Choosing a Journal to Publish Your Research

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The Ideal Journal

- Widely consulted
- High quality
- Peer-reviewed
- Rigorously edited
- Will publish your work
Journal Reputation

- Consult colleagues/mentors
- Examine publisher policies
- Pay attention to bibliographies
- Read critically
- Skim new journals for content
Citation Metrics

- Measure the use of the journal
- Actual numbers may vary by discipline
- Can be manipulated
- Existence of Fake Metrics
Citation Metrics

- Measure recent citations
- HEAVILY dependent on data source
- Actual numbers may vary by discipline
- Can be manipulated
- Existence of Fake Metrics
Citation Metrics: Impact Factor

- *Journal of Citation Reports*
- Journals from specific databases of content
- Average citations for previous 2 years

\[ 2018 \text{ IF}(X) = \frac{\text{total citations in other journals in 2016 and 2017}}{\text{total citable items published in 2016 and 2017}} \]
Citation Metrics: h-5 index

- The largest number $h$ such that $h$ articles published in previous 5 years have at least $h$ citations each.
- Uses Google Scholar as the data set.
  - (Fun fact: we've seen 959 ways to refer to PNAS.)

- Nature: $h_5=362$
  - 362 articles (2013-2017) have received at least 362 citations each.
Citation Metrics: Questions to Ask

- Is the metric verifiable?
- Is the data source disclosed?
- Is the formula shared?
- How does the metric compare to other journals IN THIS DISCIPLINE?
Citation Metrics: Resources

- Google Scholar Metrics
- Scimago SJR
- Elsevier Journal Finder
- Eigenfactorizer
- Beall’s Fake Metrics
Open Access

Traditional Publication Model

- Content created by authors
- Scholarship sold/given to publishers by author
- Publishers create final product
- Product is sold to market

Open Access Publication Model
Open Access: Flavors

Open Access “Gold”
- Charges authors a processing charge (APC)
- Allows them to not charge for access
- Final published version is available as open access immediately

Open Access “Green”
- Publisher still charges for final content when released
- Allows authors to self-archive for open access
- Content often embargoed
Open Access: Questions to Ask

- Is OA important to you?
- Is OA required by any supporting grant funding?
- Does the publisher allow OA archiving:
  - Pre-prints
  - Post-prints
  - Final versions
Author Rights

You as the author have the following exclusive rights unless and until you transfer the copyright in a signed agreement:

- Reproduction
- Distribution
- Public performance
- Public display
- Modification of the original work
Author Rights: Negotiation

- Understand the basics of copyright
- Make a list of the things you want and the things you need.
- Have in-person or telephone discussions
- Frame your requests in a way that explains your needs
- Understand the publishers needs and offer to work with them
- Make sure all agreements made are explicitly stated and in writing before closing
Author Rights: Resources

- USA Library Guides
  - https://library.usa.edu/copyright
- US Copyright Office *Circular 1: Copyright Basics*
  - https://www.copyright.gov/circs/circ01.pdf
- SPARC Author Rights
  - https://sparcopen.org/our-work/author-rights/
  - Author Rights Addendum
Author Rights: SPARC Addendum
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Predatory Journals</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Profit-Driven</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Primarily profit motivated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charge hefty publishing fees</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Deceptive</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>False promise of quality</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deceptive/Unethical</td>
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<tr>
<td>Do not follow best practices of research</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Volume-Driven</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Accept articles that may not be rigorous or accurate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Often solicit inclusion</td>
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<td>Exploit academics’ need to publish</td>
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Predatory Journals
Beall’s Criteria

01. May not adhere to broadly accepted standards of scholarly publication
02. Same editorial board listed from multiple journals
03. True center of operations is opaque
04. Journals seem designed to deceive about institutional affiliation
05. Contributions solicited with mass messaging

Predatory Journals: Questions to Ask

- ISSN
- Back issues available
- Clearly communicated fee structure
- Appropriate scope
- Editors can be verified
- Peer-review process clearly laid out
References

Feedback Poll

Q1: Was this presentation useful/new information for you
   - Yes
   - No

Q2: What specifically was new/useful?
   (Enter in private chat)

Q1: Is there something you wish had been covered but wasn’t?
   (Enter in private chat)