**MEMO**

To: Participant A

From: Erica Holan

Date: August 10, 2008

Subject: Feedback on your portfolio

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We thoroughly enjoyed reading and responding to your portfolio Participant A! The following are some responses to your portfolio reflection and writing pieces:

You stated in your portfolio overview that you “…truly did not realize the breadth and scope of the NWP.” It is an extremely heady, intoxicating experience, is it not? The amount of learning that takes place in the space of four weeks, or in your case, *three*(!)*,* is truly unlike any other we facilitators have experienced, and there is no doubt your Fellows feel the same. (Trust me, we’ve read the portfolios to prove it! ☺)

Although you had trouble at first deciding where to place your greatest amount of emphasis and growth among the strands, you felt that Theory and Pedagogy was your star player this time around. We agree. Although unable to compare with writing you may have done in the past, your buddy Peter Elbow has truly allowed you to project “with your freewriting voice.” We’re glad you’ve found it! It was certainly strong within your academic piece *Low Stakes Writing Leads to Confident Student Authors*. In taking a look at the responses you received on the E-Anthology regarding this piece, we weren’t the only ones cheering you on. Well done Participant A!

We commend your bravery in volunteering to be the first demo presenter. The idea of having students write their personal credos on paper via mission statement format is an empowering one. Letting them know that they, too, have an investment and a voice in their education, allows students to realize the stakes they have in their own learning. We can clearly see the connection between your demo and your academic paper, and how one (demo) spawned the other (paper).

Your author’s chair experience, in which you shared with us your creative writing pieces, was an entertaining one. Again, in more ways than one, your voice is clear. Again, we were glad to see you took advantage of the E-Anthology to gain insights other than ours and those of your Fellows. We’re also pleased to know that overall, your writing group was a transformative experience, from “teacher” to “responder”.

We’re pleased to hear that you enjoyed your Monmouth University experience, although we did miss you that last week, especially at the final celebratory party! It’s wonderful to hear that you have so much to take back to your classroom as a result of each of your “summer school” experiences.

We look forward to your continued participation in future KUWP summer institutes! Your portfolio has earned you an A for both courses. See you in October. ☺