

## NEWS:

NUMBER 2

JULY 2010

- L&I Call for Special Issue
- DGfS Call for papers
- Studies in Writing Call for proposals
- 14th EARLI conference Call for symposia
- University of Antwerp Call for position

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

CL&W 2010	1
The London Metropolitan Writing Centre	1
SIG writing business meeting	2
Studies in Writing Call for books	2
DGfS Call for papers	2
Call for SIG symposia	3
Call for research assistant	3
L&I call for Special Issue	3
Report COST	4

## Writing research: Reports

## The CL&amp;W workshop 2010

On June 6, 2010, the Workshop on Computational Linguistics and Writing: Writing Processes and Authoring Aids (CL&W 2010) took place in Los Angeles, as part of the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics.

The workshop was organized by Michael Piotrowski (University of Zurich, Switzerland), Cerstin Mahlow (University of Zurich, Switzerland), and Robert Dale (Macquarie University, Australia).

It aimed to provide an overview of current developments in the area

of computational linguistics for authoring aids and an overview of recent advances in writing research.

We wanted to bring together researchers from both communities, to identify areas where computational linguistics and writing research could benefit from each other, and to stimulate discussion and interdisciplinary cooperation between these two areas of research. We had excellent presentations and a fruitful and dedicated discussion. Participants' feedback was very positive and the workshop succeeded in its aims.

Slides of the presentations are available online at the workshop website

<http://lingued.info/clw2010/?Program>

The proceedings of the workshop are available through the ACL Anthology:

<http://www.aclweb.org/anthology-new/W/W10/#0400>

We will organize a second workshop, but have not yet decided on the time and venue. We could discuss these aspects at the SIG Writing conference in Heidelberg.

Cerstin Mahlow  
[mahlow@cl.uzh.ch](mailto:mahlow@cl.uzh.ch)

## The London Metropolitan University Writing Centre

The London Metropolitan University Writing Centre (an initiative of the Write Now Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning) is currently conducting research into the effectiveness of peer academic writing tutorials on achievement and the quality of student learning.

The research involves two related projects. In the first, London Metropolitan University students were asked to complete the Learning and Study Strategies Inventory (LASSI), and to attend peer tutorials at the University Writing Centre if they wished. In the next

stage, all students who attended a tutorial will be matched with non-attendees on variables such as the LASSI items and demographics to investigate group differences in student learning, achievement and retention.



This project is part of the 'Pathways to Success through Peer Mentoring Project' led by Aston University.

More at:

[http://www.actiononaccess.org/?p=11\\_3\\_2\\_5](http://www.actiononaccess.org/?p=11_3_2_5)

The aim of the second project is to develop an archive of peer tutorials that have taken place at the London Metropolitan University Writing Centre. This is to enable researchers, educationalists and students to learn more about how this type of learning can aid student academic writing development in Higher Education.

Information about the Write Now CETL at: <http://www.writenow.ac.uk>

Savita Bakhshi  
[s.bakhshi@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:s.bakhshi@londonmet.ac.uk)

## SIG Writing 2010: SIG business meeting

The SIG Writing 2010 conference is close. This September we will meet in Heidelberg.

As usual, a SIG business meeting will be organized during the conference to allow SIG members to share ideas, proposals, and to discuss the SIG's policies, plans and choices.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th September, 18.15 -19.00.

The coordinators warmly encour-

age members to participate.

The meeting will give us the opportunity to share our views on SIG Writing and its potential future developments.

An official agenda is not yet available, but will be circulated before the SIG Writing Conference.

Some of the news and calls reported in this newsletter will be discussed further in the business meeting, and SIG members will make decisions about the SIG

Writing Invited Symposium for the next 14th EARLI conference.

SIG members who are interested in proposing points for discussion are invited to contact us and send their proposal. We will do our best to add their points to the agenda.

See you all in Heidelberg  
Barbara and Denis

"The Editorial team of *Studies in Writing* invites Researchers to submit proposals"

## Studies in Writing: Call for proposals

The Editorial team of *Studies in Writing* invites Researchers on Writing to submit Volume or Monograph proposals to be reviewed for inclusion in the Studies in Writing books series.

Preferential themes will be:

*Writing as Therapy*

*Creative Writing*: writing processes, effects (in writing to learn as in learning to write)

*Neuroscience and Writing*

*Concepts of Writing*: personal and cultural definitions of writing, written communication, genres

*Writing and intercultural communication*

*Learning theories in writing to learn and learning to write*

Those interested in submitting proposals for other themes are encouraged to send a short piece outlining the aims and scope of the volume (300 words) and a list of possible contributions (10 to 12). In most instances, proposals are "half open": a call for contributions for specific volumes may be sent out after the global idea for a

volume has been approved by the editorial board.

Each book will focus on a central theme from the international forum of writing research.

This implies that each book will contain about 7 to 10 chapters (200-250 pages) around one theme. Monographs will also be welcome.

The Series Editor

Gert Rijlaarsdam

[g.c.w.rijlaarsdam@uva.nl](mailto:g.c.w.rijlaarsdam@uva.nl)

## Call for papers: Text production processes

**Text production processes at school: Educational and Psycholinguistic perspectives**

The working group aims to review and integrate current knowledge on "text production at school" from research on text linguistics, psycholinguistics and education.

The focus will be on the basic cognitive processes involved in text production (planning, formulating, revising, and reading).

Methodological developments in the field such as keystroke logging, recording of handwriting movements and eyetracking have important implications for under-

standing the cognitive processes involved in written text production and will have a strong impact on educational aspects of writing.

The working group is designed to be relevant to linguists (from the areas of psycholinguistics, text linguistics, corpus linguistics) as well as instructional and educational scientists and psychologists.

An important objective is to promote and improve interdisciplinary and international collaboration.

The working group is part of the 2011 annual conference of

the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft (DGfS).

**Abstract submission:**

Submit your abstract of one page maximum (including references, formatted as a Word, or as a PDF document) to:

[Guido.Nottbusch@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:Guido.Nottbusch@uni-bielefeld.de)

**Deadline:** August 08, 2010

Guido Nottbusch

[Guido.Nottbusch@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:Guido.Nottbusch@uni-bielefeld.de)

Deadline for submission of abstracts August 8th!

## 14th EARLI conference: Call for SIG invited symposia

The University of Exeter will host the 14<sup>th</sup> European Conference for Research on Learning and Instruction.

The conference theme is *Education for a Global Networked Society*. This theme will be articulated in various specific domains. Information is available online at the conference website:

<http://www.earli2011.org>

The event will attract around 1,500 participants from Europe and outside European Union.

SIGs are invited to organize an **invited symposium** for the event. Symposia are expected to offer in-depth analysis of major contributions in the field and tend

to attract great attention from participants. SIG coordinators may extend the invitation to an established scientist in the discipline or they can organize the symposium themselves.



A symposium should consist of only 3 papers and last 90 minutes. The intention of SIGs to accept the EARLI invitation to organize a symposium should be communicated **before 30 September 2010**. A title and a 300 word abstract of

the symposium and a 300 word abstract, plus a 1000 word extended summary for each individual paper, should be submitted to the 14th EARLI Conference Committee by **29 October 2010**.

The SIG coordinators are already considering some themes. SIG members are invited to send their proposals before the SIG Writing 2010. Proposals will be discussed at the SIG business meeting in Heidelberg.

Barbara Arfé  
[barbara.arfe@unipd.it](mailto:barbara.arfe@unipd.it)  
Denis Alamargot

[denis.alamargot@univ-poitiers.fr](mailto:denis.alamargot@univ-poitiers.fr)

## Call for positions: Research assistant



The University of Antwerp is seeking to fill the following full-time vacancy (m/f) in the Department of Management, research centre associated with the Faculty of Arts:

### Research assistant

A full-time contract for 3 years and 10 months on the project: *"The influence of text representation on the reading-during-writing process"*

Recent technological developments enable us to study reading behavior during writing. In our research we explore how (re)reading might shift the cognitive orientation of the writing process and the relation between reading and writing

on the one hand and reading and revising on the other.

### Who can apply

Students of all nationalities with a strong commitment to writing process research are invited to apply. Candidates must have a masters degree in applied linguistics, arts, psychology, or must obtain this degree by the end of this academic year. Applications are welcome from candidates with a strong interest in scientific research, familiarity with statistical methodology and software (e.g. SPSS), fluency in English (spoken and written). A basic knowledge of eyetracking equipment and a willingness to follow additional training

courses in this area are an asset.

### Deadline for applications:

August 16, 2010

Applications in Dutch or English, including a CV and names of two referents, are to be sent to:

[luuk.vanwaes@ua.ac.be](mailto:luuk.vanwaes@ua.ac.be)

/Prof. dr. Luuk Van Waes, Prinsstraat 13, BE 2000 Antwerp, Belgium.

For information, contact:

[luuk.vanwaes@ua.ac.be](mailto:luuk.vanwaes@ua.ac.be)

[marielle.leijten@ua.ac.be](mailto:marielle.leijten@ua.ac.be)

Luuk Van Waes  
[luuk.vanwaes@ua.ac.be](mailto:luuk.vanwaes@ua.ac.be)

## L&I: Call for special Issue



*Learning and Instruction* has sent out an open call for a Special Issue.

Proposals for a Special Issue may include empirical studies based on different methodologies and on different theoretical approaches. The topic must represent an area of high interest and relevance for the journal. Proposals for a Special Issue should have a well-articulated unifying theme and reflect, at an international level, the best work in a particular research area, either a mature area or an important emerging area. Special issues

usually contain contributions from researchers in a number of different countries.

A proposal for a Special Issue should include:

- the name and address for communication of the guest editor(s);
- a 500-word rationale explaining the scope and significance of the proposed theme;
- a list of 5 to 6 contributors and two commentators;
- a 1000-word abstract for each of the 5-6 contributions;
- a preliminary time schedule for the

preparation of the Special Issue;

- 5 to 10 possible reviewers of the single papers, who are not involved in any of them.

An author can be involved in only one paper.

Proposals for Special Issues should be sent by September 30 directly to the Editor: [lucia.mason@unipd.it](mailto:lucia.mason@unipd.it)

We encourage SIG12 members to send their proposals for the L&I Special Issue

Barbara Arfé  
Denis Alamargot

**"Call for a Special Issue from Learning and Instruction"**

# EU Writing research: the COST Action IS0703 report

The main event of the Cost Action IS0703 ERN-LWE during 2009-2010 was the organization of 4 Training Schools at Charles University (Prague - Czech Republic) from 17 to 20 April 2010 (the Action website at: [www.cost-lwe.eu](http://www.cost-lwe.eu))

Given the diversity of educational systems and languages, it is important to build a common multidisciplinary research programme, sharing theoretical, methodological and educational resources, to transmit research knowledge to the future generation. This was the central aim of the Training Schools in Prague.

The four training panels were based on the scientific activities of the 4 working groups and on the new knowledge that has emerged after two years of networking.

Regarding FP7, the Training Schools



## The European Research Network on Learning to Write Effectively

were organized in partnership with the ELDEL Marie Curie ITN [development of literacy in Europe], chaired by M. Caravolas (UK).

More at: <http://www.eldel.eu/>

Forty-two junior researchers (and 2 senior researchers for a long-life learning) from 12 countries were initially involved in the Training

Schools. In the end, only 13 trainees were present in Prague because of the Icelandic volcano activity and flight cancellations. Nevertheless, the training sessions have made a strong impact in the new generation.

More at the COST website:

<http://www.cost-lwe.eu/>

Denis Alamargot  
[denis.alamargot@univ-poitiers.fr](mailto:denis.alamargot@univ-poitiers.fr)

## SIG WRITING

**Coordinators**  
 Denis Alamargot  
 Barbara Arfé

**Webmaster**  
 Joachim Grabowski

**Publication manager**  
 Gert Rijlaarsdam

**Homepage:** <http://www.sig-writing.org/>

## SIG WRITING NEWSLETTER

**Editors**  
 Barbara Arfé  
 Denis Alamargot

### Contributors to this issue:

Denis Alamargot, Savita Bakhshi, Cerstin Mahlow, Guido Nottbusch, Gert Rijlaarsdam, Luuk Van Waes.

## NEXT ISSUE # 3 (November 2010) CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

SIG writing members and writing and literacy researchers are invited to send:

- conference, workshop and symposia announcements, calls and programmes
- calls for chapters and papers
- editorial news
- information on research grants and calls for research projects
- information on writing and literacy related awards
- information on National and International funded writing research projects

**For contributions, calls and information contact:**  
[barbara.arfe@unipd.it](mailto:barbara.arfe@unipd.it)