

## Chat Transcript – ACRL Virtual Conference 2017

### Day 2 - Session 4 | Taking the Helm: Developing a Creative, Focused, and Accountable Writing Practice

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#### **QUESTION: What are your strategies for getting and staying focused?**

Bridget Barry Thias [Dallas/Texas] 2: be organized and eliminate distractions

Martha Frey [ST-Lambert]: I often use a timer

Jennifer Eatough [Salt Lake City, UT]: Getting things I know are distractions out of sight and using tools I know help me stay on task.

Sharon Murphy [Edmonton]: silence

Candise Branum [Portland, Oregon]: Leaving my office. Working from a coffee shop, even if just for an hour.

Lynn Ford [Indianapolis, Indiana]: Turn my back on the room, sit down, and start the job. In my job, I can't really turn my back on the room, but at home I can.

Sarah Davis [Salem, OR]: setting a timer- building it into my schedule- : "hiding" the iPad

Tara Smith [San Marcos]: make lists

Cynthia Belmar [Houston]: coffee and deadlines

Kelly Diamond [Morgantown, WV]: I try to schedule 30 minutes writing time in my calendar, but some weeks are more successful than others!

Ivana Niseteo [Burnaby, BC]: one thing at a time

Virginia Ballance [Nassau Bahamas]: set myself up for success

Claire Nickerson [Hays, KS]: Write early in the morning, when the library is quiet. Close my door so people are less likely to talk to me. Have a flowchart for research process so I always know what to do next.

Judy Lee [Staten Island]: Make myself comfortable, have water and snacks available, nice music

David Gansz [Shepherdstown, WV]: procrastinate so much that my looking deadline scares me into sitting down and writing. I firmly believe that the hardest part of writing is applying the seat of the pants to the seat of the chair.

Deb Baker [Nashua]: Coffee and being alone

Jeffrey Schaffner [Norfolk, Virginia]: focus on getting started

Lorenzo Gunn [Birmingham]: solitude

Kevin Saw [Queens]: Noise cancelling headphones

Janis McKenzie [Vancouver] 2: Word count targets and timers both help. (Learned this from NaNoWriMo.)

Leif Madsen [Denver, CO]: feel inspired (get idea) enter quiet environment w/word-processor, write! write! write!

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