Mind, Body, Spirit:
Teachers Making Connections
The Assembly for Expanded Perspectives on Learning

Executive Board

**OFFICERS**

*Chair*
Regina Paxton Foehr, Illinois State University

*Assistant Chair*
Jerome Bump, University of Texas, Austin

*Secretary*
Helen Walker, Messiah College

*Treasurer*
Sherry Swain, Mississippi State University

**Advisory Board**

Dolores Johnson, Marshall University, Chair

Alice G. Brand, SUNY College at Brockport

Peter Elbow, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Richard L. Graves, Auburn University, Emeritus

Elaine Hughes, Vicksburg, MS

Sondra Perl, Lehman College, CUNY

Gabriele Rico, San Jose State University

Charles Suohr, NCTE

Nancy Thompson, University of South Carolina

**Ex-Officio Voting Members**

Bruce Ardinger, Columbus State Community College

Susan Becker, Illinois Central College

Dolores Johnson, Marshall University

Jane Tompkins, Duke University

**Founding Members**

Alice G. Brand, SUNY College at Brockport

Richard L. Graves, Auburn University, Emeritus

Charles Suohr, NCTE

**JAEPL Editors**

Kristie S. Fleckenstein, University of Missouri, Kansas City

Linda T. Calendrillo, Eastern Illinois University

**AEPL Newsletter Editor**

Tom Dean, Moorhead State University

---

**JAEPL** is a nonprofit journal published yearly by the Assembly for Expanded Perspectives on Learning with support from Eastern Illinois University and University of Missouri, Kansas City. **JAEPL** gratefully acknowledges this support as well as that of its manuscript readers.

Logo Design: Ann and Kip Strasma

Printed on Recycled Paper
The Assembly for Expanded Perspectives on Learning (AEPL), an official assembly of the National Council of Teachers of English, is open to all those interested in extending the frontiers of teaching and learning beyond traditional disciplines and methodologies.

The purposes of AEPL, therefore, are to provide a common ground for theorists, researchers, and practitioners to explore ideas on the subject; to participate in programs and projects on it; to integrate these efforts with others in related disciplines; to keep abreast of activities along these lines of inquiry; and to promote scholarship on and publication of these activities.

The Journal of the Assembly for Expanded Perspectives on Learning, JAEPL, meets this need. It provides a forum to encourage research, theory, and classroom practices involving expanded concepts of language. It contributes to a sense of community in which scholars and educators from pre-school through the university exchange points of view and cutting-edge approaches to teaching and learning. JAEPL is especially interested in helping those teachers who experiment with new strategies for learning to share their practices and confirm their validity through publication in professional journals.

Topics of interest include but are not limited to: intuition, inspiration, insight, imagery, meditation, silence, archetypes, emotion, attitudes, values, spirituality, motivation, body wisdom and felt sense, and healing. Articles may be practical, research-oriented, theoretical, bibliographic, professional, and/or exploratory/personal.

Membership in AEPL is $15. Contact Bruce Ardinger, Columbus State Community College, 550 E. Spring St., Columbus, OH 43215. e-mail: bardinger@compuserve.com. Membership includes that year’s issue of JAEPL.

Send submissions, address changes, and single copy requests to Linda T. Calendrillo, Co-Editor, JAEPL, English Department, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, IL 61920-3099. e-mail: jaepl@ctr.umkc.edu

Address letters to the editor and all other editorial correspondence to Kristie S. Fleckenstein, Co-Editor, JAEPL, 12746 Flint Ln., Overland Park, KS 66213-4443. e-mail: jaepl@ctr.umkc.edu
Contents

v Editor's Message

vii Dedication to Alice Brand

Essays

Laurence E. Musgrove 1 Attitudes Toward Writing
This essay describes one teacher's approach to helping students understand the role attitude plays in contributing to or interfering with success in the writing class.

Mark McBeth 10 Body Oddities: Hypothetical (Com)positions from the Physically Extreme
Relying on the anomalous physicalities of the bearded woman, the hermaphrodite, and conjoined twins, this essay explores the links between the body and its constituent performances of composing.

Hildy Miller 25 Goddess Spirituality and Academic Knowledge-Making
Goddess-centered spirituality, an alternative way of making meaning, complements rationalism, the traditional notion of academic knowledge making.

Keith Rhodes 39 Plato, Gorgias, and Trickster: Seeking Rhetoric's Muse
From an historical perspective, rhetoric is the premier Tricksterish art. Seeing this permits us to re-evaluate Plato's role in the history of rhetoric and re-think current practices.

Judith Halden-Sullivan 52 Reflection and an Appetite for Experience: Theory to Classroom Practice
Reflection promotes an openness to thinking and an appetite for experience that must ground everyday classroom practice.

Dave Waddell 61 When a Student Ends a Wounded Silence
Students who disclose psychological trauma may derive therapeutic benefits, and writing teachers should carefully consider their roles.
## Reviews

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Editors/Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Katie Kane</strong></td>
<td>71</td>
<td><strong>Women Writing Culture</strong></td>
<td>Gary A. Olson and Elizabeth Hirsh, Eds., 1995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Women / Writing / Teaching</strong></td>
<td>Jan Zlotnik Schmidt, Ed., 1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sheryl Mylan</strong></td>
<td>74</td>
<td><strong>ARTiculating: Teaching Writing in a Visual World</strong></td>
<td>Pamela B. Childers, Eric Hobson, and Joan A. Mullin, 1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jerome Bump</strong></td>
<td>76</td>
<td><strong>Emotional Intelligence</strong></td>
<td>Daniel Goleman, 1995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Editors' Message

We live in a culture dominated by boundaries of all sorts. Personal space is precious to us, and we become uneasy when others do not honor those invisible borders, ignoring, perhaps, the ways in which those borders shift with age, class, gender, and ethnicity. We have office doors, house doors, and bedroom doors that we close and lock. Many of us demarcate a sharp separation between private life and public work, arguing, as does Michael Bèrûbé that the life lived has nothing to do with the work written. And so we exist, being careful not to overstep our “boundaries,” communicating in body language and in words the necessity of distance between me and thee, spirit and school, body and mind.

Much that we do in AEPL is designed to disrupt those boundaries, to resist the ways in which arbitrary separations lock us into damaging patterns of living, thinking, and feeling. We believe, as Gregory Bateson says, that severing mind from body will result in an epistemological error that will surely hurt us. Thus, in our workshops at professional sites, in our annual conference in the Colorado Rockies, and in our interactions throughout the year—many of which are carried on in cyberspace—we celebrate the necessary unity of mind, spirit, and body.

This issue of our first jointly edited JAEPL continues that celebration by featuring articles addressing in varied fashion our necessary unity. Laurence E. Musgrove in “Attitudes Toward Writing” focuses on ways in which teachers must attend to the importance of students’ attitudes while writing. Mark McBeth in “Body Oddities” blurs the boundaries between exposition and fiction, as well as between flesh and word, as he plumbs the ways in which differences in body encode differences in being, underlining the organizing and disruptive nature of bodies. Focusing on the needs of the spirit, Hildy Miller argues from a feminist perspective for the importance of a goddess religion for the development of women in our patriarchal culture. Keith Rhodes blurs the boundaries that separate imagination and rationality that have become solidified in Western culture. Using the Jungian archetype of the trickster, he re-reads Plato and Gorgias as philosophers-rhetoricians imbued with a subtle resistance to absolute rationality that marks the trickster. Judy Halden-Sullivan in “Reflection and an Appetite for Experience” taps the work of Hans-Georg Gadamer to argue that the synthesis of experience and reflection is essential for our composition classrooms. Finally, in “The Healing Power of Words” Dave Waddell highlights the reciprocity of language, body, and spirit, illustrating how each mutually infuses the other. Each article, separately and jointly, offers unique insight on the necessary unity of mind, spirit, and body.

We also wish to acknowledge the work of our Book Review Editor, Anne Mullin, who, after a three-year tenure in office, will be turning her efforts to new projects. We welcome Susan Blau as the incoming Book Review Editor, and eagerly anticipate the upcoming array of reviews. We also wish to welcome Jane Tompkins to the Executive Committee as ex officio member, Alice G. Brand to the Advisory Board, and Tom Dean to the editorship of the AEPL Newsletter. Judy Arnold, outgoing Newsletter editor, will be pursuing other writing projects.
Breaking with tradition, we have chosen to issue an open call for the fifth issue of *JAEPL*. Rather than focusing on a specific topic or theme, we invite submissions on any topic or approach that offers insight into AEPL interests. We also begin a new tradition in that we will be using MLA (4th edition), rather than APA, citation style.

Please visit our website at http://cctr.umkc.edu/org/jaepl and e-mail us all your comments and suggestions. We look forward to introducing new discourse and new topics to the world of cyberspace.
In the contingent realm of human affairs, Aristotle argues, the process by which we arrive at ethical decisions regarding our actions results from the balancing of logos—narrowly defined as rationality—and of pathos—appetite, desire, emotions. Much of the work in our field has concentrated on logos—on the rationality of the word separate from the necessary leavening of emotion, thereby imperiling the ethicality of our endeavors as teachers and researchers. Alice Brand—poet, teacher, scholar—has dedicated her professional life to redressing that inequity by continually seeking ways to “heat up cognition” and unite the “cognitively blind but arousing system of emotion with the subtle intellectual apparatus” (Psychology of Writing 1). Her efforts to bring a field’s erring attention back to emotion include The Psychology of Writing: The Affective Experience (1989), Therapy in Writing (1980), and the co-edited collection (with Richard L. Graves) Presence of Mind: Writing and the Domain Beyond the Cognitive (1994), as well as innumerable articles and presentations. Her efforts to keep her own attention on emotion include her work as a published poet: studies on ZONE (1989) and Court of Common Pleas (1996).

Heated by her own pathos, Alice has gone beyond these traditional venues and avenues of scholarship. With Richard L. Graves and Charles Suhor, she created the Assembly for the Expanded Perspectives on Learning—a community where like-minded teachers from a variety of disciplines could meet to discuss and exchanges views on matters that, like emotion, remain on the margins of scholarly interest and respectability. Then, she stepped down as co-chair of the assembly to serve as the first editor of the newly established journal: Journal of the Assembly for Expanded Perspectives on Learning (JAEP). Teachers needed a journal, she believed, which would provide an outlet for writing about topics and in genres devalorized in the field at large. And so, under her three-year editorship, JAEP became that journal. Those of us who published under Alice learned how powerful the combination of logos and pathos could be. Her editorial vigilance was exacting, and her gift and sincere wish for excellence inspiring.

We wish to acknowledge and honor that passion, diligence, and exactitude by dedicating this fourth issue of JAEP to Alice Glarden Brand: groundbreaker, mentor, caster of long shadows.
The Assembly for Expanded Perspectives on Learning

announces its
Fifth Annual Conference-Symposium
for Educators

Estes Park Center
Estes Park, Colorado

June 24 – 27, 1999

“FELT SENSE” IN TEACHING & LEARNING:
KNOWING WHAT WE FEEL, FEELING WHAT WE KNOW

Keynote Speaker: Sondra Perl

— OTHER SPEAKERS TO BE ANNOUNCED —

TRANSPORTATION:
Shuttle service from the Denver International Airport

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION:
Conference space is limited. To register, contact Betsy Burris
at the address below.

FOR MORE INFORMATION and WORKSHOP PROPOSAL FORMS:
Betsy Burris at (530) 345-3483 for phone or FAX or
1144 Citrus Avenue, Chico, CA 95926.