

Strategies for Supporting Graduate Writers in the Summer

Below you will find a list of ideas for supporting graduate writers over the summer. This document can be used to help us in the [Consortium on Graduate Communication](#) connect to one another who are doing similar work.

- Please add descriptions of, and links to, your own programs. Be sure to include your name and contact information.
- To make the document easier to read, consider adding **new ideas** in black font and **examples** of **programs** in **other font colors**.

Develop Knowledge of Best Writing Practices

- Workshops
 - Synchronous, asynchronous, mini-series that can be mixed and matched, workshop series,
- Individual meetings
- Classes/Courses
 - [At the University of Arizona, we have a Summer Fellowship Application Development Program](#) (Shelley Hawthorne Smith, shellh@arizona.edu)
- Guidebooks/sheets for information on writing
- Newsletters/email for sharing writing tips
- One on one writing consultations
 - With a peer
 - With a trained writing advisor

Foster a Supportive Writing Community

- Create space
 - physical space for writing
 - online space and time for writing
 - [University of Arizona Writing Efficiency Sessions](#) (Shelley Hawthorne Smith, shellh@arizona.edu)
- Develop a structure
 - A retreat or challenge that is held for a finite time
 - Support writing or accountability groups
- Offer deadlines
- Create a positive environment
 - Feature writing success stories
 - [At the University of Arizona we occasionally feature Fellowship Success Stories](#) (Shelley Hawthorne Smith shellh@arizona.edu)
 - Celebrate/share successes: use a tracker to share goals and progress

Enhance Connections within the University

- Create dialogues or cross-disciplinary conversations
 - Faculty/leaders talk about writing topics
 - Connect to postdocs
- Workshops
 - Identity-based conversations on writing
 - Connect to library resources
- Embed writing instruction in graduate courses or visit graduate courses
- Present at graduate orientation

Other

- Train faculty on approaches to supporting graduate writers
- Partner with other universities to co-offer programming
- Connect writing and career goals

This list was developed collaboratively in a [Consortium on Graduate Communication](#) 2021 monthly chat led by a team from the [University of Arizona](#) (Shelley Hawthorne Smith, Sedona Heidinger, and Alex Kemp).