



## **I Assigned a Research Paper – What the Heck Is This?**

### **DO YOU EVER...**

- Ask yourself "what went wrong?" when you receive the latest stack of research papers from your class?
- Wonder how or when English professors are teaching students how to do research?
- Want your students to do some kind of research project for your class, but then back off because you don't know where to start?

### **THEN YOU'RE IN LUCK...**

MCC is offering a three-part workshop series to help you create or improve research paper assignments and assessment criteria. From these workshops, participants can expect to gain:

- A clear understanding of what can reasonably be expected from students, depending on their status in their English course sequence
- Great ideas for a range of research assignments that match course prereqs
- A set of strategies for developing clear research writing standards for both students and faculty that result in better student writing that is easier to grade

All workshops will be offered in Lowell (room TBD) by Jill Keller, Denise Marchionda and Ellen Nichols, MCC "Writing Coaches", as follows:

Wednesday, February 4, 1:00-2:30 pm
Wednesday, March 4, 1:00-2:30 pm
Wednesday, April 1, 1:00-2:00 pm

Compensation in the amount of \$250 will be paid to faculty who attend all three sessions, develop or revise a research assignment and assessment rubric as a result, and agree to implement and evaluate the impact of that assignment on the quality of student research writing during the Fall 2009 semester. Some individual work on research assignments and rubrics will need to take place in between workshop sessions.

If you are interested in participating in this project, please complete the brief application on the next page and return it to Phyllis Worth in the Trustees' Building, Bedford campus by Friday, Jan. 30. 8-10 participants will be selected based on date of application and divisional representation.

**APPLICATION FOR  
“I Assigned a Research Paper -- But What the Heck Is This?”  
three-session workshop**

Name:
Job Title:
Dept:
Campus:
PT: ____ FT: ____
Email:
Phone:

To help us better prepare for this workshop, please answer these questions:

In which course(s) do you currently or plan to assign the research assignment?

What is the English pre-requisite for this course?

If you currently assign them, what is the biggest problem that you face with students' research papers?

What would you like to accomplish as a result of attending this three-part workshop?