Building a community of writers in a university

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Take one university...
- 20 hours teaching per week
- High number of ‘second-career’ academics
- Focus on applied courses
- Key priority: improved position in REF

...one writing group

An ethnographic study: telling their stories

What is the role of a writing community in developing the writing practices of academics?

The end of a chapter

Writing spaces need to be:
- About process before productivity
- Both social and individual
- Both visible and protected

Participants developed a more coherent sense of their wider academic identity and began to see writing as a legitimate and valuable activity.

The interplay between individual and institutional is key: the University needs to clearly articulate the nature and purpose of writing within the institution.