

# Invitation to the symposium 'Building a Research Writing Culture'

Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2017  
Ain Shams University, Cairo

We are inviting participation from senior scholars from social science departments in higher education institutions within Egypt and the region. Applicants should be in a position to promote and support academic writing and publishing in their institutions. The symposium is an opportunity for participants to develop a network of resources, ideas and support to build the culture of academic writing and publishing in their institution.



## The event

The event, funded by the British Association for International and Comparative Education (BAICE) will be hosted by Dr. Rasha Kamal and Dr. Ashour Amry at Ain Shams University and facilitated by Professor Anna Robinson-Pant and Dr. Anna Magyar from the University of East Anglia, UK. The symposium will draw on research on academic writing and publishing practices in higher education institutions. The event will consist partly of a presentation about research and publishing and partly of experiential and interactive activities:

- Participants will be encouraged to bring journals from their own institution/country as a basis for a critical discussion about journal review criteria and journal identity.
- Strategies for developing research writing capacity with doctoral students and junior academics will be discussed.
- Tools and techniques for facilitating discussions and giving and receiving peer feedback will be reviewed.

As a follow-up to the event, there is the opportunity to apply for funding from BAICE for those who wish to initiate a writing capacity project in their own institution.

## The rationale behind this initiative

The initial impetus for the BAICE/*Compare* programme was to address inequalities in academic publishing and participation through increasing individual participation and contribution of writers from under-represented countries in the Global South. The programme has been run in Addis Ababa (2014), Mumbai (2015), Quezon City (2016) and Kathmandu (2017).

Some of the ideas taken by previous participants from this event include: supporting young researchers, setting up a writers' group; using the feedback frameworks presented at the symposium, organizing a research forum to provide feedback to young researchers; using guidelines for writers and reviewers; organising workshops with local journal editors and reviewers.

A limited number of bursaries are available to cover accommodation and travel from BAICE for applicants from ODA-listed countries outside Egypt (see: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/documentupload/DAC%20List%20of%20ODA%20Recipients%202014%20final.pdf>). Please indicate on your application if you would be interested in a bursary. Regional participants will also be invited to the two-day *Compare* writers' workshop on 18th and 19th December (as observers or participants, if they wish).

If you are interested in applying for a place at the symposium, please complete the application form and return it, **as soon as possible**, to Miriam McGregor: [compare@uea.ac.uk](mailto:compare@uea.ac.uk)

