



# An Introduction to Transatlantic Writing Center Resources

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Below, we offer a timeline for the development of transatlantic writing centers outside of the United States, including IWCA, followed by lists of organizations and scholarly venues advancing writing center work transatlantically. This information provides useful context for the articles presented in this issue. Due to space constraints, language barriers, and available information, these lists are limited.<sup>1</sup> We look forward to future scholarship that will continue to showcase the development of writing centers in this region. All translations below are the editors' own, except as noted.

## **Timeline of the Development of Transatlantic Writing Centers and Organizations**

1964 Canada. First university writing centre established at Innis College, University of Toronto (Procter, 2011).

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1 See the IWCA website for a full list of IWCA affiliates. We add to this list that the European Writing Centers Association became an affiliate in 1998; the Canadian Writing Centres Association/L'Association Canadienne des Centres de Rédaction and the Middle East North Africa Writing Centers Alliance each became affiliates in 2007; La Red Latinoamericana de Centros y Programas de Escritura (Latin American Network of Writing Centers and Programs) became an affiliate in 2014.

1979 United Kingdom. First university writing centre established at Newcastle Polytechnic, now University of Northumbria (Hebron, 1984; this centre was later closed due to lack of funding, see Ganobcsik-Williams, 2011, p. 261).

1982 Canada. Establishment of the Canadian Association for the Study of Language and Learning (CASLL) (Canadian Association for the Study of Discourse and Writing, n.d.-a). CASLL held its last conference in 2015 but continues its listserv. Inkshed, the press associated with CASLL, remains an active book publisher (Procter, 2018).

1982 Canada. Establishment of the Canadian Association of Teachers of Technical Writing (CATTW) (Pavelich & Jordan, 1994).

1983 United States. Establishment of the National Writing Centers Association (Kinkead, 2017, p. 11).

1988 Europe. Establishment of SIG Writing, a special interest group in the European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction (EARLI), which focuses on empirical research (SIG Writing, 2018; SIG Writing, 2019).

1989 France. First writing center established, the Writing Lab at the American University of Paris, an American-style institution (Mott, n.d.).

1990 Canada. By this date, 24 writing centres were established (Graves, 1993, p. 88).

1991 Hungary. First writing center established, the Center for Academic Writing, at the Central European University, an American-style institution (Central European University, n.d.-a; for more information about writing initiatives in Central and Eastern Europe, see Harbord, 2010).

1993 Germany. First writing center established at the University of Bielefeld, which is also the first writing center at a national (rather than American-style) university in Europe (Bräuer, 2002).

1994 Puerto Rico. First university writing center established in Latin America, at La Universidad Interamericana de Puerto Rico (Interamerican University of Puerto Rico), a center that closed in 2000 (García-Arroyo & Quintana, 2012; for more information on writing initiatives in Latin American and Spanish universities, see Carlino, 2012).

1994 South Africa. First writing centre established at the University of the Western Cape, followed soon thereafter by two other new writing centres, at the University of Witwatersrand and University of Cape Town (Archer, 2008; Archer, 2012; Archer & Richards, 2011).

1998 Europe. Establishment of the European Writing Centers Association (EWCA). Scholars at two writing-center-hosting universities, the American College of Thessaloniki in Greece and the American University in Bulgaria, were instrumental in its founding (European Writing Centers Association, n.d.-b).

1999 Kenya. First writing centre established at the Daystar University Writing and Speech Centre (Wambua, 2020).

2000 Turkey. First writing center established, the Sabancı University Writing Center, part of the Center for Individual and Academic Development at Sabancı University (Tokay, 2012).

2000 United States. National Writing Centers Association changes its name to International Writing Centers Association (Kinkead, 2017, p. 11), prompted in part by the 1998 establishment of the EWCA (European Writing Centers Association, n.d.-a).

2001 Europe. Establishment of the European Association for the Teaching of Academic Writing (EATAW) (European Association for the Teaching of Academic Writing, n.d.).

2001 Germany. First writing center with peer tutoring established at the Pädagogische Hochschule Freiburg (University of Education Freiburg) (Macgilchrist & Girgensohn, 2011, p. 9; see this source for the translation of the university's name).

2001 Turkey. Writing center established at the School for Foreign Languages of Middle East Technical University, working with all students, faculty, and staff (Saydam & Çavuşoğlu, 2015).

2002 United Kingdom. First writing centre in Northern Ireland established at St. Mary's University (Worley, 2012).

2003. Puerto Rico. The UNESCO Chair for the Improvement of Reading and Writing in Latin America established at La Universidad Interamericana de

Puerto Rico, prompting the reopening of its writing center in 2008 (García-Arroyo & Quintana, 2012).

2003 Qatar. Writing center established at Texas A&M University at Qatar (Williams, Ahmed, & Bamigbade, 2018, p. 47).

2003 Sweden. Establishment of the national Nätverket för Språkverkstäder (Network for Language Centers); these Language Centers work with students on all aspects of their writing.<sup>2</sup>

2004 Lebanon. Writing center established at the American University of Beirut (American University of Beirut, n.d.).

2004 United Arab Emirates. Two writing centers established: at the American University of Sharjah (Ronesi, 2012), an undergraduate peer-tutoring writing center, and at the country's first national university, United Arab Emirates University, where professional tutors and peer-tutors work with students and faculty across the disciplines (Elsheikh & Mascaro, 2018, pp. 35–36).

2004 United Kingdom. First centrally funded writing centre established, the Centre for Academic Writing at Coventry University (Ganobcsik-Williams, 2011, p. 254).

2005 Mexico. First writing center established, the Centro de Aprendizaje, Redacción y Lenguas, en el Departamento Académico de Lenguas at Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (Center for Learning, Composition, and Languages in the Department of Academic Languages at the Autonomous Technical University of Mexico) (Molina-Natera, 2015, p. 16; Ormsby, 2015, p. 33).

2005 Switzerland. Establishment of the Forum wissenschaftliches Schreiben (Forum for Academic Writing), a national organization for academic writing (Forum wissenschaftliches Schreiben, n.d.).

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2 A national grant to broaden higher education recruitment of students from diverse backgrounds prompted the creation of eight language workshops, at Lund, Malmö, Södertörn, Umeå, and Växjö Universities, as well as Stockholm University (which also hosted a language center specifically for the teacher training school) and Linköping University's Campus Norrköping; the same grant underwrote language support at the University of Borås and the Karolinska Institutet, a medical university. By 2006, funding for these centers became permanent (Broady et al., 2006).

2007 Canada. Establishment of the bilingual Canadian Writing Centres Association/L'Association Canadienne des Centres de Rédaction, with two regional affiliates in the east and west (Canadian Writing Centres Association, 2008; Canadian Writing Centres Association, n.d.).

2007 Mexico. Writing center established, the Centro Escritura Académica in the Departamento de Filosofía y Letras at the Universidad de las Américas (Academic Writing Center in the Department of Philosophy and Letters at University of the Americas), Puebla (Velasco, 2015, p. 56).

2007 Israel. Establishment of the Israel Forum for Academic Writing to connect teachers and researchers (Israel Forum for Academic Writing, n.d.; Zuckermann et al., 2011, p. 244).

2007 Middle East-North Africa. Establishment of the Middle East-North Africa Writing Centers Alliance (MENAWCA, n.d.).

2007 Republic of Ireland. First academic writing centre, the Regional Writing Centre, established at the University of Limerick (Cleary, 2020), where professional tutors and peer-tutors work with students and faculty across the disciplines.

2008 Canada. CATFW is renamed the Canadian Association for the Study of Discourse and Writing/Association canadienne de rédactologie (Canadian Association for the Study of Discourse and Writing, n.d.-b).

2008 Colombia and Ecuador. First writing centers established in South America at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Cali and Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador in Quito, the latter with the support of a Fulbright award (Molina-Natera, 2016, pp. 344; Severino, 2010, p. 27).

2008 Namibia. First writing center established, the Writing Excellence Unit in the Language Centre at the University of Namibia, the first national university. In 2009, a second center was established at Polytechnic of Namibia, now the Namibia University of Science and Technology (Broekhoff, 2014, p. 72).

2008 Qatar. First writing center established, the English Writing Lab, at Qatar University, a national university (Williams, Ahmed, & Bamigbade, 2018, p. 47).

2008 The Netherlands. Establishment of the Netwerk Academische Communicatieve Vaardigheden (NACV) (Network of Academic Communicative

Skills), prompted by initial 2003 EATAW conversations (Netwerk Academische Communicatieve Vaardigheden, n.d.-a).

2009 Austria. Establishment of the Gesellschaft für wissenschaftliches Schreiben (Organization for Academic Writing) to support writing initiatives, research, and publications (Gesellschaft für wissenschaftliches Schreiben, 2017).

2010 Germany. First Lange Nacht der aufgeschobenen Hausarbeiten (Long Night Against Procrastination) at the European University Viadrina (O'Sullivan & Cleary, 2012, pp. 155–157; Girgensohn, 2012, p. 133 [Girgensohn's translation]). This idea has been taken up by universities in North America and the Middle East (see, e.g., Kiscaden & Nash, 2015; Datig & Herkner, 2014).

2010 Ghana. The Ashesi Writing Centre established at Ashesi University with peer and professional tutors (Hansen-Quao, 2010).

2010 Lebanon. Writing center established at the Lebanese American University in Beirut with faculty and peer tutors; in 2012, the writing center expanded to the Byblos campus (Hodges, Habre, & Daouk, 2019).

2011 Poland. Writing center established, the English Writing Improvement Center, at the University of Łódź (Reichelt et al., 2013).

2011 Russia. First two writing centers established, the Writing and Communication Center at the New Economic School and the Academic Writing Center at the National Research University Higher School of Economics (Korotkina, 2018, p. 6).

2011 Saudi Arabia. First writing center established, the Writing Studio at Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, a national women's university, with three more writing centers created at national universities between 2012 and 2014 (Eusafzai, 2018, pp. 4–5).

2011 South Africa. By this date, writing centers were established at most universities in South Africa, generally with professional tutors (Archer & Richards, 2011, p. 5).

2012 Israel. First academic writing center established, at the Interdisciplinary Center Herzliya (Connecting Writing Centers Across Borders, 2015).

2013 El Salvador. Writing center established at the School of Languages at the University of Don Bosco (source's translation) (Pérez de Cabrera, 2014, p. 33).

2013 Germany. Establishment of the Gesellschaft für Schreibdidaktik und Schreibforschung (gefsus) (Organization for Writing Pedagogy and Writing Research) to support all aspects of academic writing (Gesellschaft für Schreibdidaktik und Schreibforschung, n.d.).

2013 Ghana. The University of Ghana-Carnegie Writing Center established in the Department of English at the University of Ghana (School of Languages, n.d.).

2014 Germany. By this date, more than 60 writing centers were established (Scott, 2016, p. 3).

2014 Latin America. By this date, at least 40 writing centers and/or writing programs were established: at least 11 in Colombia, with others in Mexico, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic (Molina-Natera & López-Gil, 2019, pp. 101–103).

2014 Latin America. Establishment of La Red Latinoamericana de Centros y Programas de Escritura (RLCPE) (The Latin American Network of Writing Centers and Programs), including institutions from ten countries (Molina-Natera, 2016, p. 344; La Red Latinoamericana de Centros y Programas de Escritura, n.d.).

2014 Serbia. Writing center established, the Niš Writing Center, at the American Corner Niš, under the umbrella of the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade (Schreiber & Đurić, 2017).

2015 Republic of Ireland. Establishment of the Irish Network for the Enhancement of Writing (INEW) (Irish Network for the Enhancement of Writing, n.d.). INEW, along with the All Ireland Society for Higher Education, publishes practical guides, including two devoted to writing centre work (Farrell, O'Sullivan, & Tighe-Mooney, 2015; O'Sullivan, Tighne-Mooney, Lenihan, & Farrell, 2018).

2015 South Africa. Writing center, the Writing Lab, established at the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Cape Town (Muna, Hoosen, Moxley, & Pletzen, 2019).

2016 Botswana. Writing center, the University Writing Centre, established at Botswana International University of Science and Technology (Botswana International University of Science and Technology, n.d.).

2016 Brazil. Writing center, the Centro de Assessoria de Publicação Acadêmica, established at the Universidade Federal do Paraná (Academic Publishing Advisory Center at the Federal University of Paraná [source's translation]) in Curitiba, the "first true writing center in Brazil" (Cons & Martinez, 2021).

2016 The Netherlands. Establishment of the PAS: Platform Academische Schrijfcentra (Platform of Academic Writing Centres) to support academic writing centers; PAS is part of NACV (Netwerk Academische Communicatieve Vaardigheden, n.d.-b).

2017 Russia. Establishment of the National Writing Centers Consortium (National Writing Centers Consortium, n.d.).

2019 Colombia. By this date, at least 24 institutions of higher education have initiatives that include writing tutoring (Calle-Arango, 2020, p. 88).

2020. Hungary. The Center for Academic Writing at the Central European University "forced from Budapest" to Vienna (Schulteis, 2020; see also Central European University, n.d.-b).

2020 Turkey. First K-12 writing centers, the Hisar Writing Center and Writing Center Jr., established at Hisar School (Hisar School, n.d.; see also Gibbs, 2020).

### **Some Less Formal, But Noteworthy, Networks of Writing Centers**

Argentina. See Castagno, Giammarini, Lizarriturri, Moyano, Novo, & Waigandt in this issue.

South Africa. The South African Writing Centres group includes a listserv, directory, and SIGs at the national conference of the Higher Education in Learning and Teaching Association of South Africa (HELTASA) (Archer & Richards, 2011, p. 6; Richards & Daniels, 2015).

Sweden. The Nätverket för studie-och språkverkstäder (Swedish Network for Language and Study Support units [source's translation]) hosts regular national meetings (University of Gothenburg, n.d.; see also Broady, et al., 2006).



United Kingdom. The Writing Development in Higher Education network hosts a biennial conference and listserv, WRITING-DEV-HE@JISCMAIL.AC.UK (Ganobcsik-Williams, 2006).<sup>3</sup>

### Publication Venues

In addition to creating formal and informal organizations, writing centers establish themselves in universities through research and scholarship.

Because writing center work is so interdisciplinary, this scholarship is not only published in journals focused on writing centers, but also on writing studies, education, and English. Of note, the open-access book series, International Exchanges on the Study of Writing, hosted by the WAC Clearinghouse and the University Press of Colorado, highlights writing development across borders: <https://wac.colostate.edu/books/international/>.

Below is a list of prominent journals and book series in the transatlantic region, arranged by region, alphabetically.

### Canada

- *Canadian Journal for Studies in Discourse and Writing/Rédactologie*, originally called *Technostyle* (1982–), from the Canadian Association for the Study of Discourse and Writing, <https://journals.sfu.ca/cjrdw/index.php/cjrdw/about>
- *The Canadian Writing Centre Review/revue Canadienne des centres de rédaction* (2019–), from the Canadian Writing Centres Association/L'Association Canadienne des Centres de Rédaction, <https://cwcaaccr.com/cwcr-rccr-blog/>
- Inkshed publishes academic texts, <https://www.inkshedpress.ca/>, and has also partnered with Parlor Press on a book series, *Writing Studies in Canada*, <https://parlorpress.com/pages/inkshed-writing-studies-in-canada>; to find the issues of the journal called *Inkshed* (1982–2015), published by the Canadian Association for the Study of Language and Learning, see <https://casdw-acr.ca/resources/casllinkshed-archives/>

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## Europe

- *Journal of Academic Literacy and Research Skills* (2019–), from the National Writing Centers Consortium in Russia, <https://nwcc-consortium.ru/en/jalrs-journal/>
- *Journal of Academic Writing* (2011–), from the European Association of the Teaching of Academic Writing (EATAW), <https://www.jowr.org/index.html>
- *Journal of Writing Research* (2008–), supported by EARLI SIG Writing, <https://www.jowr.org/>
- *Journal für Schreibwissenschaft (Journal of Writing Studies)* (2010–), before 2020 *Journal der Schreibberatung (Journal of Writing Consultation)*, supported by Die Gesellschaft für Schreibdidaktik und Schreibforschung (gefsus), <https://www.josch-journal.de/>
- *Zeitschrift Schreiben (European Journal of Writing, journal's translation)* (2006–2019), published by the Pädagogische Hochschule (University of Education) in Zürich, <https://zeitschrift-schreiben.ch/>
- Böhlau Verlag book series, *Schreibwissenschaft (Writing Studies)*, <https://www.vandenhoeck-ruprecht-verlage.com/themen-entdecken/literatur-sprach-und-kulturwissenschaften/sprach-und-literaturwissenschaften/literaturwissenschaft-komparatistik/53530/schreibwissenschaft>
- Springer book series, *Studies in Writing*, <https://www.springer.com/series/6604>
- wbv media book series, *Theorie und Praxis der Schreibwissenschaft (Theory and Practice in Writing Studies)*, <https://www.wbv.de/buchreihen/theorie-und-praxis-der-schreibwissenschaft.html>

## Latin America

- La Red Latinoamericana de Centros y Programas de Escritura (RLCPE), listing publications relevant to writing centers in the region, <https://sites.google.com/site/redlapce/documentos>
- *Boletín de la Red Latinoamericana de Centros y Programas de Escritura (Bulletin of the Association of Latin American Writing Centers and Writing Programs)*, from RLCPE (2019–), <https://sites.google.com/site/redlapce/documentos/boletin-de-la-rlcpe>
- *magis, Revista Internacional de Investigación en Educación (Magis: International Journal of Education)* (2008–), <https://revistas.javeriana.edu.co/index.php/MAGIS>
- *Revista Colombiana de Educación (Colombian Journal of Education)* (1978–), <https://revistas.pedagogica.edu.co/index.php/RCE>

- *Revista Mexicana de Investigación Educativa* (*Mexican Journal of Education Studies*) (1996–), <https://www.comie.org.mx/revista/>
- The WAC Clearinghouse bilingual, open-access book series, *International Exchanges: Latin America*, <https://wac.colostate.edu/books/international/la/>

### **Middle East, North Africa, & Sub-Saharan Africa**

- Middle East-North Africa Writing Centers Alliance, listing publications relevant to writing centers in the region, <http://menawca.org/bibliography-of-publications>
- *Southern African Linguistics and Applied Language Studies* (2000–), <https://salals.org.za/journal/>
- *South African Journal of Higher Education* (1987–), <https://www.journals.ac.za/index.php/sajhe/about>
- *Stellenbosch Papers in Linguistics Plus* (1980–), <https://spilplus.journals.ac.za/pub/index>
- Sun Press, a division of African Sun Media, publishing books on writing studies and higher education, <https://africansunmedia.co.za/>

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- Canadian Journal for Studies in Discourse and Writing/Rédactologie* (CJSJDW/R) (n.d.) *About the journal*. <https://journals.sfu.ca/cjsdw/index.php/cjsdw/about>
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