

## Announcement – Econ Ed Summer Writing Group

**Introduction:** A summer writing group is being formed for those interested in generating economic education research.

**Goals:** As economics educators, we likely have important insights on teaching to share with our profession. One way to do this is with scholarly writing, and this group aims to help promote more formal economics education research. Many of us try to set aside time to write, but the reality is that schedules, short-term exigencies, and even inertia get in the way. This group seeks to create an accountable space for economics educators to come together regularly to engage in dedicated writing and to build a sense of community.

**Background:** Academic writing groups are an established method of increasing scholarly productivity<sup>1</sup>. These groups bring faculty together in some fashion to write, which is broadly defined as any scholarly research activity – it might be designing a study, gathering data, performing econometric analysis, writing a first draft, responding to reviewer comments, etc. There seem to be three types of groups<sup>2</sup>: Goals and Accountability Groups, which meet briefly each week to share their goals and report on achievement of previous goals, Write Together Groups, which share a time and collectively write, and Feedback Groups, where members provide feedback on each other's works. This group will be a mix of the first two types with the addition that we'll start with a brief discussion of an article on writing or scholarly productivity. After the discussion we'll describe our goals for the day, then write, and at the end of the time we'll report out if our goals were achieved or not. This group is patterned after the successful College of the Liberal Arts Writing Group at Penn State, which follows this format. Some of this page was adapted from their documents.

### Guidelines:

1. Please show up on time and after the opening discussion, write for the whole time. But, feel free to attend as many meetings as you wish. It is summer, after all.
2. Please only engage in economics education writing in the group. Please save teaching, grading, and service commitments for another time.
3. Ideally distractions are turned off: e-mail, social media, etc.
4. Please stay in the Zoom meeting and leave your camera on as you are able.

**Note on the Opening Discussions:** We begin each writing group with a 15-minute discussion of a different writing or scholarly productivity topic. These discussions offer us the opportunity to learn from others, share our experiences, and build a sense of community. Beyond connecting with others, the community we build helps us to stay accountable and focused on our writing goals and to help promote more economics education research.

**Dates and Times:** We'll meet on Zoom on Fridays from 9:30 AM to noon (U.S. Eastern time) from June 10 to August 26.

**Further Information:** Please contact Bill Goffe, [bill.goffe@psu.edu](mailto:bill.goffe@psu.edu) . Please note that there are a limited number of spaces.

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<sup>1</sup> Gray, Tara, Laura Madson, and Michelle Jackson. 2018. "Publish & Flourish: Helping Scholars Become Better, More Prolific Writers." *To Improve the Academy* 37, no. 2: 243-256.

<sup>2</sup> Silvia, Paul J. 2019. *How to Write a Lot: A Practical Guide to Productive Academic Writing*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. American Psychological Association, 49-56.