

What activities do different tutors use to improve their tutoring?

Learning from other OWRC members:

- ★ Talk with other tutors about sessions (at staff meetings, in the break area)
 - ★ Talk with research librarians
 - ★ Meet with other tutors as a writer, and reflect on that experience
 - ★ If you share a repeat writer with another tutor, compare notes
 - ★ Between or before sessions, informally observe other sessions
-

Learning from self:

- ★ Write more thoughtful session notes: use them as a tool to see when the conversation really took off, noting what worked, what the writer enjoyed, etc.
 - ★ When things go “terribly wrong”, spend a lot of time trying to figure out what happened, looking especially for any role played by your own habits (e.g., a tendency to make snap judgments)
 - ★ Keep a list of short-term goals (e.g., three things I want to try this month)
-

Learning from the writer:

- ★ Notice how other people think and write
 - ★ “Interrupt yourself” during a session when things don’t feel right; verbalize the difficulty to the writer so that they can weigh in and propose strategies (e.g., ‘do you want to keep talking about this sentence, or is this a rabbit hole?’)
-

Learning by reading:

- ★ Find interesting readings (accidentally; through Jenny; Writing Center Journal has free online archives, searchable by keyword and topic)
- ★ Use readings as a chance to notice what you’re already doing
- ★ Read to identify the logic/rationales underlying the specific techniques and rules presented
- ★ Read things you disagree with