

# THE *Current*

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## **Director of UCSB Writing Program Invited to White House**

Linda Adler-Kassner, director of the Writing Program at UC Santa Barbara, has been invited to visit the White House on Friday, October 7, to meet with officials from the U.S. Department of Education. She is one of several writing instruction specialists from across the country who will gather for the informal briefing on issues related to the teaching of writing.

"It's an honor to be invited to the White House," said Adler-Kassner. "We know that research-based writing instruction is critical for student success at the undergraduate and graduate levels, in school and afterward. The Education Department's interest in the work that the Council of Writing Program Administrators has done in partnership with the National Council of Teachers of English and the National Writing Project is an indication of the Obama administration's willingness to hear from educators on the ground."

Adler-Kassner is participating in the White House briefing in her role as the past president of the Council of Writing Program Administrators (CWPA), an organization that represents researchers and teachers interested in postsecondary writing research/teaching and program direction. Writing program administration is a research-based subfield within Adler-Kassner's discipline of Writing Studies, and focuses on theories and practices of writing program direction and pedagogy. Adler-Kassner was president of the CWPA from 2009-2011.

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