

>>> Resource Bulletin <<<

Crafting & Cultivating Positive Academia

"Creativity is seeing what everyone else has seen and thinking what no one else has thought." -Albert Einstein



Nila Sathish, 2023



Jos Harzing, 1963

TOP RESOURCES OF THE MONTH

Writing is an art form, but can the same be said of academic writing? Academics certainly share some traits with artists. In the video on [why academia can still be a great career](#), Anne-Wil compares academics and artists in terms of careers.

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In this white paper, [Anne-Wil Harzing](#) and [Christa Sathish](#) argue there may also be similarities between academics and artists in day-to-day work practices. We provide five different perspectives on academic writing: writing as sculpting (by reduction or by augmentation), writing as drawing (sketching and landscape drawing), writing as painting, writing as playing a musical instrument, and writing as acting (both theatre and movie acting).

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The Divergent Association Task, designed by researchers from McGill, Harvard and the University of Melbourne, is used to assess divergent thinking, a key component of creativity. An algorithm estimates the average semantic distance between 10 unrelated words chosen by the person taking the test.

**How creative are you?
This simple test will tell
you in under 4 minutes.**

Developing Creativity in Academic Work

»»» **Read More** Across disciplines and projects, there can be pressure for researchers to provide novel insights. But this can be easier said than done. **Patrick Dunleavy** offers some helpful strategies for innovative and creative thinking. Look beyond your discipline and through forms of science and scholarly communication that are more accessible. And make sure to keep a record (perhaps as a blog?) so you don't lose these ideas.

How to encourage original thinking, problem solving, inventiveness and enjoyment among students and staff?

Creativity in higher education

»»» **Read More** Creativity is a vital component of innovation and problem solving, driving some of the brightest ideas in science and the humanities. It is heralded as one of the most desirable attributes by employers, yet many courses leave students little room for creative exploration. This spotlight collection looks at how university faculty and staff can foster creativity for themselves and their students.



Photo by **RhondaK Native**
Florida Folk Artist

Networking

Creative Academic

Their aim is to encourage educational professionals to share practices that facilitate students' creative development in all disciplines and pedagogic contexts, and to connect researchers and their research to practitioners and their practice.

Creative Academic champions creativity in all its manifestations in higher education. Their goal is to support a global network of people interested in creativity and committed to enabling students' creative development.

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Our ambition is to become a global HUB for the production and curation of resources that are of value to the higher education community. We value 'openness' and most of our resources are published under a creative commons licence. We value collaboration and the partnerships we have formed with individuals and organisations. Membership is free and open to anyone who shares our interests and values.

Creative Campus Network

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Connect

- Providing networking opportunities for practitioners and academics
- Building closer ties with academia employability teams within creative industries

Collaborate

- Developing the curriculum to combine industry insight with academic pedagogy.
- Co-researching and auditing – seeking out problems and spotting solutions.

Create

- Designing projects that are scalable.
- Producing ideas that are sustainable.

Connecting academia and industry. We bring together professional practice and experience with academic practice and experience across creative and non-creative disciplines.

Dr. Christa Sathish & Prof. Anne-Wil Harzing

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