A map of the state of Mississippi is shown in the background. The map features a grid of counties, major cities, and a network of roads. US Highways are shown as red lines with their respective numbers in white circles (e.g., 61, 72, 78, 82, 84, 88, 98). Interstate Highways are shown as blue lines with their respective numbers in white circles (e.g., 20, 55, 59, 10, 49). The text is overlaid in the center of the map.

MSWCA 2017

Millsaps College

Jackson, MS

March 24-25

Community

and

Identity:

Mapping the Writing

Center

 US Highways

 Interstate Highways

0 50 KM 50 Miles

© geology.com

Friday, March 24

On your way into town:

- Visit Writing Centers around town
 - o Mississippi College Writing Center
 - Contact: Daniel White, dwhite@mc.edu
 - o Jackson State Writing Center
 - Contact: Kathi Griffin, kathi.r.griffin@jsums.edu
- Tours @ Eudora Welty House
- Mississippi Museum of Art

See our “Fun Things to Do in Jackson” list (page 19) for more site-seeing ideas!

Lunch spots we recommend:

- Two Sister’s Kitchen (Southern comfort)
- Surin (Thai)
- Sal & Mookies (Pizza & Italian)
- Green Ghost Tacos

See our “Fun Things to Do in Jackson” list (page 19) for more restaurant ideas!

MSWCA @ Millsaps

Registration: 3-6pm, Leggett Living Room

- Share a Poster about your Writing Center
- Enjoy light refreshments
- Mix & Mingle with Millsaps Writing Consultants
 - o Icebreaker games
 - o Teambuilding and writing games

Friday, March 24

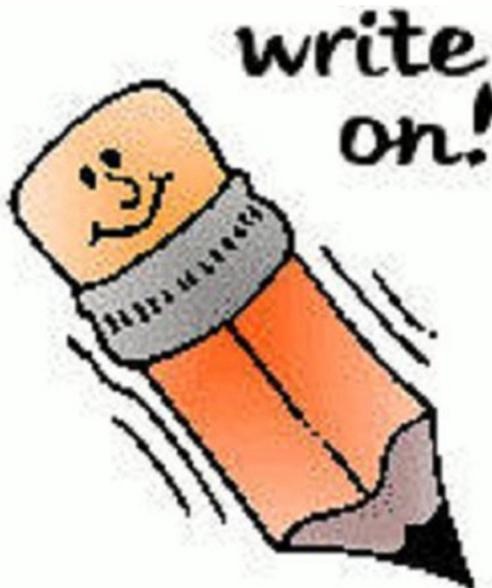
• **Ignite Session: When the Whirled Rites...**,
with *Tatiana Glushko and Kathi Griffin, Jackson State University*

o Participants will be asked to whirl for a few moments and then consider how the initial feeling of being disoriented might generate ideas: Could tutoring sessions in the writing center allow writers to experience a sort of intellectual “whirling” and, as a result, explore different ways of thinking about what they write and about the process of writing itself? Feeling dizzy already?

Dinner: On your own. May we recommend:

- Babalu (Tapas/Spanish-style small plates)
- Saltine (Southern/Seafood)
- Manship (American)
- Rooster’s (Southern Comfort)

See our “Things to Do in Jackson” list (page 19) for more restaurant ideas!



Saturday, March 25

8am-until, Murrah Hall 2nd floor – **Registration & coffee/tea service**

8:30-9am, Murrah Hall 200 – **Opening Session on Community Engaged Learning**, *Dr. Stephanie Rolph, Director of Community Engaged Learning and Assistant Professor of History, Millsaps College*

- Community Engaged Learning (CEL) is an academic program at Millsaps College that enables students to partner traditional classroom content with practical application in the community. Through mutually beneficial partnerships within the Jackson Metropolitan community, students cultivate their identity as lifelong learners and active citizens. In her remarks, Dr. Rolph will share her experiences with incorporating community engagement in her courses and offer insights about how we all—as students, teachers, and administrators—might identify ways to look beyond the walls of the classroom or the Writing Center to engage with and learn from new communities.



Saturday, March 25

9:15-10:30am, Murrah Hall 202

Session 1 Presentations

Finding Ourselves: Voice, Identity, and Transformation in the Writing Center (Individual presentations)

o **Questions as Compass: Questioning Strategies for Mismatched Student-Tutor Goals**, *Nathan Walls, Kayla Perez, Arkasia Allen, and Landon Thompson, Northwest Mississippi Community College*

• Students usually come into writing centers with goals for sessions already in mind, and tutors often realize that students need help with something else—something more pressing than the students' stated goals. Such a mismatch of goals causes problems for both students and tutors. This presentation will demonstrate how the use of leading and scaffolding questioning allows tutors to navigate students toward session goals that they are not aware of initially.

o **Gender Preference Inside the Writing Center**, *Kayla Beebe and Kelly Harder, Mississippi College*

• We are investigating the correlation between how the writer's gender and culture affects their choice of tutor when scheduling an appointment. We will collect data from Mississippi College's Writing Center's appointment scheduler, from the past year, and divide the appointments by gender of writer, their first language, and then by tutor gender. We hope that our findings will allow us to make any adjustments, gender wise, to positively reflect our writing center.

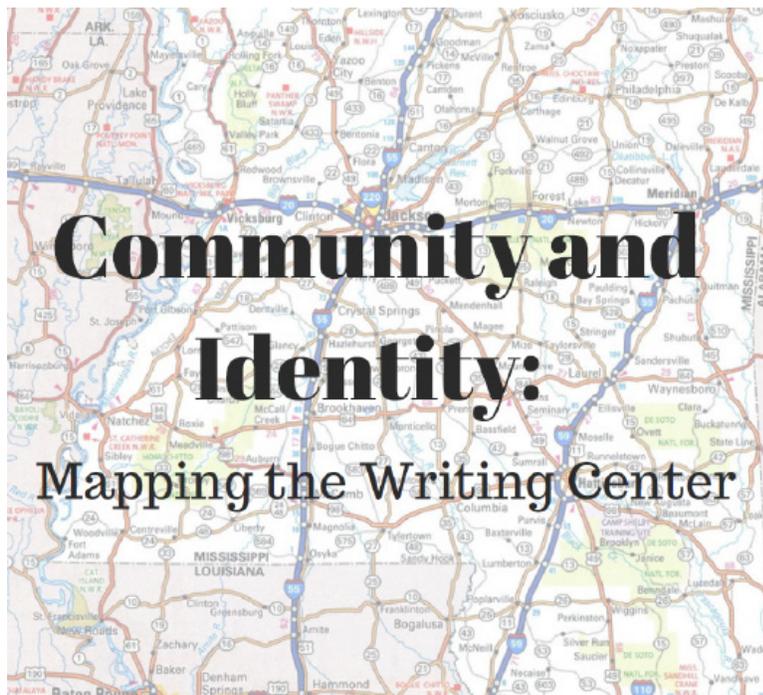
Saturday, March 25

9:15-10:30am, Murrah Hall 202

Session 1 Presentations (cont.)

o **Architecture of the Small: Parcellation, Connectivity, and Regenerative Functions in Writing Support**, *Jo Anne Fordham, University of MS Medical Center*

- Drawing on my background in science writing, I propose to discuss recent, general brain mapping concepts, treating them as metaphoric (as well as intrinsically interesting in the psychoactive process of writing) for important topics in intersectionality, especially as it pertains to student development of voice and prose control. Engaging students in identifying conflicting views they may hold, as well as in stepping back while they ‘sort’ out their restructuring of insights generated, will be discussed.



Saturday, March 25

9:15-10:30am – **Session 1 Presentations (cont.)**

For Those Who Serve: Building Community through Sharing Experience, Murrah Hall 205, with panelists *Kayleigh Few, Michelle Wait, and Jen Childs* of Mississippi State University

- o Our panel will discuss the MSU Writing Center's community outreach to our campus's veteran population through "For Those Who Serve," an annual creative arts competition. Our panel will discuss how this competition has given the military community an outlet for expression, promoted an understanding of their unique experiences, garnered scholarships, and how the competition elicits visceral responses and demonstrates the importance of writing and art to the community as a whole.

Piloting Fellows: Charting Mississippi College's Embedded Tutor Program, Murrah Hall 207, with panelists *Sarah Moore, Stephen Price, and Daniel White* of Mississippi College

- o The members of this panel include Mississippi College's Writing Center Director, a writing faculty member, and a tutor embedded in an English Composition class. We are working collaboratively to develop and pilot a Writing Fellows program. We will present the planning and implementation of our program based on a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis. We hope to provide ideas and to splicit aid in countering challenges within our program through this panel.

Saturday, March 25

10:45-11:45am, Ford Academic Complex 215

Keynote Address, Harry C. Denny

- Harry Denny is Director of the Writing Lab and Associate Professor of English at Purdue University. He received his Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Communication from Temple University and also holds an M.A. in sociology from the University of Colorado. Harry's research focuses on composition studies, writing center theory and practice, cultural studies and research methods. His research also analyzes the rhetoric of social movements and identity politics, particularly around LGBTQ issues at the intersection of race, economic class and institutional or systemic oppression. Harry's first monograph, *Facing the Center: Towards an Identity Politics of One-to-one Mentoring* (Utah State University Press), explores how sociocultural dynamics impact the everyday interaction of writing conferences. His co-authored article with Anne Ellen Geller, "Of Lady Bugs, Low Status and Loving the Job," published in *Writing Center Journal*, won the Best Article Award from the International Writing Centers Association in 2014.

12-12:45pm, Ford Academic Complex, 2nd floor lobby

Lunch

- Weather permitting, you are encouraged to take your box lunch to enjoy the scenery of Millsaps's campus in "The Bowl," a grassy area just outside this building.

Saturday, March 25

1-2:15pm, Murrah Hall 202

Session 2 Presentations

“What Did You Say?”: Cultivating Social, Cultural, and Emotional Awareness in the Writing Center (Individual presentations)

o **Guess Who’s Coming to the Center? Tutoring in the Age of the Alt-Right**, *Daniel White, Mississippi College*

• The growth of white supremacy and nationalist groups suggest an increase in controversial texts entering our centers. As writing center professionals, we must prepare ourselves to meet these writers. Using the stories of Dylann Roof, Derek Black, and the speaker, the presentation calls attendees to consider how mirroring practices might help writing centers respond to socially-unjust thinking. The presentation challenges tutors and administrators to begin dialogue on these issues, crafting responses that promote the social justice objectives of Mississippi writing centers.

o **Is There a Grammar in This Writing Center?**, *Liz Egan, Millsaps College*

• At the boundary of our mostly privileged, mostly white small liberal arts campus in Jackson, Mississippi, is a complicated and underserved neighborhood known as Midtown, where our writing consultants conduct a Community Engaged Learning project to make books with middle school students. Cautious of the “white savior” trope, our project focused on enrichment rather than learning outcomes, but our encounters with clashes in pedagogy as well as class and race raise many challenging questions.

Saturday, March 25

1-2:15pm, Murrah Hall 202

Session 2 Presentations (cont.)

o **Interpretation of Text: The Affects of Tutor Feedback in an On-line Writing Center Session**, *Matt Ansley, Mississippi College*

- The aim of this study was to measure the emotional awareness of participants in online writing center sessions, and to determine if that emotional awareness affects the tutor's or student's emotional reaction towards the session by looking at tutor feedback. Factors such as emotional awareness, the study of connotation, physiological responses to connotation, and tutor feedback were researched during this study.



Saturday, March 25

1-2:15pm – Session 2 Presentations (cont.)

Research in the Writing Center: Moving into Action, Murrah Hall 205, a roundtable with *Kathi Griffin and Tatiana Glushko of Jackson State University*

o Whether you are thinking about starting a research project or already engaged in one, please join the roundtable discussion to share challenges and strategies, experiences and concerns. Participants will have the opportunity to discuss research questions, types of evidence they may need or already be collecting, and various methodologies. Two writing center administrators who worked through the process and encountered a few surprises along the way will lead the conversation.

Writing Inside Out: An Approach to Evidence-Centered Paragraphing, Murrah Hall 207, with panelists *Murray Shugars, Sewinda Scott-Jackson, Brian Kehler, Chad Poovey, and undergraduate peer consultants of Alcorn State University*

o Our presentation focuses on teaching and tutoring students to write evidence-centered research papers. We will approach this topic from several perspectives: classroom instructor, writing center administrator, tutor trainer, and peer tutor.

Saturday, March 25

2:30-3:45pm – TutorCon and Admin Breakouts

- TutorCon, Campbell Conference Center

- o 2:30-3:45pm: A Theater of Writing: Improv and Writing Innovation with Peter Friedrich, Mellon Writing Pedagogy Fellow and Assistant Professor of Theatre, Millsaps College

- MSWCA Board Meeting, 2:30-3:45, Murrah Hall 205

- Admin Meet & Greet, 2:30-3:45, Murrah Hall 202

- o This session is unstructured and meant to serve as a great opportunity to introduce yourself to new faces and say hello to old friends.

Southerners love a good tale. They are born reciters, great memory retainers, diary keepers, letter exchangers . . . great talkers.

Eudora Welty

Saturday, March 25

4-5:15pm, Murrah Hall 202

Session 3 Presentations

Building from Our Foundations: Writing Centers Growing into New Medias and New Territories (Individual Presentations)

o **Strategies for Expanding Multimodal Composition in the Writing Center**, *Rachel Johnson, University of Mississippi*

• This presentation, based on the experiences of the presenter in obtaining a grant for technology integration, will focus on sharing practical resources for integrating multimodal composition resources into writing center operations. Topics of interest to attendees will include resources for tutor training and professional development, advice for receiving funding for technology/equipment, and strategies for implementation and marketing of multimodal resources.

o **Reaching Out to Writing Center Communities Beyond U.S. Territory**, *Lingshan Song, Mississippi College*

• While writing centers are well established in the United States, a writing center is still a new concept in many countries where English is taught as a second language, such as China. This research aims to explore resources and support writing center professionals from the U.S. can offer to Chinese higher education administrators who are new to writing center administration but interested in establishing writing centers in China; in the meantime, this project hopes to explore a partnership model that results in a win-win situation for future writing centers to be established in non-English speaking countries and U.S writing centers reaching out to writing center communities beyond U.S. territory.

Saturday, March 25

4-5:15pm, Murrah Hall 202

Session 3 Presentations (cont.)

o **The Digital Frontier: Digital Badging in the Community College Writing Center**, *William Jones, Danielle Childers, and consultants, Northwest Mississippi Community College*

• Continuity for writing center tutors is not guaranteed when transferring from community colleges to universities. This presentation will profile how NWCC is using digital badging in conjunction with a new writing center tutor training course to provide tutors credentials beyond and in addition to course credit.

Community and Constructive Friction, Murrah Hall 207, a roundtable with *Stuart Columbia, Amira Ali, Tyisha Henderson, Miranda Merritt, Hunter Moore, Cecilia Belk, Ashlinn Webster, and Yasmin Ali of University of Mississippi-DeSoto*

o Writing centers that are perceived as ideal are often envisioned as spaces devoid of tension. Educational theorist and practitioner, Etienne Wenger, asserts that community within writing centers can be realized when disagreements and challenges are accepted as constructive discourse. This session will address the idea of how community within the writing center promotes critical thinking and learning while also exploring how the writing center can welcome healthy friction as a valid form of participation.

Saturday, March 25

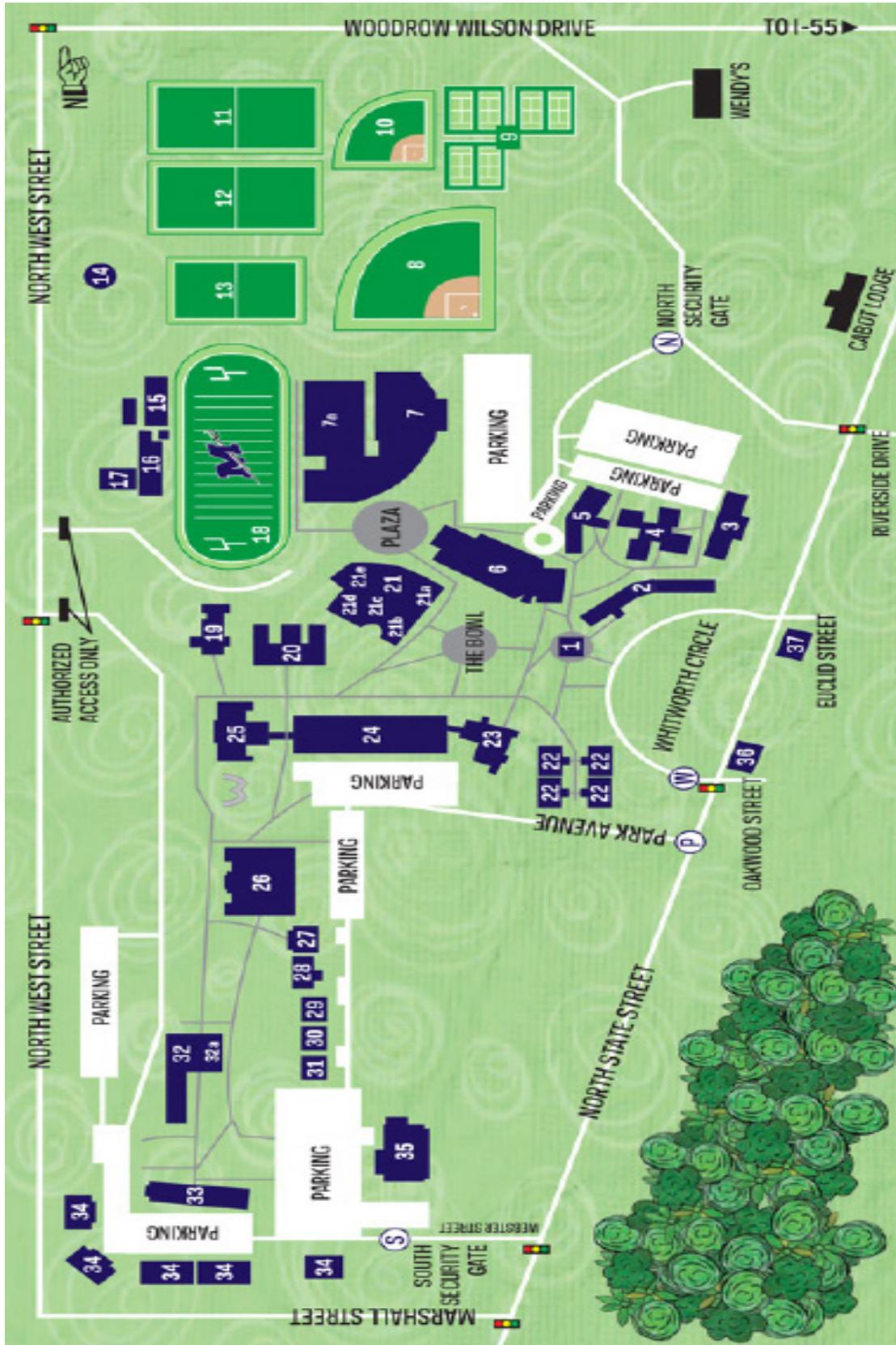
5:30-6pm – Closing Session on Digital Dialogue: Writing as Identity, Murrah Hall 200, *Dr. Julie Rust, Assistant Professor of Education, Millsaps College*

- We know that writing practices are identity practices, but what happens when our representations of self rub up against each other? Dr. Rust closes our conference by inviting writing centers to consider new ways of dialoguing about our writing identities through the example of The Digital Dialogue Project, a collaboration with K-12 teachers/students in the metro-Jackson area that seeks to trigger dialogue across difference through the sharing of multimodal compositions across context.

See “Fun Things to Do in Jackson” for dinner and entertainment suggestions!



Campus Map



Campus Map Legend

1. Millsaps Bell Tower
2. Campbell Administrative Center
3. Franklin Residence Hall
4. Bacot Residence Hall
5. Sanderson Residence Hall
6. Olin Hall of Science
7. Hall Activities Center
- 7a. Hangar Dome
8. Baseball Field
9. Tennis Courts
10. Softball Field
11. Intramural Field
12. Practice Field
13. Football/Soccer Practice Field
14. James Observatory
15. Field House
16. Maintenance
17. Grounds
18. Football Field
19. English House
20. Sullivan-Harrell Hall

21. Campbell College Center

21a. Leggett Living Room

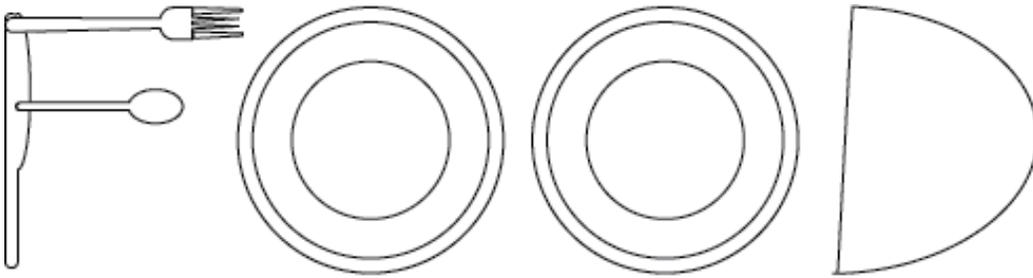
- 21b. Lindsey Suite—3rd Floor
- 21c. Post Office—1st Floor
- 21d. Bookstore—1st Floor
- 21e. Cafeteria—2nd Floor
22. Sorority Lodges
23. Millsaps-Wilson Library

24. Ford Academic Complex

25. Murrah Hall

26. Christian Center
27. John Stone Hall (Millsaps Writing Center)
28. Reuben's
29. John Hall
30. Susanna Hall
31. Charles Hall
32. New South Residence Hall
- 32a. Campus Security
33. Ezelle Residence Hall
34. Fraternity Houses
35. Goodman Residence Hall
36. Buie House
37. Weems House

Fun Things to Do in Jackson



- Babalu
- Rooster's
- Aladdin
- Keifer's
- Subway
- Jimmy John's
- Picante's
- Wing Stop
- Brent's
- Two Sister's Kitchen

- Sal and Mookie's
- Pig and Pint
- El Charro
- Char
- The Manship
- Local 463
- Walker's
- Whole Foods
- Lou's
- Saltine



FUN

- Mississippi Museum of Art
- Mississippi Museum of Natural Science
- Nature trails at LeFleur's Bluff Park
- Shopping in Fondren, at The Outlets, or The Renaissance
- Tinseltown Movie Theater
- Jackson Escape Room
- Tour Cathead Distillery or Lucky Town Brewing Co.
- Eudora Welty House
- \$10 Tai Chi class at Salsa Mississippi Studio (Friday, 5:30)

Happy Hours

- Picante's (4-9pm)
- Apothecary (5-7pm)
- Babalu (M-F, 4-6pm)
- Saltine (M-F, 4-7pm)
- Manship (M-F, 3-6pm)

