From Paper, Poster, or Presentation to Publication

Josie Howard-Ruben, MS, RN, APN-CNS, AOCN, CHPN
Advocate Health Care
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Objective

➢ Following this presentation, the learner will be able to discuss strategies for transforming a paper or presentation into a manuscript that can be submitted for publication.
"The challenge is how to take the behemoth...and transform it into a svelte, pithy, and publishable manuscript. This is not simply a matter of removing enough content to meet the page limits of a given journal. The entire organization and thrust of the manuscript must be reconceptualized (Pollard, n.d.)."
“It’s easier to embalm the dead than to write an article about it.”
Paul Silvia

The Paper Fairy

Pixie Dust

Believing you have something of value to write about.

Making a decision to invest your time into reworking your project.

YOUR PROJECT REIMAGINED
Techniques to Assist Your Writing

- Belcher
- Boice
- Kallistinova
- Pollard
- Single

Make your own magic!

Boice’s Method

- Environment
  - Regular place
  - Reserved for writing
  - Clean up only after session
  - Music ok, but minimize distractions
  - Limit social interruptions

- Habits
  - Daily
  - Write when fresh
  - Avoid binging
  - Short sessions (30)
  - Manageable goals
  - Daily charts
  - Share with supportive friends
  - Simultaneous projects


Writing Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Writing Schedule</th>
<th>Average Yearly Output</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Binge write (whenever I feel like it)</td>
<td>17 pages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write daily; keep progress chart</td>
<td>64 pages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write daily; keep progress chart; report progress weekly</td>
<td>157 pages</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cecelia Munzenmaier writing-resources.us
ON WRITER'S BLOCK

Kallestinova

"You have a template of your article, and all you need to do is fill in the blanks. Indeed, writer's block is a logical fallacy for a scientist — it is just an excuse to procrastinate. When scientists start writing a research paper, they already have their files with data, lab notes with materials and experimental designs, some visuals, and tables with results. All they need to do is scrutinize these pieces and put them together into a comprehensive paper."


Choosing a topic and creating a habit

- Praise
- Pleasure
- Relevance
- Research
- Findings
- Presentation
- Thesis
  - Cut by at least 2/3
- Rejection

Praise

Revision is not rejection

Place, time, accoutrements

Preparation

Scheduling

Writing daily

Deadlines, dates, accountabilities


Kallestinova's Advice

- "Establish a research territory"
  - Discuss prior work in this area

- "Find a niche"
  - Describe the gaps in what is known
  - What is known in this area

- "Occupy the niche"
  - Claim your territory
  - Describe your content, research or question
  - Outline your findings
  - Establish value
  - Explain structure of what is to come

Kallestinova’s Advice

Major Findings
- List them and explain the significance
- Up to three take-home points and some commentary
- Consider alternate explanations

Place in context
- Compare, contrast, explain discrepancies
- Review limitations, weaknesses

Closing
- Summarize answers (your take-homes)
- Indicate importance
- Future studies or papers that will flow from this

For more on research paper structures, see Kallestinova, E. D. (2011). How to write your first research paper. Yale Journal of Biology and Medicine, 84(1), 181–190.

Pollard’s Bullet Point Method

- Paring down your project
- Generation of bullet points:
  - “Facts or extremely specific topics that will have to be addressed in the manuscript in order for it to be a coherent whole.”
  - Finding a target journal
  - Essential vs. non-essential for the readers of intended journal
  - Development of a functional outline

Pollard’s Bullet Points

- General Bullet Point Tests
- Confirm that the reader needs this information to understand the manuscript
  - Remember the average reader
  - Do they already know this material?
    - If so, do they need to be reminded?
    - If not, it can be eliminated.
  - Bullet points can be created from your paper, your poster, your presentation or from your head.
    - Strategies you can use if you don’t have a product or even if you do
      - Clustering technique
      - Block writing technique

Pollard, R. Q. From dissertation to journal article: a useful method for planning and writing any manuscript. Internet Journal of Mental Health.
Techniques to Assist Your Writing

Pollard reminds us to think about the reader.

“…the manuscript is not being written for yourself nor for a dissertation committee nor even for the journal editor. The manuscript is being written for the average reader of the chosen journal.”

Pollard, R. Q.  From dissertation to journal article: a useful method for planning and writing any manuscript. Internet Journal of Mental Health.

Pollard's Functional Outline

- Importance of the issue
- Relevant and recent literature
- This is not a memoir of the totality of the research experience. It is a succinct report only about those parts of the experience that end up mattering for this particular publication.
- Methods
- Findings
- Implications of the findings
- Future research or scholarship

Pollard, R. Q.  From dissertation to journal article: a useful method for planning and writing any manuscript. Internet Journal of Mental Health.

Single's Method of Interactive Reading and Note-Taking

SINGLE EXAMPLE

1. A Heading
   Subsection I heading
   Citeable note
   Citeable note
   Citeable note


Belcher's Twelve-Week Calendar


Belcher's Approach to Structure

- Structure as a whole: organization, evidence and coherence
- Micro structure
  - Description, sequence, causation, problem/solution, comparison
  - Familiar to complex
  - Simple to difficult
  - Accepted to newer concepts
  - General to specific
  - Chronologically or spatially
- Macro structure
  - IMRAD as an example

Macro Structure Revision

- Organization, content, and flow
- Linear process
- Back to the outline
- Revise sections of 5 pages at a time
  - Looking at flow of ideas and logical presentation

Micro Structure Revision

- Individual words, sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, and spelling.
- Non-linear
- Any order
- Strategies: read aloud, record; recognize your common errors; hard copy (double space copy with font size 14)
- 5-7 drafts
- Deadlines and feedback

Good Writing Habits to Cultivate

- Don’t be a binge writer.
  - Takes away the pleasure aspect.
  - Makes you feel more of the pain.
- Get comfy.
  - Rest breaks.
  - Rewards.
- Like Chicago voting, write early and often.
- Allot time to write, scheduling it in, either at a specific time or as part of your routine.

Sources: Robert Boice and Paul Silvia. See references.
My Top Ten Pieces of Advice for Nurse Writers

1. Never submit a paper as is to a journal.
2. Recognize that more work is ahead.
3. Recognize that you are at least 1/3 of the way there.
4. Commit to a writing schedule, partner, or contract.
5. You are the only one who really cares about this…so make it a priority for you.
6. Don’t get bogged down in a system, and use what works for you.
7. Take a walk to give yourself time to think and to help stay/become healthy.
8. Reward yourself and make writing fun.
9. Don’t beat yourself up….avail yourself of helpful people and resources.
10. Take the long view, realizing what you might have in 6 weeks, 6 months, or a year.

Final Thought

“If I think of all the writing projects I have to complete, I will get overwhelmed. If I think about getting this chapter done, I can keep going. Sllloooow but steady.”

Wendy Belcher


References