Month 43 (October) promo wraps

Katie Linder: Hey there, RIA listeners! This month we have several new interesting episodes to share with you.

On Episode 174, I’m joined by Dr. Emily Contois, an Assistant Professor of Media Studies at The University of Tulsa. In this episode, Emily shares about her research in food studies. Here’s a short clip:

Emily Contois: A lot of scholars who work on food come to it to think about how it brings us together, what stories do food tell. But I've always been interested in how food actually tells us a whole lot about anxiety, about tension, about contradictions. I first started studying food as an undergraduate and the honors thesis that I wrote was on dieting. I was interested in how the language of things like diet books or the diet part of the menu at places like Chili's or Red Lobster, how they spoke about food in a way that was coated with diet. What I found is that the world of dieting actually echoed psychology of eating disorders. The idea of having an American food culture that's actually filled with contradiction and anxiety has always been a question that fascinated me. I was 20 when I first studied that work. To get to the point right where I'm finally about to publish my first book, that these are the questions that have stayed with me. How food is this sore as a contradiction of tension and anxiety.

Katie Linder: On Episode 175, I’m joined by Dr. Sharla Berry, an Assistant Professor in the Graduate School of Education at California Lutheran University. In this episode, Sharla discusses her research on cultivating community online. Here’s a short clip:

Sharla Berry: When I started I was like, "Oh. Community. Community is community, everyone knows what that means." So I would ask students, "Do you feel a sense of community?" And they'd be like, "What do you mean?" I was like, "Oh, shoot." Really, there's some work in the literature about community as being feelings of connection and closeness within a social group. Obviously, community has elements like feelings of membership, feelings of belonging, feelings of trust and that's kind of the baseline that I use, but more than that, I'm really interested in hearing from the student's perspective, how they define community because it varies person to person and context to context. In my work, I really open it up for students to tell me what community is to them and what it looks like. So I'm still building my framework as I go. I have some ideas, but I really want to hear from students and faculty how they define community.

Katie Linder: On Episode 176, I’m joined by Dr. Margy Thomas, the founder of ScholarShape and the creator of the Build Your Story-Argument program. In this episode, Margy shares about her work as a developmental editor. Here’s a short clip:

Margy Thomas: Academic writing has this, can sometimes have a bad reputation of being boring, dry, full of jargon, inaccessible, unrelatable to. That's a stereotype that is sometimes applied to some academic writing. With the Story-Argument model we're saying no. Actually when we create new knowledge it is one of the most amazing things that humans do and there are ways we can craft it. We can infuse it with our creativity, and our sense of joy, and our passion for our subjects, and we can infuse that into the knowledge product in a way that's contagious that invites our reader, our audience into that fascination too.

Katie Linder: On Episode 177, I’m joined by Dr. Laura Pasquini, a seasoned learning designer, researcher, instructor, and trainer. In this episode, Laura discusses her research on support structures for learning. Here’s a short clip:

Laura Pasquini: Some of the approaches I grounded in qualitative work. Ethnographic research is a big grounding for me. I go back to the books that I studied, but also netnographic approaches. Netnography, talks about being embedded in these communities. The purpose of studying them and being involved and understanding them further is I was part of these groups that were blogging, that were tweeting, that were podcasting and I wanted to continue to have some ideas. Sure there were some abilities to scrape some data from the web, so things that are open and online. We would use things like collecting, using the tags, the open Google collector spreadsheet that, thanks Martin Hawksley for creating. But we'd also have permission from the administrators or managers of groups to say we'd like to take some of this data and do an analysis

Katie Linder: This episode also includes a bonus clip with Laura sharing about a new digital library she has created.

Thanks for checking out this month’s preview clips!

I’m Katie Linder – enjoy the episodes!