

Writing about Learning and Teaching in Higher Education

Creating and Contributing to Scholarly Conversations
across a Range of Genres

Mick Healey, Kelly E. Matthews, and Alison Cook-Sather

Elon University Center for Engaged Learning
Elon, North Carolina
www.CenterForEngagedLearning.org

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PART 2

EMBRACING THE POTENTIAL OF WRITING ABOUT LEARNING AND TEACHING

Introduction to Part 2

In this section of the book we begin by sharing how we think about writing about learning and teaching before we discuss how to go about writing across a range of genres. Woven across all the chapters of this book are three key threads that stitch together how we make sense of writing as a subjective and complex human experience. To us, writing is:

- a way to create and contribute to scholarly conversations about learning and teaching,
- a method for fostering identities and clarifying values, and
- a medium for engaging in ongoing learning.

How we experience the writing process and the decisions we make about writing—what we write about; whom we write with, about, and for; what genres we prefer to write in—shape the writers we are and will become. Our aim in this book is to offer practical and helpful guidance for writing about learning and teaching that is firmly grounded in an understanding of the writer as a person within the scholarly learning and teaching community. We hope our guidance supports you as you consider *how* you want to write and publish and *who* you want to be as a member of the growing community of people committed to learning and teaching as important and scholarly work in higher education.

Before you embark on reading part 2, we recommend that you address these questions for yourself, and then keep them in mind as you read:

- With which learning and teaching communities do you want to be in dialogue?
- How do you see yourself as a writer? How do other people see you as a writer?
- What matters to you about writing?
- How are you learning as you write?

You might want to return to these questions and think about how your answers change, if at all, when you consider your purposes for writing, as you prepare to start drafting ([part 3](#)), and as you clarify your preferences for a particular writing genre ([part 4](#)).