

Writing Accountability Groups (WAGs) Toolkit

Motivate, Promote Accountability, and
Develop Regular Writing Habits

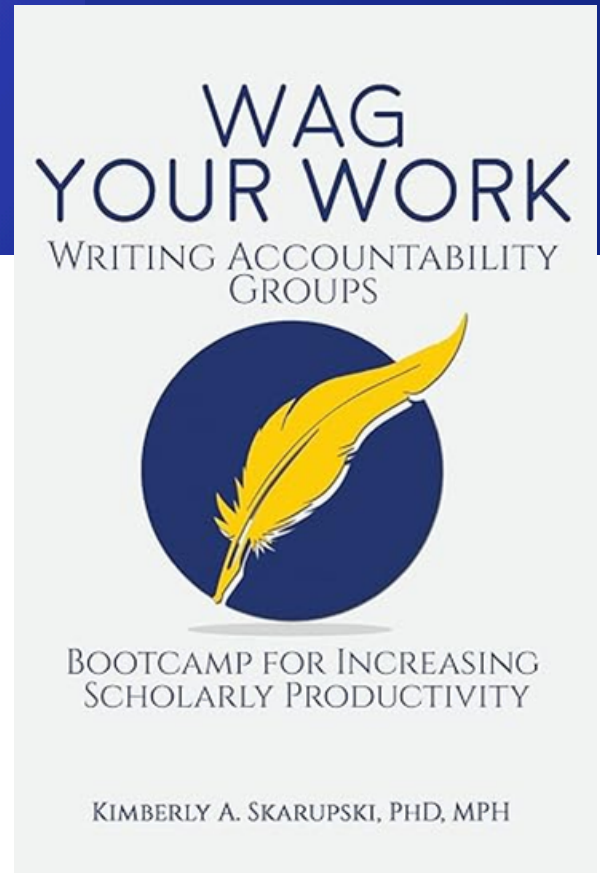


What are Writing Accountability Groups (WAGs)?

Writing Accountability Groups (WAGs) are semi-structured sessions with a core group of participants that meet regularly to help motivate, promote accountability, and develop regular writing habits.

During the writing portion of each session, faculty members work independently on their individual manuscripts. WAG sessions typically include small groups of faculty members with similar goal; to promote scholarly writing.

Writing Accountability Groups were created by Dr. Kimberly Skarupski, a leader of faculty affairs in academic medicine.



Available on Amazon

Colleagues Share Their WAGs Experience



Joann Hunsberger, M.D., M.S.

Assistant Professor of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine

I was in a leadership course when Dr. Kimberly A. Skarupski gave an excellent talk about WAGs. Her presentation resonated with me. I knew I needed that kind of motivation to dedicate protected time to research and writing, so I signed up right away! As anesthesiologists, coordinating schedules can be challenging because of our varying clinical schedules. The WAG takes the isolation out of academic work and replaces it with a shared purpose. It can not only improve productivity but also strengthen professional relationships.

Ethel Weld, M.D., Ph.D.

Associate Professor of Medicine

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How to structure WAGs

One hour meetings with small groups are suggested for this structure.

15 minutes

Share a small writing goal for the session

- " I will complete 2 paragraphs of my promotion letter focused on my national reputation."
- " I will work on the methods section describing the data analysis of my manuscript."
- " I will complete the mentoring and invited talks section of my CV."

30 minutes

Writing, no interruptions

No phones, no emails, just writing.

15 minutes

Share writing accomplishment and a goal for the next session.

"I did it! I completed 2 paragraphs of my promotion letter. I am going to have that fancy coffee I promised myself! Next week, I will complete the section on educational activities and the summary paragraph."

Timing can be modified; the most important thing is sharing goals and accomplishments.
