

1977

A CULTURAL MOMENT IN COMPOSITION

BRENT HENZE, JACK SELZER, AND WENDY SHARER

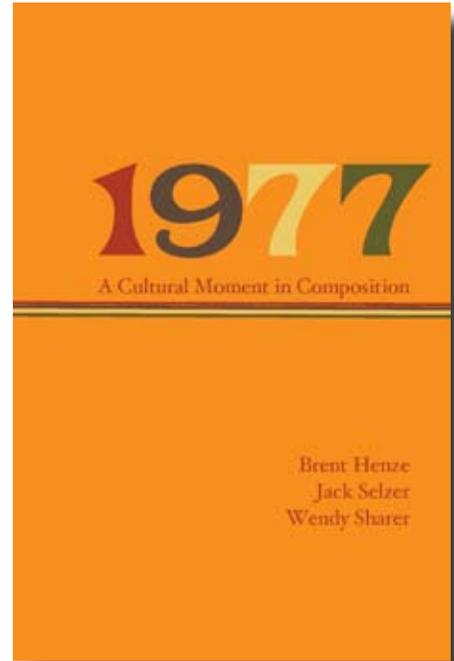
With Brian Lehew, Shannon Pennefeather, and Martin Schleuse

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DESCRIPTION

A product of extensive archival research and numerous interviews, *1977: A Cultural Moment In Composition* examines the local, state, and national forces (economic, political, cultural, and academic) that fostered the development of the first-year composition program at one representative site, Penn State University, in the late 1970s. Sidebar commentaries from Stephen A. Bernhardt, Hugh Burns, Sharon Crowley, Lester Faigley, Janice Lauer, Elaine Maimon, Jasper Neel, and John Warnock—many of whom were just beginning in the field in 1977—enrich and complicate the story. In the emerging tradition of program-based histories, such as Barbara L'Eplattenier and Lisa Mastrangelo's *Historical Studies of Writing Program Administration* (Parlor Press, 2005), *1977: A Cultural Moment in Composition* offers a counterpoint to broader institutional histories of composition by investigating how local phenomena can be explained by larger movements and how larger movements can be understood through local contexts.

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