

That's Writing Talk - A communities of practice approach to teaching and supporting student academic writing

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Academics at Nottingham Trent University (NTU) and other institutions often find teaching and supporting student academic writing a problematic issue. There are however, very few forums in which staff across the disciplines can meet to discuss current issues or concerns and share instances of good practice. Staff in higher education may often feel isolated and lack opportunities to collaboratively address issues of student writing. At NTU The Academic Writing Readers Group (AWRG) was set up in response to this issue.

The AWRG meets on a regular basis and gives staff a forum to discuss issues, share ideas and support each other. The group demonstrates a community of practice approach, and experiences high numbers of participants thus creating a network of interested and engaged practitioners willing to develop student academic writing. This approach has consequently established a valuable network of academics, open to working closely with support staff to trial and engage with various learning development resources.

This session will include,

- An overview of the project and its practicalities.
- An insight into the Communities of Practice approach and the instances in which it can be used.
- An evaluation of the role of the AWRG with feedback from some attendees.
- A discussion about how to establish a similar network in your institution.
- Future developments for the project.

Presenter

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