

EATAW Newsletter

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE TEACHING OF ACADEMIC WRITING

www.eataw.eu



EATAW 2019 CONFERENCE REFLECTIONS FROM GOTHENBURG

Looking back at the first week of July and the EATAW 2019 experience from the point of view of the organising team, we are first of all happy to see that so many EATAW members chose to convene at Chalmers and discuss ways forward at the intersections. The conference appears to have been successful in many ways and overall participants have been very positive in their evaluation remarks. It is particularly rewarding for us as a community, we believe, to see that participants considered the academic content level to be high and the themes to be relevant.

Things can always be improved. At the level of academic content, the 'teaching practice format' was new and very appreciated. Even so, some comments suggest that the scope and focus of these sessions varied quite a bit, and it may therefore be necessary to fine-tune instructions, criteria, and abstracts of this format. We would be more than happy to work with future organisers to explore the potential of this format.

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MEET THE BOARD

DJUDDAH LEIJEN, CHAIR

It has been an honour to chair the EATAW board the past 2 years. These years have been both challenging and educational. The biggest challenge was to take over from a well run board, with Magnus at its helm, which over the years build a well-established organisation, which I was introduced to when attending my first EATAW conference in Coventry, 2009. When the new board was established at the London 2017 conference, I, and I think all of us who were new on the board, were happy to work with Magnus as outgoing chair. His knowledge and commitment to the board and EATAW made the transition easier. During our period, we had not managed to solve some of the issues we wanted to (such as the member database and updating the website). These will remain firmly on our agenda for the next period.

AMANDA FRENCH, SECRETARY

I have taught in higher, further, adult education and the voluntary sector in the West Midlands for over 30 years. Working in partnerships across a wide range of settings and agencies, I have trained teachers, tutors and support workers from a variety of organisations, and taught English, Basic Literacy, Education and Early Years at all levels. My research interests include academic writing practices and development, social justice in education and creative critical pedagogies and methodologies.

My first EATAW conference was Coventry in 2009, and I was immediately drawn to it as my PhD thesis was about HE lecturers' perceptions of academic writing. I have worked to establish the Newsletter since joining the Board, and this year I would like to try and find more ways of involving members in the ongoing work of EATAW and to improve communications between the Board and members between conferences.

LISA GANOBCSIK-WILLIAMS, EX-OFFICIO

I have taught and tutored writing in US and UK universities. My research interests include the development of Academic Writing teaching across national contexts, writing centre administration and online tutoring, and teaching writing in the disciplines and for publication. I have been an active member of EATAW since 2001, attending every conference and hosting EATAW 2009 at Coventry University. For me, a significant development of EATAW 2019 at Chalmers was the pre-conference workshops that brought another important dimension to the program.

I was first elected to the EATAW Board in 2007, serving as Chair 2009-2011. Committed to the values of cross-national exchange on Academic Writing, I have worked to establish The Journal of Academic Writing, serving as Editor since 2011. My past service as EATAW's ex-officio member to the International Writing Centers Association and on the Executive Board of the European Writing Centers Association has enabled me to help raise international awareness of the work of European Academic Writing organisations.



Centre for Academic Writing and Communication, University of Tartu, Estonia



Head of Professional Development, Research and Enterprise & Reader in Teaching and Learning Birmingham City University's School of Education and Social Work



Head of the Centre for Academic Writing (CAW), Coventry University, England

MEET THE BOARD

MAGNUS GUSTAFSSON, TREASURER



Head of Language and
Communication
Chalmers University of
Technology, Sweden

I run the Division for Language and Communication at Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden and promoting EATAW concerns in our educational environment. Our work with multiple and progressively arranged integrated communication-oriented interventions for engineering education is one that I have tried to share with EATAW colleagues at the EATAW conferences since 2005. I have been a board member since 2009 and I first joined EATAW in 2005. I have found the association an important one and working on the board is a very rewarding honour that I have learnt from these ten years. My work since 2017 has focused on trying to support the chair as far as possible and plan the 2019 conference. For the next two years, I would like to focus on contributing as a former Chair one more turn. I would also like to continue working with the journal and support the JoAW editor.

ALENA KASPARKOVA, CONFERENCE COORDINATOR



Assistant Professor
VSB-Technical
University of Ostrava,
Czech Republic

Unlike in many other countries, teaching of academic writing, and writing centre work are still a novelty in my country. I am with the VSB-Technical University of Ostrava, where I run workshops in academic writing to support PhD students and my colleagues to publish in English. Along with my university library, colleagues from IT, and the Center for Academic Writing at the Czech Academy of Sciences, we are developing a new academic writing course for PhD students.

Since my first energizing encounter with EATAW in Budapest in 2013, I have attended the following three conferences, including Gothenburg. I would like to see a higher number of East-European colleagues participating in the exchange of knowledge and expertise, and networking at the next conference, to which I may contribute as the Conference Coordinator.

CHRISTIAN RAPP, WEB SECRETARY



Head of Educational
Technology
School of Management
and Law, Zurich
University of Applied
Sciences

My aim would be to contribute precisely in the area of technological support for academic writing i.e. the digitalization debate and ensuring that practitioners and scholars in the field do not miss these important developments. Furthermore, it would be a concern to me to support exchange with our North American colleagues that, in many areas, are far ahead in technological support of academic writing. At the same time, I would like to further bundle the many cutting-edge contributions of the European developers and scholars and ensure stimulating further fruitful exchange with our North American colleagues. Finally, the web site needs a new content management system and a fresh look.

My first EATAW conference was in 2017. Many things amazed me about Gothenburg conference - for me the church chorus was most engaging.

MEET THE BOARD

STUART WRIGLEY, DEPUTY CHAIR



Assistant Professor
Teaching Fellow, Royal
Holloway, University
of London

I first became associated with EATAW at the 2011 conference in Limerick, where I was impressed by the breadth, depth and intellectual rigour of writing scholarship; in all honesty, I hadn't appreciated there was a research tradition of academic writing! The conference in Gothenburg - apart from the opportunity to catch up with friends new and old - was characterised for me by the presence of the student voice. This can only have a positive impact on our teaching of academic writing!

I was thrilled to be re-elected to the Board. I am keen to input my ideas and perspectives in all of the Board's work, from its Journal of Academic Writing, to reaching out to other writing associations. I am particularly excited by the planned emphasis on the digital; machine learning et al. is here to stay and research that unlocks the pedagogical potential of (say) online writing tools that students are using anyway has the potential to be really impactful.

ERIN ZIMMERMAN, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY



Assistant Professor
American University
of Beirut,
Lebanon

I first attended EATAW in 2013 in Budapest and was overwhelmed at how it brings so many individuals from diverse countries together and gives us space to share our stories and research and invite feedback. We learn, engage, and grow in our work lives, and we feel connected to others who do what we do in contexts outside of US writing curricula. And building my community a little bit more was perhaps most exciting for me about the Gothenburg conference.

I joined the EATAW Board in 2017 because I wanted to build stronger links to others working in similar contexts as me. I now plan to shift that energy outward through our upcoming tasks, to engage other members in the same way that I wanted to be engaged.

41 countries represented at EATAW 2019

Sweden: 57
US: 45
Great Britain: 31
Germany: 26
Norway: 16
Switzerland: 15
Netherlands: 11
Denmark: 10
Israel: 6
Estonia, Russia, Spain: 5

Australia, Austria, Ireland, Jamaica: 4
Czech Republic, Italy: 3
Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Lebanon: 2
Bosnia & Herzegovina, Chile,
China, Federated States of
Micronesia, Greece, Iceland, Latvia,
Lithuania, Luxembourg, Romania,
Macedonia, Mexico, New Zealand,
Portugal, Singapore, Slovenia,
South Africa, Taiwan, Ukraine: 1



EATAW BOARD REPORT

- DJUDDAH LEIJEN, CHAIR

Dear EATAW members,

We're very excited with the list of to do items we, as a board, have put together for the next coming two years before our next EATAW conference, somewhere in Europe.

There have been a couple of items that remained on our list which we will address first, and these are:

EATAW website

Members database

Our current EATAW website has been waiting for an update for quite some time. Despite the fact that the website does it's job, which is provide information about our organisation, we think that making use of a new web platforms, we can integrate better features which will allow the merging of a number of items which we wish to develop in the coming period. One of which is the members database. Currently, due to web hosting updates, we seemed to have lost the connection with the backend of our site, which means the connection with the members database. We are working together with the host of the website to resolve the problem, but it seems that the best and easiest solution might be developing a completely new backend and therefore a new database. The advantage is that it will allow us to rebuild our site from the bottom up. The disadvantage is that we will need to ask all members to reregister themselves to EATAW.

Another item which we, as a board, are going to further pursue is getting you, the members, much more involved in the organisation. Updating our website will allow this. For example, we have been thinking of creating a blog where we, and our members, can post relevant items throughout the year. In addition, we can use it to update you on activities surrounding conferences and related events.

You may have already seen our newsletter. We aim to continue to develop the newsletter, and publish these on the website as well. In addition, we will invite members to contribute to the newsletter as well as part of the bigger strategy to make communication more frequent, transparent, and interactive.

With these changes, our broader aim is to start building bridges between EATAW organisation and other organisations you already know, such as EWCA or we think you may want to get to know, such as Writing Analytics, SIG writing, and a number of COST actions, such as WeReLaTe who are also doing wonderful work to move forward our common agenda of Writing.

As such, I am thrilled to continue the work on the EATAW board with my colleagues, Magnus, Erin, Stuart, Amanda, Alena, Christian, and Lisa.

If you think you have some ideas or would like to contribute to these changes in some way, please do get in touch with us.

EATAW 2019 stats

229 presenters

8 workshops

5 symposia

2 hot button
sessions

3 keynotes

62 papers

39 teaching
practices

14 roundtables



Keynotes Karen Head
& Chris Anson



Keynote Montserrat
Castelló Badia



Keynote Emma Dafouz

JOINT CALL FOR PAPERS

The tenth EATAW conference offers two publication opportunities: a conference issue of the Journal of Academic Writing (JoAW) containing articles and shorter pieces, and a WAC Clearinghouse book comprised of full-length chapters and reflections.

Brief descriptions of each are found below, but more complete details and submission information can be found at <https://2019.eataw.eu/post-eataw2019-publications/>

An abstract (200–400 words) outlining your proposed contribution is due by October 3, 2019.

JOURNAL OF ACADEMIC WRITING CONFERENCE ISSUE

EATAW 2019 presenters may submit scholarly papers for consideration. Submissions should be in the form of a 5,000–word journal article (excluding references and graphics) and should reflect the themes and content covered in your conference presentation.

Papers can be theoretical, empirical, or experience-based, but must offer an explicit original contribution, refer to existing debates or issues, and demonstrate an appropriate methodology or approach. Shorter pieces are also welcome for the *Teaching practice*, *Posters*, and *Dialogues* journal sections.

EDITED BOOK: ACADEMIC WRITING AT INTERSECTIONS IN EUROPE

The book, edited by Magnus Gustafsson and Andreas Eriksson (Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden) and featured as part of the WAC Clearinghouse 'International Exchanges on the Study of Writing Series', will serve as a conference collection for longer pieces from the 10th EATAW conference in 2019, and potentially as an account of EATAW's early steps and its development.

The editors are seeking 10–12 book-length chapters of approximately 8,000–10,000 words, which will be framed by an Introduction and a Closing Reflection. Chapters may be descriptive pieces, theoretically-oriented work, or empirical studies. Chapters must be written in English but first-language material may be used in analysis.

For JoAW platform-related questions

George Ttoouli

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Lisa Ganobcsik-Williams

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For CFP-related questions

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Magnus Gustafsson

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WHERE TO NEXT?

CALL TO HOST THE NEXT EATAW CONFERENCE IN 2021



The EATAW Board would like to invite bids from institutions that wish to host the 11th EATAW conference in June/July 2021.

Bids should include the following information:

- an indication of the proposed concept of the conference and how it aligns with the EATAW mission
- reasons why the location/institution is suitable for the EATAW conference
- an indication of the support of the administration of the institution
- the number of participants the institution can host
- an indication of adequate infrastructure, accessibility and attractiveness of the location in itself
- an indication of type, range and cost of accommodations
- a preliminary budget including anticipated expenses and the conference fee
- any other relevant supporting information

The Board will provide guidance and advice to the host as requested, but most management duties are the responsibility of the host.

The institution will be financially responsible for the conference and cannot be compensated for financial losses. The host institution will not seek to make a profit at the expense of participants.

Bids should be submitted by e-mail to Erin Zimmerman at ez12@aub.edu.lb by January 31, 2020, and should not exceed four pages.

More detailed information about the submission process and the delegated workload of the Board and the host institution can be found at www.eataw.eu

SAVE THE DATE!

THE CALL FOR BIDS FOR THE 2023 CONFERENCE
WILL COME OUT
MARCH 2020

CONFERENCE REFLECTIONS

(continued from p. 1)

In terms of logistics, many dimensions of EATAW2019 were smooth and effective. Recurring comments mention the conference venue, the lunches and the length of breaks as particularly good for the conference experience and the conversation. In view of a number of individual comments in the survey, we have contacted the secretariat for a discussion about how to improve their hotel booking logistics in the future as some of you struggled with that. Needless to say, we are sorry and apologise that there were issues at that stage of the registration process.

And now EATAW2019 is in the past, but we are hoping that people are interested in sharing their work thorough the publications that we have announced. The call for papers for both the special issue and the collection are still open!

Thank you again for joining us at Chalmers University of Technology for EATAW 2019,

Magnus and Andreas for the organising team

Special thanks from the EATAW Chair:

I'd like to thank our outgoing members José Brandao Carvalho and Kärt Rummel for their input and endless dedication the past 2 years.

In return, I would like to welcome Alena Kašpárková and Christian Rapp for joining the team. We are also thrilled to be able to call on the help of José Brandao Carvalho and Alma Jahić Jašić during the many changes we have set out for ourselves in the coming 2 years.



If you have any article/issues that you would like to include in the next EATAW Newsletter please get in touch with Erin Zimmerman (ez12@aub.edu.lb)

This newsletter is brought to you by the EATAW Board
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Stuart Wrigley, Deputy Chair
Magnus Gustafsson, Treasurer
Christian Rapp, Web Secretary
Erin Zimmerman, Membership Secretary
Alena Kasparkova, Conference Coordinator
Amanda French, Secretary
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