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# Professors As Writers Robert Boice

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A Guide to Getting Tenure  
and Advancing Your  
Academic Career  
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Professors as WritersA  
Self-help Guide to

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Productive Writing  
Advice for New Faculty  
Members Pearson

For anyone who has blanched at the uphill prospect of finishing a thesis, dissertation, or book, this piece holds out something more practical than hope: a plan.

A Guide for First-time  
Academic Authors Praeger  
Pub Text

A classic handbook for anyone who needs to write, *Writing With Power* speaks to everyone who has wrestled with words while seeking to gain power with them. Here, Peter Elbow

emphasizes that the essential activities underlying good writing and the essential exercises promoting it are really not difficult at all. Employing a cookbook approach, Elbow provides the reader (and writer) with various recipes: for getting words down on paper, for revising, for dealing with an audience, for getting feedback on a piece of writing, and still other recipes for approaching the mystery of power in writing. In a new introduction, he offers his reflections on the original edition, discusses the responses from people who have followed his techniques, how his

methods may differ from other processes, and how his original topics are still pertinent to today's writer. By taking risks and embracing mistakes, Elbow hopes the writer may somehow find a hold on the creative process and be able to heighten two mentalities--the production of writing and the revision of it. From students and teachers to novelists and poets, *Writing with Power* reminds us that we can celebrate the uses of mystery, chaos, nonplanning, and magic, while achieving analysis, conscious control, explicitness, and care in whatever it is we set down on

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paper.

**Strategies for Process,  
Product, and Productivity**

Stylus Publishing, LLC

Eminent scholars discuss the politics and practices of generating scholarship in rhetoric and composition studies. Publishing in *Rhetoric and Composition* is a collection of essays about the politics and practices of generating scholarship in rhetoric and composition.

The contributors to this book, many of whom are current or past editors of the discipline's most prestigious

scholarly journals, undoubtedly have their finger on the pulse of composition's most current scholarship and offer invaluable insight into the production and publication of original research. They discuss publishing articles and reviews, as well as book-length projects, including scholarly monographs, edited collections, and textbooks. They also address such topics as how composition research is valued in English departments, recent developments in electronic

publishing, the work habits of successful academic writers, and the complications of mentoring graduate students in a publish-or-perish profession. An inviting and helpful tone makes this an ideal textbook for research methodology and professional writing courses. [Joining the Mission](#) Springer Drawing on more than four decades of experience as a researcher and teacher, Howard Becker now brings

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to students and researchers the many valuable techniques he has learned. Tricks of the Trade will help students learn how to think about research projects. Assisted by Becker's sage advice, students can make better sense of their research and simultaneously generate fresh ideas on where to

look next for new data. The tricks cover four broad areas of social science: the creation of the "imagery" to guide research; methods of "sampling" to generate maximum variety in the data; the development of "concepts" to organize findings; and the use of "logical" methods to explore

systematically the implications of what is found. Becker's advice ranges from simple tricks such as changing an interview question from "Why?" to "How?" (as a way of getting people to talk without asking for a justification) to more technical tricks such as how to manipulate truth tables. Becker has

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extracted these tricks from a variety of fields such as art history, anthropology, sociology, literature, and philosophy; and his dazzling variety of references ranges from James Agee to Ludwig Wittgenstein. Becker finds the common principles that lie behind good social science

work, principles that apply to both quantitative and qualitative research. He offers practical advice, ideas students can apply to their data with the confidence that they will return with something they hadn't thought of before. Like *Writing for Social Scientists, Tricks of the Trade* will bring aid and

comfort to generations of students. Written in the informal, accessible style for which Becker is known, this book will be an essential resource for students in a wide variety of fields. "An instant classic. . . . Becker's stories and reflections make a great book, one that will find its way into the

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hands of a great many social scientists, and as with everything he writes, it is lively and accessible, a joy to read."—Charles Ragin, Northwestern University  
*Teaching Engineering*  
Amer Psychological Assn  
Addressing head-on how power and the thorny politics of race converge in the academy, this guide

is full of invaluable tips and hard-earned wisdom. Its aim is to help black academics thrive without losing their voices or their integrity.  
*Tricks of the Trade*  
Professors as Writers  
A Self-help Guide to Productive Writing  
Here is a proven book to help scholars master writing as a productive, enjoyable, and successful experience -- Author, Robert Boice, prepared this self-help manual for professors who

want to write more productively, painlessly, and successfully. It reflects the author's two decades of experiences and research with professors as writers -- by compressing a lot of experience into a brief, programmatic framework. Like the actual sessions and workshops in which the author works with writers, this book admonishes and reassures. In the innovative book lies the path for sustained,

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highly productive  
scholarly  
writing!Advice for New  
Faculty MembersNihil  
Nimus  
For the first time in  
decades, most American  
campuses are in the  
midst of hiring large  
groups of new faculty.  
As competition for the  
most qualified  
candidates increases,  
institutions must work  
harder than ever to  
attract and retain the  
best and most diverse  
prospects. This often  
requires investing  
considerable resources  
in recruitment and

hiring--and makes it  
imperative that new  
hires are not lost to  
competitors or to  
unhappy or unproductive  
beginnings. In this  
book, Robert Boice  
offers a range of  
proven support  
strategies designed to  
help new faculty  
thrive--from campuswide  
programs for nurturing  
newcomers to projects  
that help them to help  
themselves. Boice  
identifies the major  
challenges facing most  
new faculty--teaching,  
scholarly writing, and  
simply fitting in as

colleagues--and  
provides tested  
solutions for helping  
them cope. He outlines  
a structured mentoring  
program to build  
collegiality through  
social support  
networks. And he  
presents specific  
techniques for helping  
new faculty find time,  
fluency, and balance as  
writers, including  
advice on dealing with  
editorial evaluations  
or rejections. The  
author also details a  
variety of self-help  
projects, including  
exercise and mood

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management groups run largely by new faculty, as well as faculty handbooks and newsletters. And perhaps most important, he tells how to gain the crucial support of department chairs, deans, and other administrators, secure funds to get programs off the ground, and keep new programs manageable and successful.

*Nihil Nimus* Stylus Publishing, LLC  
How to Write a BA Thesis is the only

book that directly addresses the needs of undergraduate students writing a major paper. This book offers step-by-step advice on how to move from early ideas to finished paper. It covers choosing a topic, selecting an advisor, writing a proposal, conducting research, developing an argument, writing

and editing the thesis, and making through a defense. Lipson also acknowledges the challenges that arise when tackling such a project, and he offers advice for breaking through writer's block and juggling school-life demands. This is a must-read for anyone writing a BA thesis, or for anyone who advises



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these students.  
*The Thesis and the Book Stylus*  
Publishing, LLC  
Expert advice for writing faster and writing better!  
& break; & break; Every writer has felt the pressure of a deadline. Writing is a challenge: there are the problems of getting started, feelings of writer's block, and numerous interruptions lying between you and a finished piece. This book is your guide to getting through that

obstacle course with success.  
& break; & break; In *Write Faster, Write Better*, author and editor David A. Fryxell shares his secrets for writing faster while boosting your creativity and the quality of your work. He guides you step-by-step through the writing process to help you create a publishable manuscript in less time. You'll learn how to:  
& break; & break; Organize your time, ideas and files  
& break; Find your focus  
& break; Develop

story-worthy ideas  
& break; Think like an editor  
& break; Use smart internet search strategies  
& break; Pull it all together to beat writer's block  
& break; Write faster fiction, nonfiction, scripts and humor  
& break; & break; Each chapter is full of rich examples to help you put Fryxell's principles into practice. You'll find specific exercises to help you start writing faster in your own work and overcome the challenges you face.

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Liberate yourself today with the proven techniques found inside *Write Faster, Write Better!*

**Slow Professor**

University of Toronto Press

Research shows that five strategies correlate with the successful completion of a dissertation: Establishing a consistent writing routine Working with a support group Consulting your advisor Understanding your committee's

expectations Setting a realistic and timely schedule Building on these insights, this book is for anyone who needs help in preparing for, organizing, planning, scheduling, and writing the longest sustained writing project they have encountered, particularly if he or she is not receiving sufficient guidance about the process, but also for anyone

looking to boost his or her writing productivity. The author uncovers much tacit knowledge, provides advice on working with dissertation advisors and committee members, presents proven techniques for the prewriting and writing stages of the dissertation, sets out a system for keeping on schedule, and advocates enlisting peer support. As Peg Boyle

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Single states, "my goal is quite simple and straightforward: for you to experience greater efficiency and enjoyment while writing. If you experience anxiety, blocking, impatience, perfectionism or procrastination when you write, then this system is for you. I want you to be able to complete your writing so that you can move on with the rest of your life." Few scholars, let alone graduate students, have been taught habits of writing fluency and productivity. The writing skills imparted by this book will not only help the reader through the dissertation writing process, but will serve her or him in whatever career she or he embarks on, given the paramount importance of written communication, especially in the academy. This book presents a system of straightforward and proven techniques that are used by productive writers, and applies them to the dissertation process. In particular, it promotes the concept of writing networks - whether writing partners or groups - to ensure that writing does not become an isolated and tortured process, while not hiding the need for persistence

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and sustained effort. their students more  
This book is intended effectively and even  
for graduate students achieve greater  
and their advisers in fluency in their own  
the social sciences, writing.  
the humanities, and *The Black Academic's*  
professional fields. *Guide to Winning*  
It can further serve *Tenure--without Losing*  
as a textbook for *Your Soul* University  
either informal of Chicago Press  
writing groups led by This is a pithy, no-  
students or for nonsense, no-excuses  
formal writing guide to maximizing  
seminars offered by the quality and  
departments or quantity of your  
graduate colleges. scholarly products.  
The techniques Write to the Top!  
described will help offers an accessible  
new faculty advice overview of the art of  
writing efficiently

and effectively; it is  
the first book that  
explicitly summarizes  
the key elements to  
prolific productivity  
in academic settings.  
**Techniques for**  
**Mastering the Writing**  
**Process** SUNY Press  
Built around real  
group interactions,  
Team Writing is a  
flexible, hybrid  
resource that pairs  
videos with a brief  
print book. Based on  
research revealing  
major problems at all  
stages of peer group  
work, the book shows

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how written communication can help technical writing students contribute to team projects in a meaningful way – and provides strategies for dealing with the breakdowns that can derail a project’s success. Numerous examples highlight the kind of written communication that helps teams thrive. Short, Web-based videos depict student teams in action,

going beyond the textbook to show what real collaboration looks and sounds like.

**Transitions and Tools that Support Scholars’ Success**

Cambridge University Press

Joining the Mission is a helpful guide for new (and experienced) faculty at religious colleges and universities. Susan VanZanten here provides an orientation to the

world of Christian higher education and an introduction to the academic profession of teaching, scholarship, and service, with a special emphasis on opportunities and challenges common to mission-driven institutions. From designing a syllabus to dealing with problem students, from working with committees to achieving a balanced

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life, VanZanten's guidebook will help faculty across the disciplines Art to Zoology and every subject between understand better what it means to pursue faithfully a vocation as professor. Susan VanZanten's *Joining the Mission* is an exceptional resource for all faculty members at Christian colleges and universities. While it is a very

practical guide to teaching at a university, the book also helps the reader understand and wrestle with the nuances of what it means to be a faculty member at a mission-driven institution. I appreciate VanZanten's contribution to articulating why mission is important at our institutions, why we care about it so much, and how we can better accomplish it. Thomas Cedel

President, Concordia University Texas  
The Elements of Academic Style John Wiley & Sons  
When a dissertation crosses my desk, I usually want to grab it by its metaphorical lapels and give it a good shake. "You know something!" I would say if it could hear me. "Now tell it to us in language we can understand!" Since its publication in 2005, *From Dissertation to Book* has helped thousands of young academic authors get

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their books beyond the thesis committee and into the hands of interested publishers and general readers. Now revised and updated to reflect the evolution of scholarly publishing, this edition includes a new chapter arguing that the future of academic writing is in the hands of young scholars who must create work that meets the broader expectations of readers rather than the narrow requirements of academic committees. At the heart of From Dissertation to Book is the idea that revising and confronting the dissertation is fundamentally a process of shifting its focus from the concerns of a narrow audience—a committee or advisors—to those of a broader scholarly audience that wants writing to be both informative and engaging. William Germano offers clear guidance on how to do this, with advice on such topics as rethinking the table of contents, taming runaway footnotes, shaping chapter length, and confronting the limitations of jargon, alongside helpful timetables for light or heavy revision. Germano draws on his years of experience in both academia and publishing to show writers how to turn a dissertation into a book that an audience will actually enjoy, whether reading on a page or a screen. Germano also acknowledges that not all dissertations can or even should become books and explores other, often

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overlooked, options, such as turning them into journal articles or chapters in an edited work. With clear directions, engaging examples, and an eye for the idiosyncrasies of academic writing, *From Dissertation to Book* reveals to recent PhDs the secrets of careful and thoughtful revision—a skill that will be truly invaluable as they add “author” to their curriculum vitae.

**How to Write a Lot**  
Harvard University  
Press

*Tomorrow's Professor* is designed to help you prepare for, find, and succeed at academic careers in science and engineering. It looks at the full range of North American four-year academic institutions while featuring 30 vignettes and more than 50 individual stories that bring to life the principles and strategies outlined in the book. Tailored for today's

graduate students, postdocs, and beginning professors, *Tomorrow's Professor: Presents a no-holds-barred look at the academic enterprise* Describes a powerful preparation strategy to make you competitive for academic positions while maintaining your options for worthwhile careers in government and industry Explains how to get the offer you want and start-up



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package you need to help ensure success in your first critical years on the job Provides essential insights from experienced faculty on how to develop a rewarding academic career and a quality of life that is both balanced and fulfilling Bonus material is available for free download at <http://booksupport.wiley.com> At a time when anxiety about academic career

opportunities for Ph.D.s in these field is at an all-time high, Tomorrow's Professor provides a much-needed practical approach to career development. Procrastination and Blocking Jossey-Bass From the author of Stylish Academic Writing comes an essential new guide for writers aspiring to become more productive and

take greater pleasure in their craft. Helen Sword interviewed 100 academics worldwide about their writing background and practices and shows how they find or create the conditions to get their writing done. *Write to the Top!* Purdue University Press All students and professors need to write, and many

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struggle to finish their stalled dissertations, journal articles, book chapters, or grant proposals. Writing is hard work and can be difficult to wedge into a frenetic academic schedule. In this practical, light-hearted, and encouraging book, Paul Silvia explains that writing productively does not require innate skills or special traits but

specific tactics and actions. Drawing examples from his own field of psychology, he shows readers how to overcome motivational roadblocks and become prolific without sacrificing evenings, weekends, and vacations. After describing strategies for writing productively, the author gives detailed advice from the trenches on how to write, submit,

revise, and resubmit articles, how to improve writing quality, and how to write and publish academic work.

Tomorrow's Professor  
SAGE

The detailed, practical, step-by-step advice in this user-friendly guide will help students and researchers to communicate their work more effectively through the written word. Covering all aspects of the

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writing process, this concise, accessible resource is critically acclaimed, well-structured, comprehensive, and entertaining. Self-help exercises and abundant examples from actual typescripts draw on the authors' extensive experience working both as researchers and with them. Whilst retaining the user-friendly and pragmatic style of

earlier editions, this third edition has been updated and broadened to incorporate such timely topics as guidelines for successful international publication, ethical and legal issues including plagiarism and falsified data, electronic publication, and text-based talks and poster presentations. With advice applicable to many

writing contexts in the majority of scientific disciplines, this book is a powerful tool for improving individual skills and an eminently suitable text for classroom courses or seminars.

*Team Writing*  
University of Toronto  
Press

"If you want to achieve tenure, you should know a bit more about what it means and why it exists, and its benefits. All too often, even faculty

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don't understand why tenure is important." Thus begins the Preface of *Candid Advice for New Faculty Members*, the newest and most comprehensive "how to" guide for graduate students, post-docs, and junior faculty across a variety of academic disciplines. Drawing upon her own extensive experiences and that of many colleagues, Marybeth Gasman provides you with an incredibly valuable tool for attaining tenure and for the things that you should do to advance your academic career. She provides practical (and sometimes humorous) advice about a range of topics, including: negotiating job offers planning a research agenda improving your teaching skills managing service advising students applying for research grants achieving life/work balance managing academic politics In addition to this valuable career advice, Gasman provides a peek behind the academy's curtain by painting a vivid picture of the inner workings of the academy and all of its players. *Candid Advice for New Faculty Members* is required reading for every newly-minted faculty member, regardless of academic discipline. The wisdom provided in this volume will prove to be invaluable to your future career. Perfect for courses such as: Doctoral seminars across various disciplines, College and University Teaching, Graduate

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Student Research  
Seminars, Professional  
Development Seminars  
A Guide for Early  
Career Faculty Wm. B.  
Eerdmans Publishing  
Writing a doctoral  
thesis can be an  
arduous and confusing  
process. This book  
provides a clear  
framework for  
developing a sound  
structure for your  
thesis, using a simple  
approach to make it  
watertight, defensible  
and clear. Bottery and  
Wright draw on their  
extensive experience  
of supervising and

examining numerous  
doctorates from an  
internationally diverse  
and multicultural  
student body both in  
the UK and overseas,  
and include examples of  
how successful theses  
have been made  
watertight along with  
exercises to enable  
readers to do the same  
thing to their own  
thesis. The authors  
demonstrate how the key  
to making a thesis  
watertight lies in  
selecting the central  
research question and  
the sub-research  
questions that together

collectively answer  
this main one. If these  
questions are well  
formulated the thesis  
can be defended  
successfully against  
criticism on structural  
grounds - a major part  
of the battle.  
Including chapters on  
the viva process,  
strength-testing your  
thesis and essential  
preparation for writing  
up your research, this  
is the resource for  
anyone looking to  
produce a well-  
structured, watertight  
piece of research.