



call for PROPOSALS

Writing Center + Writing Conference

March 13-14, 2026 | University of Connecticut (Storrs, CT)

The **Secondary School Writing Centers Association (SSWCA)** and **The University of Connecticut Writing Center** invite peer tutors, teacher leaders, program directors, and administrators from elementary, middle, and high schools; community colleges; and four-year universities to propose sessions for the **14th Annual Conference for Secondary School Writing and Learning Centers**.

Share **YOUR IDEAS**

Inspired by all the unknowns in the future of writing in an increasingly digitized world, we see the conference as an anticipatory and preparatory place to talk about **how our futures are planned, what lies ahead, and what we have learned**.

Consider what you have already faced and the perspectives gained by your own writing center, tutoring program, or classroom context:

how do you approach a future that comes with expected and unanticipated changes?

Conference sessions should examine **peer tutoring practices**, draw on **writing tutoring research and theory**, and discuss **innovative writing pedagogies** as they consider this year's conference theme: **Facing Our Future**.

ACCEPTING IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL SESSION PROPOSALS

Important **DEADLINES**

PROPOSALS DUE November 3, 2025

Presentation **FORMATS**

INSIGHT PRESENTATION (30 MIN)

Each of these shorter presentations will be paired with a second presentation connected around a similar topic as part of a longer, 75-minute session with a Q&A at the end.

PANEL PRESENTATION (75 MIN)

A group of presenters (panelists) offer various perspectives on the same topic, theme, question, or challenge. Panels engage the audience in collaborative exercises and provide time for small-group and whole-group discussions.

WORKSHOP (75 MIN)

Session leaders examine an essential question or challenge in an interactive workshop-style format. Workshops typically involve activities for participants to create a plan or product to bring back and implement in their schools.

ROUNDTABLE SESSION/SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) (75 MIN)

Session leaders moderate a discussion on a specialty topic related to the conference theme or a selected article or text which you ask participants to read in advance (think: book club!). These sessions are usually led by directors or professionals, but tutors are welcome to propose as well.

**ACCEPTANCE
DECISIONS SENT**
December 8, 2025

**PRESENTER ACCEPTANCE
& REGISTRATION DUE**
January 16, 2026

Exploring THE CONFERENCE THEME

We encourage including the conference theme *Facing Our Future* in your proposal. Consider connotations of the words *Facing Our Future* as they relate to peer tutoring, writing center, or writing project work:

FACING

Meeting
Confronting
Braving
Experiencing
Handling
Understanding
Coping

OUR

Together
Belonging
Possessing
We/us
Common
Collective

FUTURE

Tomorrow
Dreams/Fears
Hopes
Goals
The unknown
Longterm

SUCCESSFUL PRESENTATIONS are **interactive** (not lecture), **engage** participants, and include **visual** components

ADDITIONAL DETAILS

<https://sswca.org/2026-conference/>

SUPPORT FOR PROPOSALS

The [SSWCA Conference Website](#) offers:

- **SAMPLE PROPOSALS** from past years
- **STRATEGIES** for developing ideas, finding and integrating research, writing annotated bibliographies, planning conference presentations
- **VIDEOS** about writing abstracts and planning engaging online presentations
- **PROPOSAL EVALUATION RUBRICS**



*INTEGRATING RESEARCH

Each proposal should draw on **PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES** or **BOOKS** about tutoring, writing instruction, or topics related to your presentation's content. We recommend using recent scholarship published within the last 15 years. Research sources include [The Journal of Peer Tutoring in Secondary Schools](#), publications from other writing or tutoring journals listed on the [Proposal Support](#) page, or any resources listed on the [SSWCA Annotated Bibliography](#) online. For writing project topics, see [nwp.org](#).

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- **TITLE** of your session
- **ABSTRACT** for the program (*50 words*)
- **PRESENTATION SUMMARY** (*200 words*)
- **ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF RESEARCH*** your presentation draws on and how you will incorporate the research in your presentation
- **PRESENTATION FORMAT** (Insight, Panel, Workshop, or Roundtable)
- **DETAILED OUTLINE** of how time will be allocated in your presentation
- Key **TAKEAWAYS** for session attendees
- Plan to present **IN-PERSON** or **VIRTUALLY**
- General **TOPIC** of your presentation



[PROFESSIONAL SUBMISSION LINK](#)



[STUDENT/TUTOR SUBMISSION LINK](#)

QUESTIONS?

Contact conference@sswca.org

