

*Life has taught us that love does not consist in gazing at each other  
but in looking outward together in the same direction.*

--Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, author of *The Little Prince*

Dear English Faculty,

As you probably know, many (more than 40%!) of our local high school students attend or will attend Moorpark College. Wouldn't it be great if the English faculty at both the high school and college levels could meet to discuss common issues, concerns, goals, and dreams?

We are pleased to announce our 9<sup>th</sup> annual "Transitions," an English conference led by both local high school and college faculty, to be held Saturday, March 10, 2007, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Moorpark College on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Moorpark College Library (LLR 323). Transitions is an excellent professional development opportunity, and all attendees will receive a certificate for participating, as well as Continental breakfast and lunch. At the end of the day, we will know more about each other and what we all do to improve literacy for our students.

Each year at Transitions we do something different, but every year faculty ask for more time to just talk to each other. This year, then, we will build in time for open discussion. Think about the questions you have as an English teacher that you would like to ask of your counterparts at other institutional levels. We would also like everyone to read a short article as a basis for beginning this conversation. The article, "College Writing, Academic Literacy, and the Intellectual Community: California Dreams and Cultural Oppositions" by Sheridan Blau, was published in the 2006 NCTE book, *What Is "College-Level" Writing?* You will find this article attached as a pdf file (Blau.pdf) on the Moorpark College English Department Website ([moorparkcollege.edu/English](http://moorparkcollege.edu/English)) under the link "Transitions Conference."

Please join us for a morning of sharing and learning. RSVP by March 5 by email or phone. For further questions please feel free to contact me.

Thank you, and hope to see you there!

Tracy Tennenhouse  
(805) 378-1400, x 1642  
[TTennenhouse@Vccd.edu](mailto:TTennenhouse@Vccd.edu)

## Transitions 2007 Agenda

- 8:30-9—Registration, Continental Breakfast
- 9-9:15—Introductions, Welcomes, Overview of MC English courses, SLOs and assessment process (Tracy Tennenhouse and Sydney Sims, MC English Department Chair)
- 9:15-9:30—What's New at Moorpark College—Our Writing Center! (Kathryn Adams, MC Writing Center Director)
- 9:30-9:45—What's New in High School English? (Joanne Anderson, Agoura High School)
- 10--10:45—Discussion of Sheridan Blau's article, "College Writing, Academic Literacy, and the Intellectual Community: California Dreams and Cultural Oppositions"
- 10:45-11:45—Open discussion, questions, concerns, etc.
- 12-12:45—Lunch and roundtable topic discussions using the ICAS document as a basis
- 12:45-1—Evaluations, Door Prizes, Ideas for Next year...