Faculty Learning Community:
Writing a Journal Article in 12 Weeks
Spring 2014

Want to make progress on your writing projects?

Want to make time to devote specifically to writing?

Join us for a new FLC!
Using Wendy Laura Belcher’s *Writing Your Journal Article in 12 Weeks: A Guide to Academic Publishing Success*, members of a Faculty Learning Community (FLC) will support one another in our individual quests to have an article accepted for publication in an academic journal. The FLC members will meet for one hour each week for twelve weeks (beginning the week of January 21, 2014 and ending April 25, 2014) to discuss progress and provide assistance to one another. Participants will receive a copy of the book and professional development funds of $250. Each week we will read a chapter and complete the associated writing tasks. Chapters include advice related to topic and journal selection, strengthening the structure of the article, presenting evidence, providing feedback, editing, and responding to journal decisions.

You are best prepared to participate in this learning community if:

- You need a way to make publishable the research you have already conducted, written for other purposes, and/or taught. The prior work could be papers written for a class, dissertation chapters, conference papers, rejected articles, research briefs, lecture notes, etc. that are ready to be turned into an academic journal article. Those who are starting a new research project from scratch will not be likely to complete the project in 12 weeks.

- You are seeking to publish in journals whose submission requirements are commonplace in, or are similar to those found in, the humanities and social sciences. The advice in the book is primarily targeted toward the types of writing that these journals publish. All faculty are welcome to apply, although the author suggests that those writing scientific articles typically have to “extrapolate quite a bit from the text” to develop works that are most likely to be published in scientific journals.
What is required?

- A willingness to make writing for publication a priority this semester, and to invest some time each week (preferably at least 15 minutes five days a week) to the writing process.

- A commitment to attending the 1 hour weekly meetings. The weekly meeting will be on Thursday afternoons (time, TBD).

- A willingness to share and talk about your writing with campus colleagues, to give and receive some feedback.

- It is highly encouraged that faculty would participate in or attend the Celebration of Research in April 2014.

Who should apply?

Faculty from any discipline and of any rank/status are encouraged to apply, although as noted above, those writing in styles common in the humanities and social sciences will be best served by the content of the Belcher text. Participants must have a project underway (some research and/or writing completed prior to the first meeting) and commit to attending one-hour meetings each week for 12 weeks. You’ll receive a copy of the book at the first meeting, but may request a copy earlier if you would like to start reading ahead.

How will faculty be selected?

Faculty will be selected based on several criteria:
(1) application demonstrates that research project is at the point that faculty are ready to write or at the point where deep revision is needed (this FLC is not intended for those who are exploring new research projects)
(2) application clearly articulates interest in FLC.
(3) diverse representation within FLC (ideally we would like to include different ranks and disciplines)
(4) time availability Thursday afternoons during the spring semester

Compensation: Faculty who complete the FLC for Research will be awarded $250 for professional development or a stipend from the Office of Graduate Studies and Research. This will be distributed at the completion of project activities (during Spring 2014).

To apply: At the top of your application, please include the following information:

- Name
- Email address
- Department,
- Rank,
- Years at CSUSM.

In your application of approximately 1-2 pages, please provide the following:
• a brief summary of the project you would like to work on this semester,
• a brief description about the status of your work on this project, and
• a brief explanation of your interest in this FLC.

Applications are due by December 9, 2013 and should be submitted electronically to facctr@csusm.edu. Those faculty who are chosen to participate will be notified by December 16, 2013.