Event Title: Art School Writing Faculty Caucus

Event Description: At one time, AI was more prevalent in the visual arts. Now it permeates the study and work of writing. Is ChatGPT a barrier to our students’ learning, or is it another tool that they—and we—need to master? Does AI stifle creativity, or might its judicious use cultivate it? In our annual art & design school caucus, faculty discuss the emergence of AI in our classrooms and professional practices, addressing issues of ethics, pedagogy, and craft.

Event Category: Caucus Panel

Event Organizer & Moderator:

Lee Griffith
Lee Griffith's writing has appeared in Publishers Weekly, The South Carolina Review, Oxford American online, and has been shortlisted for The Best American Essays. He is a member of the National Book Critics Circle and is a Professor of Writing at Savannah College of Art & Design (SCAD).

Event Participants:

Paul Jaskunas:
Paul Jaskunas is the author of the novel Hidden (Free Press), which won the Friends of American Writers Award; a novella forthcoming in 2024 from Stillhouse Press; and a poetry chapbook forthcoming from Finishing Line Press. He teaches writing and literature at the Maryland Institute College of Art.
Melissa Tombro:

Melissa Tombro is Professor of writing and gender studies at the Fashion Institute of Technology in NYC. In her writing, teaching and volunteer work, she encourages other writers to use self-reflection and community engagement as a way to create meaningful, informed, and inspiring prose.

Lee Hamilton:

Rhys Lee Hamilton is a Writing graduate student and teaching assistant at the Savannah College of Art & Design. He is a published journalist and science fiction writer.

Announcements:

Welcome to the Art School Writing Faculty Caucus. A few AWP reminders before we begin:

- For those needing or wishing to follow along to a written text, please let me, the moderator of the panel, know, and a printed copy will be delivered to you.
- Please make sure that spaces marked for wheelchairs remain clear of chairs or other barriers.
- Treat service animals as working animals and do not attempt to distract or pet them.
- Be aware of those with chemical sensitivities and refrain from wearing scented products.
- Please be aware that your fellow attendees may have invisible disabilities. Do not question anyone’s use of an accommodation while at the conference, including for chairs reserved for those with disabilities.
Opening Remarks:

1) Welcome to all caucus participants and all audience members
2) Agenda

Panel Presentations:

1) Caucus Mission: The caucus allows art & design school writing program faculty to meet and discuss issues unique to our institutions, their students and curricula. At AWP Seattle, the topic of Artificial Intelligence in writing seeped into our panel discussion concerning creativity, and blew up in our Q&A. We agreed that our next panel would focus on AI; there were too many unanswered questions, and the stakes are high. Our caucus is eager to explore and shape the future of AI in the study and work of writing.

2) Panel Topic: At one time, AI was more prevalent in the visual arts. Now it permeates the study and work of writing. Is ChatGPT a barrier to our students’ learning, or is it another tool that they—and we—need to master? Does AI stifle creativity, or might its judicious use cultivate it? In our annual art & design school caucus, faculty discuss the emergence of AI in our classrooms and professional practices, addressing issues of ethics, pedagogy, and craft.

3) Introduction of Panelists

4) Panelist Presentations
   a) Paul Jaskunas (opening remarks):
   b) Melissa Tombro (opening remarks):
   c) Lee Hamilton (opening remarks):

5) Moderator Q&A
   a) How is AI helping your students?
b) How is AI getting in the way of student learning?
c) How is AI bolstering and/or hindering your writing and teaching practices?
d) Regarding AI, what do young writers and students need most from their mentors, editors, and educators?
e) Are their specific AI tools or practices you recommend?
f) Since visual artists were using AI before most literary artists, is there something we have learned from our Art School experiences that would be useful to our new writers?

6) **Audience Q&A**

7) **Panel Conclusion**

**Caucus Business:**

1) Member introductions
2) Project updates
   a) Special topics zoom meetings
   b) Member survey results
   c) Bookfair table post-mortem
3) New business
4) Panel Ideas for AWP 2025