Resources Folder
http://tinyurl.com/WritingAcademy-VLA-2016
**Your Facilitators**

**Virginia Pannabecker**, Health Sciences Research Support Coordinator, Virginia Tech University Libraries

**Brian Burns**, Interim Media & Access Services Librarian, Hampden-Sydney College

**Susan LaParo**, Head of Youth Services, York County Public Library

**Robin Sofge**, Youth Services Manager, Duncan Branch Library

Additional Virginia Libraries Editorial Board members:

**Renee DiPilato**, Deputy Director, Alexandria Library; Renee contributed to planning this preconference

**Luke Vilelle**, University Librarian, Hollins University
Introductions

- Your name
- Institution / Organization
- Experience with Writing
- Current Writing Interests
Session Plan

- **Planning a Writing Project**
  - Activity - Resources for Writing an Academic Journal Article

- **Choosing a Publication Venue**
  - *Virginia Libraries* journal
  - Activity - Reviewing journal scope, content types, and guidelines

- **Your Writing Project**
  - Working time
  - Feedback

- **Wrap Up & Questions**
Planning a Writing Project

- Topic ideas
- Type of writing project
  - Preparation needed, research protocol?
- Co-Authors
- Publication venues
  - Who is your target audience?
  - What else is important?
  - Access / Copyright / Licensing
- Target publication guidelines
- Previous publications
  - Examples
  - References
Planning a *Literature Review*

- Co-Authorship
- Project Plan
- Key Components
  - Purpose / Research Question
  - Context
  - Approach / Methodology
  - Results / Synthesis
  - Implications
  - Next Steps
Planning a *Research* Article

- Co-Authorship
- Study Design
  - IRB or other protocol for human subjects
- Project (and data management) Plan
- Key components
  - Introduction / Background (literature and context)
  - Participants
  - Methodology
  - Discussion
  - Limitations
  - Further Research
  - Conclusion
Planning a *Practice* Article

- Co-Authorship
- Project Plan
- Key Components
  - Background / Context
  - Planning notes
  - Implementation
  - Assessment Results
  - Lessons Learned
  - Next Steps
  - Implications for Practice
Planning a *Feature* or *Column* Article

- Co-Authorship
- Project Plan
- Key Components
  - A unique / stand-out topic
  - Identify connections between the topic and libraries / information broadly and in Virginia
  - Define subsections
  - Consider highlighting key players
  - Include tips and details of note
  - Point to resources, or contacts for those who would like to know more
Planning a *Book Review*

- **Project Plan**
- **Key Components**
  - Decide what you want to review
  - Research potential publications
  - Query publication
  - Read the writer guidelines
  - Study the publication
  - Write a draft
  - Revise
  - Submit
Writing

- Abstract
  - Journal guidelines
  - Include for all abstracts: Major points, clear conclusion, author-supplied keywords
  - Research Studies: Write a Structured abstract

- Outline and Research

- Draft

- Final Version
  - Find a colleague to provide feedback! → Revise
  - Check Formatting, Style, & Submission requirements
  - Figures / Images / Supplementary files / Appendices → these can be helpful for readers!
Resources for Writing an Academic Journal Article

Each Group:
Read the article provided & Discuss:

● What are key points?
● What recommendations would you add?
● What questions do you have?
Choosing a Topic
Journal Guidelines

● Consider your publication choice carefully
● About
● Aims / Scope
  ○ Target area
  ○ Target Audience
● Author Instructions / Guidelines
● Access / Copyright / Licensing

Let’s take a look at Virginia Libraries journal
Virginia Libraries Journal Focus/Scope

Peer reviewed open access publication by VLA

https://ejournals.lib.vt.edu/valib
Types of Articles

- Research Articles
- Best Practices
- Case Studies
- Essays/Commentary
- Themed Columns
Research Articles

- Reports on in-depth original scholarly research and analysis or research studies
- Examples include theoretical approaches to topics or issues or describe an issue in-depth
- Submissions 4,500-7,000 words
- All types of libraries
Best Practices Articles

● Should include solutions to issues that are affecting libraries today

● Examples: Moving to a one-desk reference/circulation service, and creating a digital archive

● Submissions 4,500-7,000 words
Case Studies

- More detail than Best Practice Articles
- Includes a description of the issue through fictional scenario or example from the field
- Includes references to current trends, theories and published works
- May raise more questions than it answers
- Submissions of 2,000-5,000 words
Essays/Commentary

- More subjectivity and expression of a position on a topic or issue of interest to libraries or library employees
- References, data and illustrations encouraged
- Submissions may be lengthy (3,000-5,000 words), or somewhat brief (under 2,000 words)
Themed Columns

● Synthesize brief reports on a topic from libraries across the state

● For detailed information on this submission type for the current year, please contact the Virginia Libraries Editorial Board:
  virginialibrariesjournal@googlegroups.com
Style

Chicago Manual of Style - Notes; and Webster's Third New International Dictionary, Unabridged
Editorial Guidelines

- Peer review types articles sent to two reviewers for blind review

- Articles submitted as one of the non-peer review article types will be reviewed by the Virginia Libraries Editorial Board

- Authors of peer review and non-peer review will be notified within 6 weeks of a decision to: accept and publish as submitted (with possible editing for style or clarity), or not accepted with possible recommendations for revisions to re-submit
Open Access

- The journal does not require authors to pay article processing charges
- The journal does not charge readers for access
Author Rights / Open Licensing

- Creative Commons Licenses:

  https://creativecommons.org/licenses/

  - CC BY - Attribution
  - CC BY SA - Attribution-ShareAlike
  - CC BY-ND - Attribution-NoDerivs
  - CC BY-NC - Attribution NonCommercial
  - CC BY-NC-SA - Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike
  - CC BY-NC-ND - Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs

CC0 - Public Domain mark - waive *all* rights
Each Group:
Investigate a journal

- Scope / ‘Aims and Purpose’
- Article or Content Sections
- Author Instructions or Guidelines
  - Submission requirements
  - Content Section requirements
  - Author Rights / Copyright / Licensing policies
- What questions do you have?
- How long would it take you to prepare a submission?
Your Writing Project Plan
Identifying a Topic

- **Note:**
  - Topics of interest
  - Projects or initiatives you're working on
  - Browse current articles in journals / magazines of interest → What is your take on the topic?

- Consider writing with one or more co-authors - if the topic you want to write about is a team effort; writing with a co-author can help motivate both of you to plan and see the project through

- Investigate journals / publications you’re considering as a venue - do their content types or guidelines give you any ideas?

- **Write a paragraph or two summarizing:**
  - Topic / Project
  - Major points you plan to address or discuss
  - What you already know
  - What you want to research
Developing an idea

- Start with your topic ideas

- Consider
  - Your project goals: why are you writing?
  - Project types: what kind of writing is this? (research article, practice article, other)

- Investigate the market and related publications
Expanding from an Outline

- Depending on the article type
  - Develop a hook with the opening paragraph
  - Read through to ensure major subsections are covered

- What are your main points

- Depending on the article type, what are your sources
Revising a Draft
Feedback Exchange - Note for Your Partner:

- General comments
- What you find most interesting
- One question
- One recommendation
What are next steps for your writing project?
Questions?

(Interest in an online writing group?)
Please complete our short evaluation.

Thank you!