We are pleased to invite applications for the James F. Slevin Assignment Sequence Prize. This prize of $500 will be awarded to the teacher submitting the best sequence of writing assignments for a First-Year Writing Seminar (second place winners, if any, will receive $150).

Assignment sequences in a writing course are built around a series of essay topics. These sequences probably represent work assigned during a portion of the course rather than all of the essay assignments distributed over an entire semester. Submissions should include a rationale and a description of your plans for eliciting and responding to student drafts and revisions, as well as a description of how you prepare students for each essay assignment, for example by engaging them in preparatory writing exercises, including informal writing designed to help students understand the material on which they subsequently write formal essays. Reflections on what worked well, and why, and what you would change another time, are welcome.

The winner will be announced to the Cornell community. Winning entries will be deposited in the Knight Institute’s web accessible archive and made available to other instructors under a creative commons attribution, non-commercial license. (See creativecommons.org for more information about cc licensing.)

To facilitate future searching of the Institute’s archive, we ask that you provide a brief descriptive abstract (about 75 words) of your document, and a short list of appropriate keywords that might not appear in the text. Examples might include terms like “rhetorical situation,” “style,” “citation,” etc. Any borrowings such as quotations from course texts or handbooks must be cited properly in the document itself.

Submissions are due in 101 McGraw Hall by Tuesday, May 19. No exceptions can be made.