Call for Papers

A Special issue of Written Communication in Honor of John R. Hayes:

Writing and Cognition

Editor Christina Haas, Guest Co-editor Rui A. Alves of the University of Porto, and the Editorial Board of Written Communication invite article submissions for a special issue on Writing and Cognition: A Special Issue in Honor of John R. Hayes. Submissions from established and new scholars of writing research and theory are welcome. This special issue will be published as the third issue of Volume 29 of the journal in July 2012. This publication date is concurrent with the 13th International Conference of the EARLI Special Interest Group on Writing in Porto, Portugal, to be held 11 – 13 July, 2012 (http://www.fpce.up.pt/sigwriting2012/).

It is the rare scholar indeed who helps lay the foundations of a new research tradition. For more than 30 years, John R. Hayes has been applying methods and theoretical concepts from cognitive psychology to the field of writing studies and written communication. The cognitive process view of writing that he helped champion stands as a lynchpin in our theoretical understanding of writing, and this process view continues to have a profound impact on writing research and instruction.

In tribute to Dick Hayes, we seek to publish research articles that deal directly with cognition and writing. Specifically, we are interested in articles that report original research on writers’ cognitive processes in text production and revision, as well as the factors that impact those processes. While submissions need not draw directly from Hayes’ prior work, we imagine that many of them may well do so. Submissions might also elaborate, respond to, or revise existing theories and models of writing, either those of Hayes or of other scholars in the cognitive tradition.

In keeping with Written Communication’s mission, we are primarily interested in reports of original research. We will also consider substantive meta-analyses examining particular issues in the study of cognition in writing. Possible topics include but are not limited to:

- Cognitive development of writers
- Models of text production and/or revision
- The role of “the text so far” or other material artifacts or conditions
- Dynamic and temporal aspects of cognitive processes in writing
- Writing and working memory
- Prior knowledge and writing
- Expertise in writing (including contributions of language skill, domain knowledge, and genre)
- Cognition and context
- Cognition and affect in writing

Ultimately, the articles published in the Special Issue will advance our understanding of the central role of thinking in the processes and practices of written communication.
and will portray the vitality of the cognitive writing research that Hayes has been instrumental in advancing.

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Authors submitting manuscripts should indicate in a cover letter that they wish the submission to be considered for the special issue writing and cognition.

As per Written Communication’s (WC) established practice, accepted articles will 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 November 1, 2011 and continue through January 15, 2012, 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 and on the website). Submitting an article indicates that the work reported has not been previously published, that the article—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 it 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 (6th 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.