

Locked In: Looking Back and Moving Forward at the DW/R

Jordana Garbati  et Taylor Morphett

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Editorial

Locked In: Looking Back and Moving Forward at the DW/R

Jordana Garbati
University of Toronto Mississauga

Taylor Morphet
University of Northern British Columbia

As scholars who study and teach writing, we are in the exciting position of teaching and learning from our students about the ever-evolving landscape of language and the social nature of writing. Our students recently taught us a new phrase: “locked in.” This phrase, which at first sounded concerning, is used by many of our students to indicate a focus, commitment, or dedication to an activity. We have adopted this phrase for our Year End Editorial to share in the levity that comes from interacting with our students and to express the sentiment of being “locked in” on *DW/R* as new Co-Editors.

2024 was an exciting year of transition for *Discourse and Writing/Rédactologie (DW/R)*. In May 2024, Drs. Kim Mitchell and Sean Zwagerman concluded their four-year tenure as Co-Editors of the journal. Their tenure saw the journal’s reach grow, including international expansion. They indexed the journal in *Érudit* and the *Directory of Open Access Journals*, which led to an increase in the journal’s readership. As we begin as *DW/R* Co-Editors, we would like to thank Kim and Sean for their sustained contributions to the journal over the last few volumes and for their guidance in our transition. While we now hold the roles of Co-Editors, we have been involved with the *DW/R* for a number of years. Jordana Garbati held the role of Review Co-Editor from 2020-2024, and Taylor Morphet held the role of Editorial Assistant from 2016-2024.

In 2024, we published several pieces in multiple categories as well as a Special Issue. Our Major articles this year included Doyle and Caissie’s “Doctoral Student Reading and Writing: Making Our Processes Visible” and Troughton’s “Exploring the Writing Process of Multilingual Postsecondary Students.” We were thrilled to publish another piece in our Writing in Practice series—articles that we imagine as shorter and focused on writing pedagogy and practices in the classroom. Allen’s piece

in this category “Beyond the Word Count” looked at the rhetorical and genre importance of the assignment sheet and its relationship to students’ written responses.

The Special Issue, guest edited by Seeley, Tekin, and Evans-Tokaryk, focused on teaching academic writing in Canada. This issue included nine articles from scholars around Canada. Topics of these articles include: graduate writing groups, integrating Indigenous and western approaches to teaching writing, and examination of artificial intelligence guidelines in Canadian universities.

We also published Samuels’s review of two books, with differing positions, on the potential impact of generative artificial intelligence on writing.

We anticipate a year of review and growth at *DW/R* in 2025. Since taking over as Co-Editors, much of our work has been going on behind the scenes. For example, we developed a manual for future Editorial Assistants to increase the consistency and application of formatting guidelines and streamline our back-end workflow processes of the journal’s online platform.

We welcomed our new Reviews Editor, Cara Violini from Athabasca University and our new Editorial Assistant, Raegan Cote from the University of Northern British Columbia. We continue to work with some long-standing Editorial Board members and anticipate expanding our team.

Over the next year, we look forward to exploring collaborative opportunities with other writing-focused associations such as *The Canadian Society for the Study of Rhetoric* and the *Canadian Writing Centres Association*, and the *European Writing Centres Association*. We will also look for opportunities to expand the journal’s reach through further indexing and our editorial board.

In the shorter-term, we are excited to announce a Call for Proposals for a Special Issue on generative artificial intelligence and writing with articles published in both French and English. This call was developed by our French Editor, Sara Vecchiato with support from Isabelle Clerc. Look for the CFP in 2025!

We will continue to welcome authors to submit manuscripts in the categories of Major Articles, Writing in Practice, and Reviews.

Finally, we would like to thank Kim, Sean, authors, reviewers, and guest editors for a productive and engaging 2024 at the *DW/R*. We also wish to thank our Editorial Board members for their commitment to the journal and for discussing productive ways forward for the *DW/R*. We would also like to extend a large thanks to our community of readers. We are grateful for the time you spend with the *DW/R*.

We look forward to continuing conversations with you and being “locked in” on writing with you in 2025.