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WRITING WORKSHOP: FROM IDEA TO ARTICLE – A WRITING GUIDE FOR BEGINNERS

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Writing Workshop: From Idea to Article – A Writing Guide for Beginners was held on 13 June 2025 via Google Meet. The session was attended by 26 lecturers and students and facilitated by Dr Nur Izzah Binti Jamil, senior lecturer from FSKM UiTM Cawangan Negeri Sembilan, Kampus Rembau. The program was designed to raise awareness about academic writing standards, strengthen effective writing skills, and encourage collaboration among participants. The workshop was highly successful, as reflected in participant feedback, with more than 92% reported improved knowledge, increased confidence, and stronger motivation to engage in writing and publishing activities.

INTRODUCTION

Academic writing is an essential skill that underpins career progression and scholarly contribution within higher education. In recognition of this importance, this program was organised to guide lecturers in transforming their ideas into publishable academic work. The workshop was designed to meet three core objectives. Firstly, it sought to raise awareness and deepen understanding of the criteria and requirements necessary to meet key performance indicators in academic writing, while emphasising their role in professional development. Secondly, it aimed to build participants' practical skills in writing by offering guidance on effective techniques, research structuring, and strategies for securing high-quality publication outlets. Finally, the workshop encouraged the cultivation of collaborative networks, particularly international partnerships, which play a crucial role in co-authorship opportunities and in extending the global reach and impact of research.

RESULTS / ACHIEVEMENTS

The workshop had a significant impact on the participants. Most of them agreed that there has been an increase in their knowledge and understanding of academic writing standards, as well as a clearer awareness of how these standards contribute to long-term career advancement. Through practical guidance and examples, the participants also enhanced their ability to structure research papers, apply effective writing strategies, and navigate the publishing process. Importantly, the session encouraged participants to explore opportunities for international collaboration, providing them with insights into building scholarly networks that could lead to co-authorship and publication in indexed journals. Participation in this program also reinforced a culture of professionalism, as the lecturers demonstrated their commitment to continuous improvement in academic writing and publishing.

The delivery of the speaker was highly rated, with 69.2 % of participants describing it as very good and 30.8% rating it as good. Prior to the workshop, 92.3 % of participants reported that their knowledge and confidence in writing articles were neutral or below average. However, after the program, the same percentage was observed among the participants who strongly agreed or agreed that they felt more confident in their ability to write academic articles (Figure 1b). In addition, the content of the program was considered highly relevant and easy to understand, with 34.6 % rating it as good and 65.4% strongly agreeing that the material provided was clear, useful, and applicable to their work. These findings demonstrate that the workshop effectively addressed knowledge gaps, boosted participants' confidence, and provided practical tools for academic writing and publishing.

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a)

b)

Figure 1: a) Participants and speaker b) Participants' feedback of the program

CONCLUSION

The Writing Workshop: From Idea to Article – A Writing Guide for Beginners successfully achieved its objectives of raising awareness, enhancing writing skills, and promoting collaboration among lecturers. Participants completed the program with increased confidence, practical writing strategies, and stronger motivation to publish their work in reputable academic journals. The overwhelmingly positive feedback highlights the importance of such initiatives in building a strong culture of academic writing, particularly in UiTM Cawangan Negeri Sembilan. In the future, similar workshops can be conducted as they play an important role in helping lecturers build the skills and networks they need to start writing and publish successfully.