

**To: National Writing Project Teacher Consultants**

**From: James Gray, Director**

I am most pleased to announce a new program of support for National Writing Project Teacher Consultants.

The National Writing Project is making available up to \$100,000 in matching grants to support Teacher Consultants in their own teaching and understanding of writing and in their work with the National Writing Project as teachers of other teachers.

These grants are intended to support those projects and activities TC's believe to be important that might be difficult—if not impossible—to get started without some outside support. While I hesitate to suggest what those other projects or activities might be—the intent of these particular funds is to support ideas that come from the Teacher Consultants themselves—I can indicate some kinds of requests that are not likely to be funded: the purchase of a computer, travel and conference expenses, textbooks for the classroom, a speaker's expenses, etc. We want to support teachers' ideas!

The funding to support this pilot program will come from the National Writing Project Sponsorship Campaign and from the Andrew W. Mellon grant to the National Writing Project and, like *all* NWP grants, will require matching funds. While this program can support TC's with grants up to \$4,000 in gift and matching funds, e.g., \$2,000 in gift from the NWP and \$2,000 matching, it can also support more modest requests, e.g., proposals that would need only \$1,000 (\$500/\$500) to get underway.

Applications should be submitted by June 1 to the National Writing Project, School of Education, 5627 Tolman Hall, University of California, Berkeley, California, 94720. We will approve the top-rated applications and, at the same time, make a deliberate effort to approve strong applications from all of the various regions of the National Writing Project. The successful applicants will be notified on or about August 1, 1990.

## NWP Urban Sites Meeting Scheduled for May

The Spring 1990 meeting of the Urban Sites of the National Writing Project will take place in Chicago on Thursday night and all day Friday, May 10-11, 1990. Sponsored by the Illinois Writing Project, the Chicago Area Writing Project, and the Milwaukee Area Writing Project, this meeting will be of interest to NWP Directors and Teacher Consultants working in urban areas, large or small—and those who would like to begin. The schedule will provide plenty of exchange of valuable information, concrete work on practical problem-solving, and real Chicago fun. The agenda will include sessions at the central office of the Chicago Public Schools, comments from NWP Director Jim Gray, conversations with active Chicago Teacher Consultants, and working groups on topics such as the role of writing projects in school reform; working toward school-based change; developing minority leadership; inservice models for the urban setting; parent education and involvement to support children's writing; follow-up, communication, and networking in large districts.

To register, send a note with your name, address, and phone number to Smokey Daniels, National College of Education, 2840 Sheridan Rd., Evanston, IL 60201. Information on accommodations will be forwarded later. For further information, call Smokey Daniels, (708) 475-1100 ext. 2136; B.J. Wagner, (708) 475-1100 ext. 2577; or Steve Zemelman, (312) 341-3860.

## Connecticut Writing Project Receives Grant for Urban Seminars in Writing

The Fairfield County Foundation has awarded the Connecticut Writing Project (CWP) a grant of \$180,000 to offer writing seminars in the four urban areas of Fairfield County: Danbury, Norwalk, Bridgeport, and Stamford. Betsy Rich, Director of the Fairfield County Foundation, encouraged CWP to submit a proposal to offer seminars to teachers in urban areas. CWP did, and CWP's proposal was accepted.

Summer seminars will be held in Norwalk and Danbury in 1990 and in Stamford and Bridgeport the following summer. Twenty teachers will be selected from each of these areas for participation in the summer seminars. Through the grant, the selected teachers will be paid \$1,000 each and awarded an appropriate number of Continuing Education Units. They will spend the three-and-one-half weeks of the seminars writing and responding in writing groups, doing research, and attending workshops led by Teacher Consultants.