

# Newsletter

CSU *Writes*

FACULTY *Writes*

GRAD *Writes*

[www.csuwrites.colostate.edu](http://www.csuwrites.colostate.edu)

Encouraging academic writers to have ***brief, frequent, low-stress, high-reward*** sessions with projects they enjoy.

Inspired by Dr. Joli Jensen, author of ***Write No Matter What***

## Sept 2016

## CSU Writes Continues...with Gratitude

Last year, CSU *Writes* began with a goal to help writers connect across campus so that we might write more easily and submit more work for publication or degree completion. I didn't actually know how many writers on campus would be interested, but I hoped CSU *Writes* would serve at least a couple dozen writers on campus. That number blossomed to include more than 270 faculty and graduate student writers! Last year was lively and lovely—kind of like drinking from a firehose. I learned a lot quickly and had a blast.

CSU *Writes* continues with a slight shift in focus and a new arrangement for offerings. Focusing on the productivity needs of academic writers, CSU *Writes* has branched into two curated sets of offerings: **FACULTY Writes** and **GRAD Writes**. These two branches include workshops, retreats, writing groups, and “show up & write” sessions designed to address the specific needs of faculty writers and grad writers, respectively.

I am incredibly grateful for the enthusiasm and interest from all of you who participated in CSU *Writes* offerings last year as well as for the start-up funds from the Ripple Effect that got the program going. Thank you. You are the inspiration—literally, the spirit behind this program. This year, CSU *Writes* continues with support from Graduate School, VP for Research, and Provost Office. I look forward to working with you and more academic writers this 2016-17 academic year.

With best wishes for a great semester of writing,  
Dr. Kristina Quynn, Director



Graduate students at 2nd Week-Long Retreat in May discuss writing schedules & writing group plans for the summer months.

## Upcoming Events

“show up & write”

**FACULTY Writes**, M & W, 8 - 9:45am  
(Eddy 120 & Forestry 107)

**GRAD Writes**, M & W, 3-5pm  
(NATRS 109)

### Faculty Semester Writing LAUNCH & Group Up

Sept 28, 2-3:30 (LSC 376-8)

Sept 29, 11-12:30 (LSC 304-6)

### GRAD Writes Intensive Writing Retreat

Sept 30 - Oct 2 (must complete application to attend)

### GRAD Writes Workshop

#### CLOCKWORK MUSE: Sit Down & Write

Oct 4, 11-12:30 (LSC 322)

### FACULTY Writes Workshop

#### CLOCKWORK MUSE: Juggling Multiple Writing Projects

Oct 5, 2-3:30 (LSC 322)

### GRAD Writes ESL Workshop

(with Dr. Cory Holland)

Oct 18, 11-12:30 (LSC 308-10)

## Monthly Writing Tip

If you find it a challenge to shift gears and to get focused when sitting down to write, set a timer for a short period of time and dig in, knowing that your time will soon be up. After the timer's ding, you can then move on to the next project, meeting, or person clambering for your attention.

Productivity experts recommend setting a timer for as few as 2 minutes and gradually adding to the duration of writing time a minute or two at each session—up to a maximum of 50 minutes. When you've written your allotted time, take a break. Allow your eyes to take in something new, soften your focus, or daydream. Refresh. If you need to continue writing, set the timer again. If not, call your session “done” and return to write again the following day. At which time you can once again, set the timer to focus your attention.

Your writing sessions will be more productive if time-contained. Chances are you will find it easier to focus when you get into the habit of focusing at a particular time and for a designated time period. You are also more likely to produce more pages and of higher quality.

Ready. Set. Write.



Consider participating in a CSU *Writes* Intensive Writing Retreat. There's something energizing about writing alongside other academic writers in a structured environment.



## Special Introductions

**Lexi Gehring is this year's CSU *Writes* graduate student intern.** She is a doctoral candidate in in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. She is brilliant. If you are faculty you can meet her in person at the “show up & write” sessions in the Forestry Bldg.

**Nicole Reese is a program volunteer** who hails from Conservation Leadership. She has an interest in the ways writing facilitates connections between conservation agencies and communities. She's lovely. If you are a grad student, you will likely bump into her at GRAD *Writes* “show up & write.”