

Check yourself before you wreck yourself

▶ Helping maneuver the murky
waters of modern publishing & RTP

What we are going to talk about

- The publishing world has changed
- Faculty can be misled, and will waste time
- All this is affecting faculty's research → RTP
- BUT
- We have a tool that can help,
 - along with understanding your department/college RTP requirements
- Remember: In this process, the onus/responsibility/accountability is on YOU

▶ How it worked when we only had print: Aka: the “good olde days”

- Card Catalogs (For books)
- Print indexes (For articles)
- Copy machines
- Microfilm
-Still had unreliable information though.....

How it works now

- Sources available in both electronic & print and one is NOT better than the other
- Predatory journals and publishers abound & are AGGRESSIVE in how they market themselves
- Faculty are inundated with emails & other marketing tools from publishers for quick & easy publishing

The consequences

- For whatever reason(s) some faculty may not be publishing in quality journals
- This results in problems for them in RTP
- This leads to disappointment, anger, resentment - grievances

The tool

- This is a SUGGESTION/GUIDELINE
 - THIS IS MEANT TO HELP
 - Use it, or not....but take a listen....
 - We want to help!
- Idea is to help you identify if a journal is a quality publication BEFORE you publish in it using standard criteria

The tool

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Get to Know Your Journals					
2	Criteria	Journal 1	Journal 2	Journal 3	Journal 4	Journal 5
3	Journal Name					
4	Content Type					
5	Ulrichs Description					
6	Journal Acceptance Rate					
7	Peer Reviewed (Y/N)					
8	Double Blind (Y/N)					
9	Multiple Reviewers (How many? Credentials?)					
10	Publisher Description					
11	Relevant Databases that Index					
12	Editorial Staff (Credentials?)					
13	Fee to Publish (Which model, what do costs cover?)					
14	h-index (citation count)					
15	g-index (citation count)					
16	Impact factor					
17	Other					

Let's take a looksee

- Journal Title: Seems like a no brainer, but you need to be able to find it...and the ACTUAL title....
 - You would be surprised.....
- Content Type: What type of publication is it?
 - Academic/Scholarly journal?
 - Trade publication?
 - Magazine?
 - Newspaper?

Piece by piece...

- Ulrichs information
 - I know, who or what is an Ulrichs?
- Journal Acceptance Rate
 - Guidelines should be clear from your department &/or college as to what is expected
 - THIS IS NOT AN EXACT SCIENCE
 - Varies WILDLY from journal to journal

Looksee, continued

- Peer reviewed
 - To subject to, or evaluate by, peer review; to referee (a paper). (OED definition)
 - Proper peer review TAKES TIME ∴ quick turnaround = VERY BAD THING
 - There is no way in the current space/time continuum that honest-to-goodness peer review (let alone double blind peer review) can happen in 24-48 hours, or one week.
- Double blind – Still the gold standard
 - Writers and reviewers identities are kept anonymous
 - Keeps the process bias free (especially helpful in small disciplines)
 - Focuses on the integrity of the work

Continued...

- Multiple Reviewers
 - How many
 - Where are they, what do they do
- Publisher description
 - Who puts out the journal
 - Do they have a website, what does it look like, what information does it provide

Why indexing matters

- Databases that Index the journal
- Indexing: where a journal (and its articles) are listed (and therefore searchable) for the academic and broader community to find
- Without proper indexing YOU WILL NOT FIND THE JOURNAL & ITS ARTICLES

But wait, there's MORE!

- Editorial Staff
 - Who are they & and what do they do
- Fees to publish
 - Fees themselves ARE NOT THE ISSUE
 - Charging is NOT the sign of predatory journal
 - Journals that exist for the sole purpose of profit ARE

The Fear Factors

- h-index: *Author metric*
 - Attempts to use quantity of papers and quantity of citations
- g-index: *Author metric*
 - Tries to improve upon h-index
- Impact factor: *Journal metric*
 - Citations to articles from the most recent two full years, divided by the total number of articles from the most recent two full years. "How much is this Journal being cited during the most recent two full years?"
- All heavily used in STEM
- IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THAT EACH OF THESE HAVE SCHOLARLY DISAGREEMENTS AS TO THEIR VALIDITY

Where to Get Help

- Use this tool!!!!
- Your librarian! If you don't like your librarian, pick a different one! There are 18!
- We have an amazing guide for Faculty Authors:

<http://csulb.libguides.com/facultyauthors>



Thanks!

Questions?

