Writing Research Without Walls: A Symposium for Interdisciplinary Writing and Collaboration

October 4-6, 2018
Hosted by Crow, the Corpus & Repository of Writing
http://writecrow.org/ ~ symposium@writecrow.org

Plenaries by Dr. Shondel Nero, Associate Professor of Teaching and Learning, New York University, and Dr. Susan M. Conrad, Professor of Applied Linguistics, Portland State University

Overview

In a changing educational climate, it is not enough to simply say that writing research has intrinsic value, or to appeal to vocational impulses by insisting on the value of broad humanities education. Nor is it enough to look outward, seeking to appeal to STEM by adopting a service role. Rather, writing researchers must seek ways to eliminate the unnatural divides that have developed among areas of the humanities and between our fields and other disciplines.

Digital technologies are creating new potentials for humanities scholars to collaborate across disciplines and institutions. This is especially important for writing scholarship as networked and digital media are influencing writing profoundly, sometimes in unexpected ways. For example, the Internet has changed the way we conceive of writing, research, and information sharing with the emergence of participatory social media platforms and "fake news." Additionally, new cloud-based writing technologies such as Google Docs have revolutionized how we write collaboratively. In the face of these changes we see emerging, the traditional attention to language and writing that the humanities has always manifested presents opportunities for response—**if we can create research infrastructures that are both sustainable and relevant.**

With these issues in mind, Crow, the Corpus & Repository of Writing, in collaboration with the Humanities Without Walls consortium, will be hosting its first symposium, "Writing Research Without Walls: A Symposium on Interdisciplinary Writing and Collaboration," at Purdue University on October 4-6, 2018. As a part of Crow's commitment to promote sustainable, data-driven research, this symposium will feature empirical interdisciplinary writing research with focuses on technology and undergraduate research. We welcome both scholars studying undergraduate writing and undergraduate students conducting research in writing studies, and we hope writing scholars at all levels in the university (tenured/tenure-track professors, adjunct professors/lecturers, graduate students, and undergraduate students) will join us in West Lafayette.

Suggested topics include (but are not limited to):

- Corpus-based approaches investigating undergraduate writing practices
- Quantitative and/or qualitative analysis of pedagogical materials
- Collaborative and sustainable research practices

- Collaborative writing practices and interactive technologies
- Computational rhetoric and/or computational linguistics
- Source use and citation practices in undergraduate student writing

Plenary Speakers

Dr. Shondel Nero is Associate Professor and Director of the Program in Multilingual Multicultural Studies in the Department of Teaching and Learning at New York University. She is an applied linguist whose research examines the politics, challenges, and strategies of educating students who speak and/or write in nonstandard varieties of English, World Englishes, and Creoles.

Dr. Susan Conrad is Professor of Applied Linguistics at Portland State University and principal investigator for the Civil Engineering Writing Project, in which engineering practitioners and faculty at four universities work to improve undergraduate students' writing skills. Her research uses corpus analysis techniques, along with a variety of other techniques and interviews, to investigate how writers vary their grammar, vocabulary, and organization for different contexts, especially in the disciplines.

Submission Guidelines

Crow invites proposal submissions for individual papers, posters, panel presentations, works in progress (WIP), and workshops. We highly encourage those interested in interdisciplinary and collaborative frameworks, as well as discussions of data-driven research, to apply. All submissions—even those that are WIP—should clearly articulate their research methods. Please see a description of each submission option below.

Crow especially values the voices of undergraduate researchers. We encourage undergraduates to submit completed or ongoing research using the submission option which is the best fit. We welcome collaborations between undergraduates and faculty, graduate students, or other undergraduates.

All proposals must be submitted by February 1, 2018, and applicants will be notified about acceptance decisions by mid-March. Each proposal submission will include a title, 3-4 descriptive keywords, and a tweet-length description of the project in addition to the proposal. These will be used for assigning reviewers, developing the program, and promoting your work at the symposium.

Submit today at writecrow.org. We welcome submission questions: symposium@writecrow.org.

All sessions will be 75 minutes and will be held in rooms with internet and an LCD projector.

Posters
Poster presentations are highly valued and enable extended face to face discussions with other researchers. Poster presentations are best for information and data that can be presented

visually with graphs, charts, tables, etc. Posters will be displayed during dedicated poster sessions. Poster proposals should be no more than 250 words.

Individual Papers

Papers are formal presentations describing the research of one or more authors. Individual presenters will be added to 3-4 member panels, and presentations will be 10-15 minutes in length. Individual paper proposals should be no more than 250 words.

Panel Presentations

Panels usually consist of 3-4 members with each presentation running 10-15 minutes. All panels should include at least 20 minutes for discussion. Panel proposals should be no more than 800 words.

Roundtables

Roundtable presentations are shorter presentations where people are asked to briefly present on a related topic and then open discussion to audience members. Roundtable panels should consist of 5-8 members, and proposals should be no more than 800 words.

Workshops

Workshops are intended for participants able to create hands-on experiences for interested writing researchers by focusing on application and interaction and articulating the concrete takeaways for potential audiences. Workshops may include topics related to, but not limited to: corpus creation, programming, coding, interdisciplinary research collaboration, undergraduate writing activities, etc. Workshops should consist of 1-4 facilitators, and proposals should be no more than 800 words.

Works in Progress (WIP)

Works in progress allow researchers to receive feedback from the community on their on-going projects. WIP submissions should clearly articulate what stage the research is in, the projected contributions to the field of study, and a timeline for completion. WIP presentations will be 5-10 minutes with at least 30 minutes minutes for discussion and feedback. WIP proposals should be no more than 250 words.