TURING YOUR RESEARCH INTO PUBLICATIONS

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Topics

- Why publishing matters
- Navigating the world of publishing
  - What publishers, editors, and reviewers want
  - How to choose a journal
  - How to prepare a manuscript (format, figures, tables)
  - How to submit a manuscript
  - How to revise a manuscript
- Ethics in publishing
  - Authorship
  - Double-publication
  - Plagiarism detection (using iThenticate)
Why does publishing matter? 
The 5 C’s

- Completeness: If no one sees it, it was never done
- Competence: You prove you are smart enough to see something all the way through to the end
- Courage: You prove you have the maturity to expose yourself and your ideas to criticism
- Competitiveness: You are proving that you have the gumption to compete for resources
- CV: You are building a record of accomplishment
But, those are just “job” reasons

- The most important reason is that it is self-fulfilling, it just feels good
- Immortality
- Sense of self accomplishment
Navigating the world of publishing

- Not to discourage you, but it’s harder than you might imagine
- It takes a lot of preparation
  - *Find the right journal*
  - *Understand what the publisher will want*
  - *Organize your files*
  - *Today, it often requires navigating a publisher’s website*
You need to get an ORCID account https://orcid.org/

- Orcid is one social media website for authors
- It connects you with publishers and other authors
- It assigns you a unique authors ID
My Orcid Id is: 0000-0003-4199-3312

- This translates into a unique website:
- http://orcid.org/0000-0003-4199-3312
You should join social media
No, not Facebook or Twitter

- ResearchGate
  - https://www.researchgate.net/
- Mendeley
  - https://www.mendeley.com/
- Google Scholar
  - https://scholar.google.com
- Academia.Edu
  - https://www.academia.edu/
Go to this seminar for more

Managing Your Online Research Presence

Hosted by Ed Warga
Reference and Scholarly Communication Librarian

March 27, 2018
11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
CCH 113
Lunch Provided
RSVP at cfe.tamucc.edu
Avoid predatory journals

- Since open access, on-line, publishing has become common, desirable, and expensive, there a new crop of predators has emerged.
- Beall's List of Predatory Journals and Publishers
  - http://beallslist.weebly.com/
- List of Predatory Journals
  - https://predatoryjournals.com/journals/
In one week (19-23 March), I got 6 enticements
So how to choose a journal?

- They didn’t solicit you
- Often free, except for open access charges
- Impact factors
- Peer-review process
- Established reputation within your community
- Run or co-published by a professional Society or Association
- It’s one of the big 5:
  - Reed-Elsevier, Springer, Wiley-Blackwell, Taylor & Francis and Sage published more than half of all academic papers in the peer-reviewed literature in 2013*
- You cited the journal in your own work
- It’s indexed

*Lariviere et al. 2015 https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0127502
Getting ready

■ Read the “instruction to authors” of the journal
Ethics in publishing

- Authorship
- Double-publication
- Plagiarism detection (using iThenticate)
Submission process is long and complex

- You will have to have all your files and lot’s of information at your finger tips
- Information:
  - About yourself, your co-authors, suggested reviewers
- Files:
  - Submission letter
  - Text file (with tables, but sometimes separate)
  - One file for each figure (300 dpi minimum)
- It can take several days to complete this process
Editorial process

- Managing Editor
- Co-Editor in Chief
- Associate Editor
- Reviewer
- AE decision
- CEIC decision
- Author
Decisions

- Reject (possible at submission or AE stage)
- Revise, either major or minor > Second review
- Accept with minor or major revision
- Accept as is (almost never as a first decision)
Revision

- Follow instructions
- Create a minimum of two files (sometimes three)
  - *New submission letter describing every response to every comment (I like tables)*
  - *Edited (emended) text file (sometimes a clean and track-change version)*
  - *Edited graphics*
Common problems

- Reject at EIC stage:
  - Out of scope
  - Doesn’t follow instructions, i.e., not ready for review

- Reject at AE stage:
  - Lack of novelty or originality
  - Poor construction
  - Lack of clarity
  - Fatal flaw (i.e., something is just not right)
  - Reads like a thesis or dissertation (i.e., not edited properly)
Finally accepted

- Can take 3 months to 2 years, but 6 months – year most common
Want to be a reviewer? https://publons.com/home/

You're an expert reviewer. Now you can prove it.

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