

## IITG Project Outcomes Form - Report Outcomes : Entry # 137

### Name of person reporting outcomes

Rachel Rigolino

### Email

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### IITG Project Title

2013-New Paltz-Rigolino-SUNY Writing

### Have you applied for, or received additional funds? (choose all that apply):

- Consider the project complete, and do not intend to seek additional support

### In order to better facilitate distribution of project findings, please rank the top three themes that best describe your project (1st choice)

Faculty Support

### In order to better facilitate distribution of project findings, please rank the top three themes that best describe your project (2nd choice)

Student Support

### In order to better facilitate distribution of project findings, please rank the top three themes that best describe your project (3rd choice)

Online and Global Learning

### What recommendations would you make to scale-up or share your project more broadly (within an educational sector, or perhaps SUNY-wide)?

At the May 2014 CIT at Cornell, the team received positive feedback about our project's objective. Faculty noted that student writing was—on the whole—weak and expressed interest in having access to resources that would help them teach students to write more clearly. These informal conversations mirrored the reaction of those faculty we worked with at SUNY New Paltz and SUNY Sullivan and confirmed for us that the Online Writing Resource Center (OWRC) is a worthwhile project.

The future of the OWRC could be as a SUNY-wide clearinghouse for lesson plans, videos, and other resources submitted by faculty, graduate students, and tutoring center staff. In order to transform the website into a truly robust platform, however, at least one (and perhaps more than one) full-time staff member (or Fellow?) would have to direct the project. Someone would have to oversee the collection of these resources and then evaluate and ready them for online viewing and accessibility.

If paying a full-time salary were impractical, SUNY might consider awarding release time to one or more full-time faculty.

Another approach would be to place the OWRC under the aegis of one or more campus Writing/Tutoring Centers. Purdue University's well-known Online Writing Lab (OWL) is overseen by their university's Writing Lab and provides a model

SUNY might follow.

**If you would like to create a community of practice within the SUNY Learning Commons, please describe "members of your community" who would be most interested in your outcomes. Please be specific (e.g., math faculty, instructional designers, student services, registrars, administrators, accreditation or assessment specialists).**

While Composition and English faculty might, initially, be most interested, instructors from across a variety of disciplines would, hopefully, also find the mission of the Online Writing Resource Center compelling.

Another important group—one that we did not have an opportunity with which to work—are tutoring/writing center staff.

While piloting the material we had developed, the project team realized that many of our resources might be more effective in one-on-one tutoring sessions than in the classroom.

Librarians are another group that would seem a good fit in terms of developing a community of practice. When evaluating pre-existing resources, we found that library websites housed quite sophisticated lessons and videos about writing across the curriculum.

Finally, instructional designers might be another group that would find the site interesting, if only to review what a handful of faculty were able to create with the assistance of faculty support staff.

**Do you intend to create an ongoing "Community of Practice" within the SUNY Learning Commons to continue work and dialog regarding this project?**

Unsure at this time

**Overall, how successful was IITG in meeting your project goals? (You may elaborate on your response in the final question if not addressed elsewhere.)**

Extremely successful

**Do you wish your current abstract to be used?**

Yes

**File One Upload and Brief Description**

May 2014 Brochure / CIT Cornell

**File One**

[IITG-CIT-Handout-May-2014.pdf](#)

**File Two Upload and Brief Description**

SUNY New Paltz Campus Article

**File Two**

[IITG-Liberal-Arts-Fall-2013-Newsletter.pdf](#)

**Project Website Address (Hyperlink 1)**

<http://sites.newpaltz.edu/owrc/>

**Any additional comments or resources you wish to share?**

The project members remain excited about the potential of developing an online clearinghouse for faculty even though building the Online Writing Resource Center from scratch wound up being more time-consuming than any of us had imagined. (We now appreciate Purdue's simple, mostly text-based approach to providing student writing resources!) It would be wonderful to think that SUNY could create a site designed for faculty, one that is perhaps more visually and technologically sophisticated than Purdue OWL and one that is a clear alternative to those created by textbook companies.

If enough resources were committed to the project, SUNY could establish the Online Writing Resource Center as the "go-to" site for not only SUNY faculty, but for university and secondary school faculty from institutions across the world.

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**Comments?**

The IITG staff offered excellent support for this project! Much thanks is due to Lisa Stephens, who answered a lot of questions (and will likely have to continue to do so until I have wrapped up everything on this grant). Also, the two CITs (2013 and 2014) that we attended were fantastic conferences. Many thanks for all the support you offered from start to finish.

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