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## A Word from the Writing Center (September 2017)

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### WRITING TIP

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When editing your work, look out for sentences that start with the word *there*. “This form of indirect expression is wordy and should rarely be used,” according to *Scientific English: A Guide for Scientists and Other Professionals* (2011). To improve these sentences, identify the real subject of the sentence and start with that instead. You will end up with a stronger, more meaningful sentence every time. Consider a few examples:

- **There are six people who are waiting in line.** vs. **Six people are waiting in line.**
- **There are many books in the library.** vs. **The library contains many books.**

### COMMUNICATION SKILLS

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Registration is now open for a new workshop series on improving communication and presentation skills. Each workshop will explore a skill required for effective communication through mini-lectures, activities, and application exercises. ***Communicate Like a Pro: Think Like a...*** is offered by the Center for Teaching and Learning and open to all faculty, staff, and students. Details and registration are available [here](#).

### WRITING CAFÉ

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**Writing Café re-opens Friday, September 15, and will be open every fall Friday thereafter from 9am-11am:** Writing Café is a quiet space where writers can gather to work on individual writing projects. It is located in room 200A of Scott Library. Drop in anytime and stay as long as you like. All you need to bring is your laptop (or just a pad of paper).

#### ***For more information:***

- Contact **Jen Wilson**, 3-0441 or [jennifer.wilson@jefferson.edu](mailto:jennifer.wilson@jefferson.edu).
- Visit the **Writing Center** on the web: <http://www.jefferson.edu/university/teaching-learning/writing-center.html>.