer: Mike Palmquist Cover Photo: "City Map," by YKh. Shutterstock image 12261706. Licensed. Series Editors: Rich Rice, Heather MacNeill Falconer, and J. Michael Rifenburg Consulting Editor: Susan H. McLeod

The WAC Clearinghouse supports teachers of writing across the disciplines. Hosted by Colorado State University, it brings together scholarly journals and book series as well as resources for teachers who use writing in their courses. This book is available in digital formats for free download at wac.colostate.edu.

Founded in 1965, the University Press of Colorado is a nonprofit cooperative publishing enterprise supported, in part, by Adams State University, Colorado State University, Fort Lewis College, Metropolitan State University of Denver, University of Alaska Fairbanks, University of Colorado, University of Denver, University of Northern Colorado, University of Wyoming, Utah State University, and Western Colorado University. For more information, visit upcolorado.com.

Land Acknowledgment. The Colorado State University Land Acknowledgment can be found at landacknowledgment.colostate.edu.

CONTENTS

Acknowledgmentsvii
Introduction. Inquiries into Our Work with Institutional Ethnography 3 Michelle LaFrance
Part One. On Practice, Work, and Work Practices15
Chapter 1. Practice, Work, and Further Possibilities for IE 17 Michelle LaFrance
Part Two. Dynamic Practices: Actualities of Writing Program Work
Chapter 2. (Re)viewing Faculty Observation and Evaluation Beyond the "Means Well" Paradigm
Chapter 3. "Not the Boss of Us:" A Study of Two First-Year Writing Program Boss Texts
Chapter 4. "The tension's in this room!:" Negotiation and Resistance in IE Focus Groups
Part Three. Expanding Understandings of Institutional
Coordination
Chapter 5. Writing Standpoint(s): Institution, Discourse, and Method 81 Erin Workman, Madeline Crozier, and Peter Vandenberg
Chapter 6. "Writing isn't just writing:" An Institutional Ethnography Approach to the Work of Community Writing Center Instructors 97 Elisabeth Miller
Chapter 7. From a Faculty Standpoint: Assessing with IE a Sustainable Commitment to WAC at a Minority-Serving Institution
Chapter 8. IE and Pedagogical Possibilities: A Framework for Thirdspace Explorations
Contributors 143

DEDICATION

For Dorothy E. Smith July 6, 1926 – June 3, 2022