Editor's Note
Muriel Harris
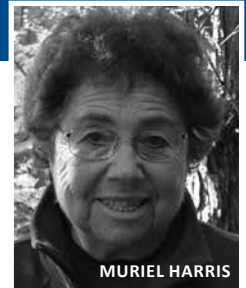
MURIEL HARRIS

This issue of *WLN* focuses on challenges that arise at different stages of writing centers' existence. When there's no writing center but faculty expect students to develop adequate writing skills, what can happen? Sarah Haas's answer was to seek out student volunteers to meet one-to-one with students. The article by Haas and her Writing Mentors emphasizes the positive outcomes for a tutoring program when the student mentors help build it and as a result, take pride in their shared ownership of it. The article also suggests how powerful narratives can be to engage readers and to use what the story offers as a springboard to other solutions. Next, Bruce Bowles, a new director in a relatively new writing center, discusses his approach to publicizing his center, a concern common for "early career directors." As Bowles notes, new directors are particularly aware of the need to increase the number of students using the center to ensure institutional support. For Bowles, in-class visits help bring students to his center.

How does an established writing center proceed when asked to take on writing assistance for a new group of students whose writing needs have not yet been identified? Heidi Nobles' response is to do a close analysis of both the types of writing these students will be doing and the students themselves—their expectations, prior knowledge, and attitudes. Nobles' article is a particularly informative model for how to conduct the research needed before developing the programs and tutor training needed to meet with these students. The Tutors' Column in this issue is by Eric James Stephens, a graduate student tutor, sharing what he learned about writing for publication in academic journals. He offers a particularly insightful list of suggestions for all prospective authors.

On page 31 you'll see Karen Johnson and Ted Roggenbuck's announcement of their new digital collection, *How We Teach Writing Tutors*, which is available under the Digital Resources tab of the *WLN: A Journal of Writing Center Scholarship* website. This book is the first Digital Edited Collection in a proposed series to be offered on the *WLN* website as an open-access publication.