

Chat Transcript – ACRL Virtual Conference 2017

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

Leif Madsen [Denver, CO]: is it still all of us?

Judy Lee [Staten Island]: YEs

David Gansz [Shepherdstown, WV]: Work with a partner so there's true accountability -- I don't want to show up empty handed when my writing partner is expecting a chapter
Bridget Barry Thias [Dallas/Texas] 2: when starting writing do you research first after initial brainstorming

Claire Nickerson [Hays, KS]: I have two separate writing circles--one that I run, which is for students, and one that I participate in, with my peers.

Kelly Diamond [Morgantown, WV]: Have a small writing group and hold each other accountable for small writing goals. Meet every 2 weeks (?)

UNH Library [Durham, NH]: Once I have an idea I give myself time to research at work. I then do the writing at home.

Kimberly Grotewold [Lancaster]: Maybe create a timeline with deadlines at the very beginning

Martha Frey [ST-Lambert]: create a timeline for your project

Bill Hord [Houston]: You cannot work on more than one thing at a time. Isolate what is most important to you.. Do the most important thing first.

Judy Lee [Staten Island]: Follow through with your commitments

Lynn Ford [Indianapolis, Indiana]: Kelly how do you find/organize a small writing group?

Jennifer Eatough [Salt Lake City, UT]: One accountability strategy that works for me while writing is creating a spreadsheet with goals set into in and fields with conditional logic that colors the fields red to green as I approach my word goal for the day.

Claire Nickerson [Hays, KS]: Generally my research ideas come out of my library's goals.

Jeffrey Schaffner [Norfolk, Virginia]: Plan/write an outline of what I will write

Kelly Diamond [Morgantown, WV]: Lynn -- I just asked people at work who are interested in writing.

Candise Branum [Portland, Oregon]: Ditto having a writing buddy. You can have a regular meeting every week or every other week to share how you've progressed.

Page Brannon [Anchorage]: regular writing times or days of the week, half day, etc. also collaborating with co-writers

Kelly Diamond [Morgantown, WV]: at work not at work: lol

Leif Madsen [Denver, CO]: I think of writing as creating a body - first, conception (an idea), create the skeleton (outline), begin adding flesh, muscle, organs (detailed content) - polish & hone then release into world

Judy Lee [Staten Island]: Do it yourself project management

Claire Nickerson [Hays, KS]: Using citation management software. I love Zotero!

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Virginia Ballance [Nassau Bahamas]: I joined the Academic Ladder and had to check in daily to describe what work I had done...there were about 10 of us in the group and we supported one another. It really helped

Joy Harrigan [Cutler Bay, FL]: Create a large number of smaller chunks of the whole. It might be easier to gain the motivation when you know you don't have as much to write

Lisa Payne [Richmond]: Have a numeric goal for words written by a specific time.

Leif Madsen [Denver, CO]: having a deadline & mentor also help

Lorenzo Gunn [Birmingham]: Break your project down into tiny pieces and reward yourself - honestly - after finishing each section

David Gansz [Shepherdstown, WV]: Pair it with a task you like better -- if I spend 2 hours writing an article I can spend 2 hours reading for pleasure

Laura Wilson [Worcester, MA]: schedule time to write

Kelly Diamond [Morgantown, WV]: Lorenzo -- rewards are important!

Claire Nickerson [Hays, KS]: Davi, how do you keep yourself from reading for pleasure the rest of the time?

Leif Madsen [Denver, CO]: positive reward cycle - treats for reaching goals indeed

Lynn Ford [Indianapolis, Indiana]: Being at work helps; I feel responsible for the time. When I'm at home it's much easier to put things off.

Judy Lee [Staten Island]: Like the idea of rewarding yourself

Janis McKenzie [Vancouver] 2: Remember the reader(s) who will benefit from your work. Don't keep them waiting :)

Maureen Sheppard [Ottawa, ON, Canada]: Set aside a reasonable block of time and find a space where there are no interruptions.

Henri Achée [Houston, Tx]: require writing -presenting at a conference every year

Lynn Ford [Indianapolis, Indiana]: Maureen there's no such thing in my job, but I just keep a thing open and keep coming back to it between interruptions.

Jeffrey Schaffner [Norfolk, Virginia]: start as soon in day at work as possible

Candise Branum [Portland, Oregon]: What would you guys suggest as a reward?

Lynn Ford [Indianapolis, Indiana]: Candise a reward's got to be personal and affordable.

Judy Lee [Staten Island]: A good reward is reading for pleasure or doing something creative- art project

Sarah Davis [Salem, OR]: Chocolate always

Maureen Sheppard [Ottawa, ON, Canada]: No, Lynn, not for me either but I can dream.

Kelly Diamond [Morgantown, WV]: If I write for 30 minutes at work, I give myself 10 minutes FB time.

Claire Nickerson [Hays, KS]: Not for writing, but I make a list of tasks for the week and give myself a percentage of my full "allowance" based on how many got checked off.

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Jennifer Eatough [Salt Lake City, UT]: Levels of rewards could be fun. Setup different levels fo goals. The harder the goal to reach the better a reward.

Judy Lee [Staten Island]: Chocolate or a nice cup of vanilla chai tea!

Lynn Ford [Indianapolis, Indiana]: Yes, I'm talking about at work, when I have to write reports or letters, but I'm available to students all the time.

Leif Madsen [Denver, CO]: AM is my most productive

Kelly Diamond [Morgantown, WV]: Morning : -)

Lisa Payne [Richmond]: I have my best ideas on the drive to and from work...when it is quiet and I am alone

Claire Nickerson [Hays, KS]: Morning is definitely more productive, the earlier the better.

Page Brannon [Anchorage]: Meditate prior to working, early morning, with cup of tea

Jennifer Eatough [Salt Lake City, UT]: Night is more productive for me. I am not a morning person.

Leif Madsen [Denver, CO]: but I get the best ideas after dinner + wine & walking outside

Joy Harrigan [Cutler Bay, FL]: I tend to get a lot of good ideas in the shower, but forget them all by the time I get out : -/

Kimberly Grotewold [Lancaster]: Voice record --I need to start doing this

Claire Nickerson [Hays, KS]: I attended a presentation that said scientifically, the most productive day/time for most is Tuesday around 10 AM.

Kimberly Grotewold [Lancaster]: No, I'd like to hear about some

Jennifer Tapp [Houston]: Night is more productive... most creative between 1 to 4 am

Lynn Ford [Indianapolis, Indiana]: I should just write after a shower--that's where I get the most inspirations. Then go write them down!

Lisa Payne [Richmond]: i need to voice record...I will have greta ideas while driving and then forget them as soon as I get home.

Kimberly Grotewold [Lancaster]: I get my best ideas when I'm not at my computer

Candise Branum [Portland, Oregon]: We're looking at buying some smartpens for the library...

Joy Harrigan [Cutler Bay, FL]: Maybe take a voice recorder into the shower : -)

Leif Madsen [Denver, CO]: Lisa - same - great ideas come, then go before pen/paper arrive...

Claire Nickerson [Hays, KS]: I carry an index card for writing down ideas, per "Bird by Bird" (writing book)

Sarah Davis [Salem, OR]: iOS has several apps to record voice, I like quick voice pro

Lynn Ford [Indianapolis, Indiana]: Joy very good! Made me smile!

Judy Lee [Staten Island]: I keep multiple notebooks at home

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