



UNPLUGGED

April 1-2, 2022 at Delta State University in Cleveland, MS Keynote Speaker: Travis Webster, author of Queerly Centered

The Writing Center at Delta State University and the Board of the Mississippi Writing Center Association (MSWCA) are pleased to announce the theme for the 2022 MSWCA conference: “MSWCA Unplugged.” This plays on the dual sense of “unplugged” as both a technological and musical concept and invites us to return to our roots—pedagogically, and in the case of the Mississippi Delta, musically!

After a tumultuous two years of adapting to a “pandemic normal,” a chance to “unplug” and reflect together will help us build from those roots and grow in the future. As the rhythm of music moves with emotion and feelings, so does the rhythm of our writing centers, and our 2022 conference will be a chance to ensure we are actively “tuned in.” Technology is invaluable, and without tools like video chat and online tutoring software, many of us would not have been able to continue our work through the pandemic. However, at the core of what we do, there are fundamental principles and strategies that inform our work across all modes—in person, online, or in various hybrid forms—and as we reflect and look ahead, we have a chance to reaffirm and possibly re-imagine those principles.

For this year’s conference, we welcome proposals on any writing center related research and practice, but particularly invite proposals that reflect on how writing center work has been impacted by the pandemic. Our “jam sessions” are an opportunity to consider what we have learned from the pandemic and how we are coping with a return to in-person tutoring—and likely, a “new normal” of balancing in-person tutoring with continued uses of technology. Some questions you may wish to consider:

- How do you describe the rhythm and culture of your writing center pre/post pandemic?
- What crossroads did you encounter in the writing center during the pandemic?
- How has the rhythm of your writing center changed or stayed the same in relation to using technology through the various stages of the pandemic?
- How has your writing center overcome the pandemic blues?
- What technology has been particularly beneficial to your tutorial sessions, and what could you fruitfully “unplug” and store away?

The “music” of our writing centers is the product of many “instruments,” none necessarily more important than the other. MSWCA hopes for conference participants to gain insight on their own writing center practices as well as useful practices from other writing centers in the hopes that we can attune ourselves to what will best serve our student populations now and in the future.

Proposal Deadline: February 25, 2022

Notification: March 15, 2022

Registration: Online or In-Person

Conference Fees

Administrators/Professionals - \$85

Students - \$20

Types of Proposals

Panel Presentations (1 hour and 15 minutes)
Interactive Workshops (1 hour and 15 minutes)
Roundtable Discussions (1 hour and 15 minutes)
Individual Presentations (20 minutes) and Posters

Please visit our website (mswritingcenters.org) for more information, registration, and proposal submissions.