



## GREETINGS

Dear EATAW members,

After a very timely and eventful EATAW23 conference in Winterthur, Switzerland, the EATAW board is pleased to share our upcoming plans for the forthcoming two years, leading up to our next EATAW conference, to be held in a yet-to-be-announced location.

First, we, the board and all its members, want to extend our gratitude to Christian Rapp and his team for organising the EATAW23 conference. The timing of the event could not have been better, and the many presentations and discussions highlighted the need for our collaborative efforts to tackle the generative AI challenges that lie ahead. As a board, we have accepted our responsibilities to coordinate and initiate various strategic actions that will harness the collective expertise of our members while navigating the complexities and opportunities presented by AI in academic writing and teaching.

For the period 2023 to 2025, we are excited to welcome our new board members John Harbord, Claudia Doroholschi, Kamila Etchegoyen Rosolová, and Kalliopi Benetos. Together with the continued dedication of Magnus, Lisa, Monica, Tom, and myself, we will strategically guide our collective path forward.

We would love to hear from you and we look forward to the next two years and continuing the wonderful work that enhances our collective impact on the teaching of academic writing.

Warm wishes,

Djuddah A.J. Leijen and the EATAW Board





## MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

**Kalliopi Benetos, PhD** (Educational Sciences) is a senior lecturer and research associate at the University of Geneva, working with the educational technology unit TECFA. She has developed C-SAW (Computer-Supported Argumentative Writer) and published her design-based research findings in the *Journal of Writing Research* and *RoCHI*. Her research interests are in computer-supported writing-to-learn, written argumentation, technology appropriation in education and instructional design for technology-mediated learning. She teaches courses human-computer interaction, digital fabrication and instructional design at the university level and currently directs the CAS in Design and development of distance learning. She has more than 20 years of experience in the design and development of educational technology and has developed digital education programs for digital learning in emergencies and provides technopedagogical consulting and training for numerous higher learning institutions, non-governmental and private organisations.

**John Harbord** is academic writing advisor at the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences of Maastricht University in the Netherlands. Together with his previous position at Central European University, he has been active in university writing support for 25 years. He was a member of the EATAW Board for several years in the early 2000s. His current research interests are in the area of effective peer feedback.

**Kamila Etchegoyen Rosolova** is currently Head of the Department of Foreign Languages and Head of the Center for Academic Writing at the Czech Academy of Sciences. Her background is in educational policy (Ph.D. from Michigan State University), conference interpreting, and education (M.A. from Charles University in Prague), but she has immersed herself in the field of writing studies for close to 15 years. She develops and teaches blended-learning courses in research writing, tutors doctoral students and researchers from diverse disciplines, and gives workshops on writing for publication in English. In her research, she takes interest in exploring the roles of dissertation supervisors' and university lecturers' in their student writing development.

**Claudia Ioana Doroholschi** is a lecturer at the West University of Timișoara, Romania, where she teaches literature and academic writing, and where she helped set up a Centre for Academic and Professional Writing aiming to promote writing research and the teaching of writing in both English and Romanian. She has published research on writing practices and the teaching of writing in Romania and her research interests include writing at university level and writing across multiple languages and contexts.



## FUTURE PLANS FOR THE BOARD DURING THE NEXT PERIOD

As board, we have spearheaded the following topics:

- **Position Statement on AI:**

The board is diligently working on formulating a position statement regarding the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in our practices and policies.

- **Expanding Affiliation Network**

We are in the process of expanding our affiliation network, forging connections with other organizations to enhance our collective knowledge and resources. Stay tuned for more news on these exciting partnerships.

Furthermore, we're initiating the following topics:

- **Podcast Platform:**

We will continue to work with our members to set up a podcast platform, providing a new medium through which we can connect, share knowledge, and discuss pertinent topics related to academic writing and teaching.

- **Member-Hosted Events:**

In our quest to enhance member engagement and knowledge sharing, we will initiate regular events hosted by our members.

Ongoing and Future Developments:

- **EATAW Website and Members Database:**

We see more potential in the use of our website and links to other social media platforms to disseminate information and remain in touch with you.

- **2025 conference and 2027 conference:**

The 2023 conference has demonstrated how important the conference venues are to build networks and contacts. We will make further efforts to connect to and support hosts and their institutions for upcoming conferences.



# Writing technology, thinking, and learning

What tutoring, teaching, and learning of writing mean in a digitalized university

## EATAW CONFERENCE 2023 IN WINTERTHUR/SWITZERLAND WITH A STRONG FOCUS ON DIGITAL WRITING

The impact of technology on academic writing has long fascinated some of the conference organisers. In fact, it dates back about a decade with the development of Thesis Writer, a tool designed to support the learning and teaching of academic writing. Despite the fact that the digitisation of academic writing has been around for about four decades, it seems that the topic had not found its way into the discourses of writing studies on a broad front. With respect to only the two previous EATAW conferences, EATAW2019 invited participants to explore the intersections introduced through and by the digitization and digital environments but did not focus explicitly on technology; EATAW2021 asked among other things how digital we are. For EATAW 2023, we considered it high time to focus more whole-heartedly on digital technology. A digitalisation grant awarded to one of the organisers provided resources to co-initiate and co-edit a Handbook on the Digitalisation of Academic Writing, addressing 20 technologies and their implications in 30 chapters, to be launched in 2020. In this spirit, EATAW 2023 had a strong focus on technology. The conference organisers were also surprised by the avalanche of new AI writing tools, with the launch of ChatGPT in November 2022 marking a watershed. In retrospect, the timing could not have been better to discuss the implications for the practice, teaching and research of academic writing. As usual, the EATAW audience proved to be international and interdisciplinary, fostering a wide range of discussions. And hey, who ever thought you could see people dancing at a conference?

The facts: About 300 participants from all over the world gathered in Winterthur for the 12th EATAW conference from 5 to 7 June, 2023 (<https://eataw23.zhaw.ch/>). The conference was dedicated to the theme "Writing technology, thinking and learning: What tutoring, teaching and learning writing mean in a digitalised university". The programme included 46 papers, 25 pedagogical presentations, 5 symposia, 8 workshops, 2 round tables and posters/demos. Three keynotes addressed the topics of "Are machines better essay writers?" (Mark Cieliebak, Winterthur), "The changing role of academic writing technologies in the digital age: supporting and capturing the writing process" (Kalliopi Benetos, Geneva & Ann Devitt, Dublin), and finally "Writing & Emerging Technologies: Strategies for Innovation, Adaptation, and Resistance" (Heidi McKee, University of Miami). A public panel was devoted to discuss implications of latest AI developments. Recordings of all four events can be accessed at (<https://zhaw.mediaspace.cast.switch.ch/channel/channelid/50372>). The conference budget left a surplus of approximately 4000 Swiss francs, which will be used for fee waivers for the next conference.

And, speaking of next conference, a tip for the organizers: Make sure there is enough coffee and sufficient cookies to keep your audience happy 😊



## CALL FOR EATAW 2025 CONFERENCE

The EATAW Board would like to invite bids from institutions that wish to host the 13th EATAW conference in the summer of 2025.

Bids should include but are not restricted to 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
  - or an indication of an agency that supports conferences outside the institution
- the number of participants the institution can host
- an indication of adequate infrastructure (such as the number and size of rooms available), accessibility, and attractiveness of the location in itself
- an indication of the type, range, and cost of accommodations
- a preliminary budget including anticipated expenses and the conference fee
- willingness to host either an onsite or online event
- previous experience with hosting conferences and similar events
- 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 host 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 Tom Muir ([tmuir@oslomet.no](mailto:tmuir@oslomet.no)) by January 31, 2024, 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](http://www.eataw.eu).



## JOAW UPDATE

Work continues on the 2023 Winter issue of JoAW, which is due to be published in December. The issue is shaping up to contain thought-provoking journal articles, teaching practice papers, and book reviews on key topics in the field of Academic Writing. The 'Call for Papers' for the EATAW 2023 Conference Special Issue of JoAW will also be coming out soon on the EATAW listserv, so EATAW members who presented at the conference please keep an eye out for this. JoAW is also now accepting manuscripts for inclusion in the Summer 2024 general issue of JoAW, and EATAW members and colleagues are encouraged to submit at <https://publications.coventry.ac.uk/index.php/joaw/index>.

JoAW's Editors-in-Chief, Magnus Gustafsson and Lisa Ganobcsik-Williams, would also like to thank Dr Alena Kasparkova and Dr Niall Curry, who have both stepped down from their Managing Editor roles on JoAW. Their hard work on behalf of EATAW has moved JoAW forward in significant ways, including introducing smoother processes for liaising with authors and reviewers, the indexing of JoAW's articles on Google Scholar, forward thinking about Scopus and database listing requirements, conceptualising and building the Editorial Board, and working to ensure high-quality content. We offer tremendous thanks to both colleagues for their invaluable work on JoAW.



EATAW Membership is free and open to individuals from all over the world who are interested in teaching, tutoring, and researching academic writing. Membership of EATAW is for two years renewable.

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