

Editors' Introduction:

Many Changes at *Reflections*

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Editors

Regular *Reflections* readers will notice, among other things, a change in the journal's subtitle. We are now "A Journal of Public Rhetoric, Civic Writing, and Service Learning," having shifted from "A Journal of Writing, Service Learning and Community Literacy." Title changes – even subtitle changes – are no small things, so we begin with a note on what led us to make that decision.

For more than a decade, under the fine guidance of editors like Barbara Roswell, Nora Bacon, Steve Parks, and the many others who developed special issues, *Reflections* published articles on prison writing, community presses, digital activism, transcultural and immigrant literacies, school-community relationships, music, film, graffiti, as well as service learning and community literacy. *Reflections* has had a broad and ambitious scope for the work it publishes, and we hope to continue to underscore that tradition. At the same time, other journals have come into the field (in

particular, the *Journal of Community Literacy* and the newly developed *Undergraduate Journal of Service-Learning and Community-Based Research*) that specifically target community literacy and service learning.

We have altered our subtitle, then, to reflect the kinds of work that *Reflections* has been publishing all along as part of its original mission, but also to more clearly define the journal's ambitious vision to publish cutting edge scholarship in public rhetoric, civic writing and service learning, which we see as one of the goals of our editorship.

The articles in this, our first, issue as new editors illustrate the range of subjects we believe has become typical for *Reflections* and the broader community and public rhetoric perspectives that the new subtitle signals.

Drawing on the work of radical pedagogy scholars (and their skeptics), Paul Feigenbaum's "Traps, Tricksters, and the Long Haul," makes an argument for paying attention to both the excitement and the risks progressive teachers face when they assign projects designed "to subvert an unjust status quo while serving institutions that primarily sustain" that status quo. In "Writing in and of the City: Streetwork in Detroit," Liz Rohan takes her readers on a tour of Detroit (via Plato's *Phaedrus*, contemporary place theory, and current writing studies) through the eyes of writing students who she invites to re-see the inner city through its street art, overgrown lots, and abandoned homes and businesses. Martha Webber's "Literacy Intermediaries and the 'Voices of Women' South African National Quilt Project" takes us on a different journey, away from the classroom and into the world of community literacy projects that offer, as Webber tells us, the potential for the kinds of literacy sponsorship Deborah Brandt first wrote of.

This issue also includes an interview with Eli Goldblatt, one of the true sponsors of community literacy and service-learning whose life work has helped to guide those of us committed to change in our classrooms and in our communities. By happenstance, our interview coincides with the recent appearance of Eli's *Writing Home: A Literacy Autobiography*, a book Keith Gilyard called a "story of displacement, struggle, romance, friendship, loss, fear, resurgent optimism." We can't think of a better person to interview at a time like this.

As an added bonus to subscribers, we have included in each issue a copy of “Enlightened Self Interest,” a game that Eli Goldblatt designed to help foster discussion and understanding about non-profit boards of directors. The rules introducing the game are found in this issue, and the game cards themselves should be stuffed within the issue itself. If you’re reading in a library or your game cards are missing, please go to the Reflections website to download another copy.

We are also happy to announce a few other changes at *Reflections*:

Book Review Editor

This issue’s book review of Sid Dobrin’s *Postcomposition* by Scott Campbell will be the last one shepherded through by *Reflections* longtime book editor, Tom Deans. We thank Tom for his good work and dedication to the journal. In the meantime, we are thrilled to announce that Tobi Jacobi from Colorado State University has agreed to step into that position. If you would like to suggest a book to be reviewed, please be in touch with Tobi (Tobi.Jacobi@Colostate.edu).

Publishing Schedule

To keep on a consistent and predictable publishing schedule, we will be publishing two issues per year—coming out late spring and late fall—to correspond with the school year. So expect your next issue in the late fall.

Special Issues

We have plans underway to continue the wonderful tradition that Steve Parks began of having *Reflections* periodically run special issues. Our first special issue (planned for Fall 2012) will focus on the role of documentaries in telling people’s stories from the streets, in our communities, and across the globe.

A Cross-Institutional Collaboration

Reflections has always been a joint effort—many people coming together to make each issue possible. That spirit of collaboration is even more the case now that the journal is co-edited from three very different institutions. Of course, such a collaboration means many hands have been and will continue to be crucial to its success.

Designer

We are pleased to announce that Elizabeth Parks of Emerson College has agreed to continue on as our designer. She is responsible for the new look of *Reflections*.

Associate Editors

We also welcome four new associate editors to the staff. Wendy Strain from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi will be in charge of our social networking and website. Please visit our facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/38876412811/>. From Virginia Tech's Ph.D. program in Rhetoric and Writing, Molly Scanlon, Kathleen Kerr, and Libby Anthony served as copy-editors for this issue. We want to thank Brian Bailie from Syracuse University for his work as the previous Associate Editor and helping Wendy.

We Rely on Your Support

Finally, we make a special plea to our readers and contributors. If you haven't yet subscribed, please think about doing that. If your subscription has lapsed, we hope you will consider renewing. Also, please encourage your institution's library to subscribe to our journal. If you believe in the mission of *Reflections*, to publish important articles about composition's extracurriculum, and about public rhetoric, service learning and civic writing, please consider supporting this journal. If you can make a contribution to help the journal continue its good work, we encourage you to do that.

With the help of Steve Parks and others, we continue our relationship with New City Community Press, a nonprofit organization. Please make checks payable to Reflections/NCCP, c/o Steve Parks, The Writing Program, Syracuse University 235 HB Crouse, Syracuse, NY 13224