Name: Jennifer Falcon

Student ID: 80431835

Program: Rhetoric and Writing Studies

Email: jfalcon3@ utep.edu

Title of Presentation: “The Digital Self-Reflection: Metacognitive Practices through Multimodality.”

Conference: South Central Modern Language Association

Dates: 10/30 – 11/3

Location: Nashville, TN

**Final Conference Report**

From October 31 – November 3rd I, Jennifer Falcon, attended the 72nd SCMLA conference. During which time I attended panels on Technical Writing, Rhetoric, and Technology in the Classroom.

The Technical Writing panel proved to be incredibly interesting. One presentation focused on the rhetorical choices of space, and how the space we inhabit influences our writing. This paper presentation brought about great discussion about the rhetoric of space, and how spaces both impact our writing and can dictate how operate within a given space. This, I felt, could help my approach to how I move within the classroom, and think about how the setup of UGLC may or may not influence the work my students do there. During the question and answer session a serious discussion took place regarding how we as instructors operate within a given space, and what possible messages that may send to our students.

On November 2nd and 3rd I attended the Technology in the Classroom panel, which covered topics ranging from commenting on student papers via video, the role of control (command) F in Word, and multimodal assignments, such as students composing memes and explaining their rhetorical choices. The November 2nd panel centered on using technology outside of the class management systems, such as Blackboard and Moodle, in language classes. This wasn’t helpful for my teaching purposes, but the grammar exercises available can be useful for students that need to improve in that area.

The paper presentation on the benefits of control/command F sparked my interest in teaching the function keys to students. Often it is taken for granted that students are aware of their uses as shortcuts and/or benefits of using them in the reading and research. The paper mostly focused on using control/command F to search for key words in articles before students read them to assist in finding sources for their research.

I presented on November 3rd for roughly 20 minutes, with a brief question and answer session at the conclusion of my presentation. The feedback was incredibly positive, and during the question and answer portion of my presentation I was able to discuss in more detail some of the benefits and drawbacks to the self-reflective multimodal assignment. I was able to address how the assignment can help students improve their study skills, and create an ongoing conversation about their rhetorical choices with their classmates and instructor. I also had an opportunity to discuss tumblr, the microblogging multimedia social network site, and the affordances of using it in the classroom for other assignments outside of the multimodal reflection I teach. This discussion of the overall benefits of

Overall, it was a wonderful conference to attend, and allowed for me to sit in on presentations that address the continued benefits of the incorporation of technology, aspects of technical writing that I have not yet addressed in my own work, and instructor feedback. Aside from the feedback received from the audience, and panel members the other great benefit in attending this conference was the opportunity to return next year as the Secretary of the Technology Panel. After serving as the Secretary in 2016 I will be promoted to the Chair of the Technology Panel in 2017. This allows me the opportunity to assist in selecting papers for the conferences for the next two years, and continue to work with SCMLA members interested in promoting new and innovative technology use for pedagogical purposes.

**Final Travel Costs**

My final travel costs are below. I received additional funding from the College of Liberal Arts shortly before the conference. That amount is currently in the process of being added to my account, and will cover most of the cost of airfare.

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| Item | Cost | Notes | Total Requested |
| Flight | $522.63 | Depart October 30th: El Paso, TX to Nashville, TN  Return November 3rd: Nashville, TN to El Paso, TX | $522.63 |
| Hotel | $117/night +tax | Holiday Inn Nashville | $577.84 |
| Conference Registration | $70 | SCMLA Student Registration | $70.00 |
| Per Diem | $59/day | Not requesting this amount. | $0.00 |
| Total |  |  | $ 1170.47 |