# *JTW's* Open Review Process

In the last issue of the *Journal of Teaching Writing* I announced a decision made by our Editorial Board to "demystify" our process of reviewing articles. This move "out of the musty basements where dark deeds flourish and . . . into the world of daylight and fresh air"* represents our desire to increase knowledge about the way articles are responded to and selected for *JTW*. We hope a wide range of authors across disciplines and levels of experience will feel comfortable submitting their work for response, just as we hope these articles continue to reach an increasingly varied audience of readers.

*JTW's* open review process, outlined briefly, is as follows:

- Incoming articles are assigned two reviewers; these reviewers are sometimes chosen based on their expertise in the topic, but more often articles are distributed evenly across the editorial board. All articles go to reviewers anonymously.
- Each author receives two reviews, often signed by the reviewers, and a letter to explain the evaluation of his or her article.
- Although some articles are accepted upon first submission, most reviewers suggest revision before publication. Reviewers may recommend acceptance, acceptance with revision, revision before further consideration, or rejection.
- When a revised piece is submitted, the same reviewers read that version and recommend accept, accept with revision, or reject. No author is asked to revise more than once unless we expect to publish the piece.

This issue of *JTW* opens with the review letters that responded to one of our featured articles. I hope this model of *JTW's* open review process encourages you to submit work for response. Consider it an invitation: let us hear from you!

Barbara Cambridge

*Andrew Greeley's comment, from *Writing Sociology,* was featured in the May 1994 issue of *Composition Chronicle* in an article by Bill McCleary, which relates a discussion at the Conference on College Composition and Communication calling for signed reviews of professional journal submissions.