

## INSIGHTS

Summer vacation is not merely a time to get out of the confines of the classroom (or away from the tête-à-silent-tête with the computer screen), it is also a time to remove ourselves from the patterns that have been imposed upon us or that have simply emerged within ourselves during the year. The articles in this issue are intended to shake up and unsettle some of the usual ways we look at writing and the teaching of writing.

Leslie Woodard offers us a humorous way to mind our p's and q's in the writing workshop setting. Charlotte Pence writes passionately in support of the underdog of belles lettres—the research essay. She offers several quick and compelling strategies for taking the yawn out of the research paper and for infusing the very act of fact-finding with creativity. Johanna Keller, the founder of the first Master's program in arts criticism, encourages us to see how criticism can be as elegant and imaginative as the art it is assessing. And, Zev Levinson concludes the issue with an innovative approach to teaching Wallace Stevens's most POV-challenging poem, "Anecdote of the Jar."

—Christina Davis & Christopher Edgar

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