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Credible Journal Working Group in Action!: Collaborating to Create Positive Change in Scholarly Publishing

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Credible Journal Criteria Working Group in Action!: Collaborating to Create Positive Change in Scholarly Publishing

Nataly Blas, Marie Kennedy, Shilpa Rele
Loyola Marymount University
2016 Digital Initiatives Symposium



● OVERVIEW

- Barriers to open access publishing
- The case for library involvement
- The OA journal evaluation rubric
- Next steps for the CJC working group



BARRIERS TO OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

SOME BARRIERS FOR OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

Rank and
Tenure
Process

Evaluating
OA Journals

Article
Processing
Charges



THE CASE FOR LIBRARY INVOLVEMENT



● LIBRARY TAKES THE LEAD

Associate Dean reaches out to library with concerns and questions

Assistance with venue selection for publication – library mission

Exercise to build good will on campus

Opportunity to demonstrate value on campus

Convened working group



OPEN ACCESS JOURNAL EVALUATION RUBRIC

CREDIBLE JOURNAL CRITERIA WORKING GROUP TIMELINE (SPRING 2015 – 2016)



Literature Review

Sources on open access publishing



Checklist

List of “good”/”bad” indicators



Rubric

List of criteria to evaluate OA journals



Scoring Sheet

List of criteria to evaluate OA journals with rationale statements



Office of Assessment

Collaboration to validate our instrument



Pilot

College of Science and Engineering

● LITERATURE REVIEW

●
|
Current knowledge/trends in OA publishing

●
|
Model for evaluating OA journals

●
|
List of criteria for evaluating OA journals

OA Journal Evaluation Checklist



CRITERION:

The copyright information is clearly stated

EVALUATION:

Licensing information is available on all published journals (Adapted from DOAJ)

HOW THE LIBRARY WILL MAKE A DETERMINATION:

If the copyright information cannot be found then we will assign a red flag



From checklist to rubric

- Evaluation & Rationale
- Recommendation from Office of Assessment

OPEN ACCESS JOURNAL EVALUATION RUBRIC

| Criteria | Good | Fair | Poor |
|------------------------|---|--|---|
| Journal Name | The journal name cannot be confused with another journal | The journal has a similar name to another journal but is able to be distinguished between the two | The journal being evaluated is unable to be distinguished from another with a similar name |
| Editorial Board | The editorial board is listed with their full names and institutional affiliation | The editorial board is listed with their full names but no institutional affiliation | There is no editorial board listed |
| Review Process | The journal states whether it is peer reviewed/edited and has a review policy listed | The journal states whether it is peer reviewed/edited but has no review policy listed | The journal does not state whether it is peer reviewed/edited and has no review policy listed |
| Journal Archive | The journal website contains an archive of its past issues with links to full text articles | The journal website contains an archive but it may be incomplete or does not contain links to full text articles | The journal does not have an archive of its past issues |

OPEN ACCESS JOURNAL EVALUATION RUBRIC

| Criteria | Good | Fair | Poor |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Copyright Information | The journal clearly describes its copyright and licensing information on the journal's Web site, and licensing terms are indicated on the published articles (HTML/PDF) | ----- | Copyright and licensing information is not found on the journal's Web site and on any published articles |
| Web Search for the Publisher | The publisher is within the top 5 entries on the first page of search results and there are no scam alert postings | The publisher is on the first page of search results but not within the top 5 entries and there are no scam alert postings | The publisher is not on the first page of search results or there is at least one scam alert post about the journal |
| Publisher Information | Information about the ownership/management of the journal and contact information about the publisher is clearly identified | ----- | Information about the ownership/management of the journal and contact information about the publisher is not available |

OPEN ACCESS JOURNAL EVALUATION SCORING SHEET

| Criteria | Rationale | Rating (3,2,1) | Notes (URL) |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------|-------------|
| Journal Name | We want the journal name to be easily distinguishable from any other journal. | | |
| Editorial Board | We want to be able to know the names and affiliations of the members of the editorial board. | | |
| Review Process | We want to know if the journal is peer reviewed/edited and what the review policy is. | | |
| GUIDE TO INTERPRETATION | | TOTAL | |
| | Within this range the journal meets many of the OA Journal Evaluation Criteria. At the higher end of the range the journal would be recommended. | 48 - 33 | |
| | Within this range the journal meets some of the Open Access Journal Evaluation criteria defined for credibility. The author would need to decide whether or not to publish in the journal. | 32 - 17 | |
| | Within this range the journal meets the fewest of the Open Access Journal Evaluation criteria defined for credibility. This journal would not be described as recommended. | 16 - 1 | |



NEXT STEPS FOR THE CJC WORKING GROUP



SHORT TERM

- Pilot test
- Introduce to LMU librarians
- Gather feedback

LONG TERM

- Determine implementation plan
- Promote and make available campus wide

CREDITS

Articles

Berger, M., and J. Cirasella. (2015). Beyond Beall's List: Better understanding predatory publishers. *College & Research Libraries News*, 76(3):132-135. Retrieved March 9, 2015 from <http://crln.acrl.org/content/76/3/132.full.pdf+html>

Crawford, W. (2014). Ethics and Access 1: The Sad Case of Jeffrey Beall. *Cites & Insights*, 14(4).

Loon, L. (2012). Assessing the scamminess of a purported open-access publisher | Gavia Libraria. Retrieved January 27, 2015, from <http://gavialib.com/2012/04/assessing-the-scamminess-of-a-purported-open-access-publisher/>

Sharp, C. (2014). Building a Successful Service: Developing Open Access Funding and Advocacy at University College London. *Serials Librarian*, 67(3), 276-288. doi: [10.1080/0361526X.2014.954298](https://doi.org/10.1080/0361526X.2014.954298)

Websites (LibGuides)

Evaluating Open Access Journals, Western Libraries, <http://guides.lib.uwo.ca/evaluatingoa/publisher>

OA Journals Quality Indicator, Boston College, <http://libguides.bc.edu/journalqual/oajournals>

Principles of Transparency and Best Practices in Scholarly Publishing, Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), <https://doaj.org/bestpractice>

Scholarly Communication: Evaluating Journals, Ryerson University, <http://learn.library.ryerson.ca/scholcomm/journaleval>

Tips for Evaluating Journals, St. Francis Xavier University, http://sites.stfx.ca/library/evaluating_OA_journals

LMU Resources

Laura Massa, Director of Assessment, LMU Office of Assessment

Thank You!

QUESTIONS?

Contact us @Imu.edu

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