Disseminating Your Research

Tips and Strategies

Section 2: Why Disseminate Your Research?

The following tips and strategies will assist you in preparing to disseminate your research.

1. Reach out to your faculty, mentors, and peers about their experience disseminating research, and find out what lessons they have learned, to inform your journey.

2. Choose a focus for your research, set clear goals, and take the necessary steps to achieve these goals.

3. Read the top journals in your field to become familiar with practice standards.

4. Attend local, regional, and international conferences whenever possible to see various examples of presentations.

Section 3: Audiences of Your Research

The following tips and strategies will assist you in preparing to disseminate your research to various audiences.

1. Identify the journals in your field, conferences (professional associations), and population segments that would be interested in your topic of research.

2. Stay current on the research trends and on the research your colleagues have disseminated.

Section 4: Venues for Disseminating Your Research—Presentations and Talks

Consider the following tips and strategies for verbal research dissemination:

1. Take advantage of any presentation opportunities offered through your university (courses, residency, prospectus, defense, etc.).

2. Look for or initiate opportunities at your workplace to give presentations to your colleagues or clientele.

3. Use the many resources available to improve your presentation skills. Whether these resources address producing an effective visual presentation or honing public speaking skills, you will benefit from continually developing in this area.
4. Listen to the oral and defense presentations from your college peers that are available on the Walden Center for Research Support’s website.

Section 5: Venues for Disseminating Your Research—Publications and Articles

Consider the following tips and strategies for written research dissemination:

1. Be clear on roles and contributions when collaborating with other scholars, and determine the author status order from the beginning of the collaboration. For doctoral students, it would be wise to discuss the topic of authorship and order with your chair for any potential publications.

2. Consider “testing” the content of your article by presenting it at a professional conference. This allows an opportunity to get valuable feedback that you can use to shape a publication.

3. Tenure-track and faculty positions at a college or university vary in their publication and presentation requirements, and publication will generally enhance chances for promotion.

4. Journal rejection rates can often be found on their websites, indicating the tier of journal.

5. Most articles are roughly 25–30 pages of double spaced text.

6. Volunteer to be a member of a review board—this can give you experience as a peer reviewer and can help you to both see what journals are looking for and write stronger manuscripts.

7. Ask a qualified colleague to read your manuscript before submission.

Section 6: Key Considerations for the Dissemination of Research

Consider the following tips and strategies for research dissemination:

1. Speak with veteran researchers to get their advice on building a personal research agenda.

2. Write clear goals, and commit to a certain number of articles by a certain time.

3. Share your agenda with mentor to help hold yourself accountable.