



## *Written Communication* Special Issue Call for Papers: Writing and Medicine

The Editor and Editorial Board of *Written Communication* invite article submissions for a special issue on *research in writing and medicine*. Submissions from established and new scholars of writing theory and research are welcome. The special issue will be published as Volume 26, Issue 3, of the journal, in July 2009.

Contemporary concerns about medical and health-related issues such as the digitization of medical health records, the prosthetic melding of humans with machines, and immunization policies are at the center of unfolding interdisciplinary conversations. This special issue of *Written Communication* will add to the interdisciplinary exchange surrounding issues related to health and medicine and will feature articles from scholars whose work examines some aspect of writing and medicine. Possible topics might include, but are not limited to, methodologically rigorous studies that explore:

- Charting and documenting, ethics and privacy in the age of digitized medical records
- The interplay of image and text in medical writing
- Emerging and hybrid genres in medicine (e.g., internet health sites, patient education materials, etc.)
- The role of writing and knowledge construction in narrative medicine, evidence-based medicine, or alternative medicine
- Histories of writing within medical contexts
- Textual or discourse analytic studies of end-of-life discussions, medical deliberations, medical decision-making, medical standards of care, The Patient's Bill of Rights
- The role of writing and rhetoric in the professionalization of medical practitioners in and through oaths, contracts, guidelines, and standards
- The rhetorical construction of gender, race, class, sexuality, and/or age in discourses and documents that define and standardize illness or disease
- Literacy learning within medical contexts, issues of "health literacy"

Authors submitting manuscripts should indicate in a cover letter that they wish the submission to be considered for *the special issue on research of writing in medicine*.

As per *Written Communication's* (WC) established practice, accepted articles may be methodologically diverse, but the methodology of each study must be handled expertly and described explicitly.

Consideration of mss for this special issue will begin immediately and continue through March 1, or until a suitable number of publishable mss have been identified. Submissions for this special issue will follow the normal, peer-review practices of WC.

**WC** is the premier international multidisciplinary journal of research on writing. The scope of the journal is broad and encompasses writing in its myriad contemporary forms, both within and outside the academy. Theoretical and applied contributions of articles in **WC** are made explicit and will be relevant to researchers, theorists, teachers, and policy makers from a range of scholarly disciplines.

Prospective authors are strongly urged to acquaint themselves with previously published issues of the journal and to follow the Guidelines for Submission (in the print journal or on the website). Submitting an essay indicates that the work reported has not been previously published, that the essay--in present or revised form--is not being considered for publication in other journals or in edited volumes, and that the author(s) will not allow the essay to be so considered before notification in writing of an editorial decision by **Written Communication**. Submission should generally not exceed 9,000 words and must follow the American Psychological Association's (5th edition) guidelines for publication.

All authors should (a) include with each copy an abstract of 100-150 words; (b) select five to seven keywords (which do not appear in the title) to facilitate electronic search; (c) provide a cover page which includes the title of the submission, author name(s), institutional affiliation(s), mailing address(es), home and office telephone number(s), fax number(s), email address(es), and three to four-sentence biographical statements for each author. Author name(s) should not appear anywhere else in the manuscript. Note that the entire manuscript should be single-sided and double-spaced, including the abstract, block quotations, tables, figures, notes, and references. **Written Communication** does not return submitted manuscripts to authors.

Domestic and International submissions: ***For this special issue only, please submit your ms as a Word attachment via email*** to Editor Christina Haas, [chaas@kent.edu](mailto:chaas@kent.edu), with a copy to Editorial Assistant John Oddo ([joddo@kent.edu](mailto:joddo@kent.edu)). In addition, send two hard copies to Professor Christina Haas, Editor, **Written Communication**, Kent State University, Department of English; P.O. Box 5190; Kent, OH 44242, USA. Faxed manuscripts will not be accepted.