

# The 6th International Conference on Writing Analytics: Actionable Data for Teaching and Learning Writing

23-25 May 2018, Malmö University, Sweden

**Conference webpage:** <http://toolsforwriters.com/the-6th-international-conference-on-writing-analytics/>

**Deadline for Proposals:** January 31 2018

**Proposal submissions:** <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=waad2018>

**Notification of acceptance:** 20 February 2018

## Call for Papers

The production of and access to large amounts of data is the most significant recent change in writing research. This makes new questions, techniques of inquiry and quests for actionable data both possible and necessary.

Theorists and researchers from Writing Studies, Corpus and Computational Linguistics, Computer Science, Intercultural Rhetoric, and Pedagogy will explore the emergence of writing analytics and data mining as a primary concern for the academia, and as a method to develop teaching and learning practices.

Featured speakers are asked to report on 1) new educational data and text mining methods, 2) advances in intelligent tutorial systems and artificial intelligence, 3) pioneering research on machine feedback for formative as opposed to summative assessment, and 4) research on ways to provide effective feedback on student work.

We are interested in how writing analytics and data mining methods can leverage the affordances of digital tools to improve writing, feedback to students, and assessment. The conference will provide a space for developers, researchers, writing program administrators, and university-based initiatives to showcase their software, big-data research, and theoretical work regarding how technologies are challenging traditional approaches to teaching, learning, and assessment. Presenters may speak about how digital ecologies can measure tool behaviours such as time-on-task, how comments and trace patterns can measure interpersonal and intrapersonal competences, and how machines can pitch tutorials to students based on their needs.

The editors of *Journal of Writing Analytics*, Colorado State University's Open Press, invite manuscripts for research associated with the conference.

Please share your research with us. We invite contributions addressing the following questions:

- What kind of data are actually being used for the development of curricula and teaching practices? What data is construed as actionable data?
- What are writing analytics? What sorts of analytics are being used across academic disciplines to reach a point of action? Based on your experience, what are the best practices for adapting data mining approaches to the educational domain, with specific attention to teaching and assessing writing?
- What policies and resources encourage understanding of data gathering and analysis practices?
- What parameters define ethical uses of learning analytics?
- Why are writing analytics important for academics and university assessment experts? How can writing analytics provide actionable data to improve student learning and student success? How can writing analytics promote student retention?

- How can data mining and analytics be leveraged to better meet the needs of students and educational institutions?
- How can writing analytics help prioritise and scaffold feedback? How can researchers detect and assess students' affective and emotional states while engaging the writing construct?
- Who is using writing analytics? How are they challenging disciplinary assumptions and methods?

### **Presentation formats:**

**Individual papers:** 20-minute presentations followed by 10-minute discussions. Abstracts for papers should not exceed 250 words excluding session title, author names, affiliations, email addresses, reference list and 3-5 keywords.

**Thematic paper sessions:** 90-minute sessions consisting of 3-4 related papers. Abstracts for thematic paper sessions should include the rationale for the session and individual contribution abstracts, altogether not exceeding 1000 words excluding session title, author names, affiliations, email addresses, reference lists and 3-5 keywords.

**Posters:** The conference will hold a poster session. Abstracts for posters should not exceed 250 words excluding poster title, author names, affiliations, email addresses, reference list and 3-5 keywords.

**Software demonstrations:** 30- or 60-minute demonstrations. Abstracts for software demonstrations should be no more 250 words excluding demonstration title, author names, affiliations, email addresses, reference list and 3-5 keywords.

**Workshops:** 90-minutes workshop activities with audience participation. Abstracts for workshops should not exceed 500 words excluding demonstration title, author names, affiliations, email addresses, reference list and 3-5 keywords.