Strategies for Getting Published

Presenter:
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Technology How To’s

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Poll – What is your biggest anxiety about the publication process?
Faculty Presenter

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Objectives for the Session

1. Appreciate the **reasons for publishing your** research.
2. Examine the various **audiences and venues** for your research.
3. Develop some **strategies for focusing** your plans and efforts at dissemination.
4. Understand the **publication process**.
Why Publish Your Research?

• **Stewards of the Discipline/Profession**
  - *Generation of New Knowledge*
    • the responsibility you assumed as a Steward
  - *Conservation of the Key Values and Ideas*
    • research reflects your values as a scholar
    • we need strong voice in the current environment
  - *Transformation of Knowledge for Others*
    • the hardest part - explaining what you mean
    • *audience* and *venue* are key variables

• **Can Help You Get Ahead in Places That Value It...**

  Walker, Golde, Jones, Conklin-Bueschel & Hutchings (2009)
Types of Publications to Consider

• **Pure Research/Original Contributions**
  – It is likely that your capstone fits here...

• **Outcomes and Evaluation Studies**
  – or here...

• **Methodological/Practice Demonstrations**
  – and maybe here.

• **Theoretical Discussions/Editorial Pieces**
  – Save these projects until later in your career.
Types of Publication Venues

- **Professional Magazines or Newsletters**
- **Books**
  - Better used as a supplement to your research
- **Social Media and Blogs**
  - *Danger, Will Robinson!*
- **Professional Journals**
  - Top Tier vs. Lower Tier
  - Use a Refereed Review Process
  - May be sponsored by a Professional Organization
  - Some are for-profit and some charge authors
  - The publishing world is in a state of flux now – open access
Choosing a Journal – Some Tips

• Go with ones that you know or have used.
  – in your professional area
  – a reputable venue (be careful of “think tank” groups)
  – remember, the journal holds the copyright on your article

• Know your audience.
  – will dictate your tone and approach to writing
  – your capstone’s reference list is a good source of possible journals

• Try the smaller, specialized areas first.
  – e.g, JCUHO vs. JCSD
Any Questions?
Tips for the Writing Stage - 1

• Clarify Authorship from the Beginning!

• Road-test Your Research Story.
  – At a professional conference or meeting
  – With other scholars and colleagues

• Organization
  – Outlines, drafts, title, abstract, etc..
  – Plan on roughly 30 pages of double-spaced text.
  – In relationship to the capstone document.
  • Start over or edit it down?
Tips for the Writing Stage - 2

• Journal Writing Style
  – Be Concise
    • You often have very little space to tell your story, so background work and materials can be omitted.
  – Be Sure to discuss Application and Implications.
    • a well written “so what?” discussion
  – Be Aware of the journal’s unique style.
    • Know their norms and accepted notions.
      – e.g., abstract length, tolerance for graphics, etc.
  – Be Wary that not all journals use APA!
Tips for the Writing Stage - 3

• **Revise, Revise, Revise**
  – Have others read your manuscript.
  – Proofread your text AND citations.

• **Do It Their Way**
  – Respond to all editorial feedback, in some way.
  – Meet their deadlines.

• **Have a Really Thick Skin**
  – Some editors and reviewers are not positive.
  – Some editors and reviewers won’t “get it”.
The Publication Process

- **Research Question**: years
- **Research Results**: months - years
- **The Write-Up**: weeks - months
- **Submit Manuscript**: 3-12 months
- **Masked Review**: years - month
- **Revise and Resubmit**: months - year
- **Acceptance**: months - year
- **Idea for Article(s)**: 3-12 months
- **Publication**: months - year
Dealing with Rejection

• You *Will* Get Rejected...
  – Rejection rates (+70%) are part of being top tier.
  – You usually get good feedback in the rejection.

• What To Do Afterwards
  – Do **NOT** give up!
  – Consider the Reasons for Rejection (next slide).
  – Try going “up a tier” with next submission.

• **NEVER**¹⁰!
  – Submit the same article to multiple journals.
Three Common Reasons for Rejection

• **Appropriateness/Journal Priorities**
  – Again, do your homework.

• **Lack of Clarity of Purpose**
  – Should be one story, told well
    • No “everything but the kitchen sink” articles
    • No over-analysis of the same dataset

• **Writing/Technical Problems**
  – Find some second readers/editors.
  – Review the Author Guidelines.
Tips for the Long Haul as a Scholar

• **Become a Reviewer**
• **Communication**
  – Keep in touch with your committee.
  – Stay professionally involved.
• **Affinity Groups**
  – The best research results from collaboration.
• **Research Agendas**
  – You will always be a Steward...plan accordingly
• **Final Thoughts**
  – *Your doctoral degree has prepared you to publish.*
  – *Publications take work, and there are few shortcuts.*
  – *It should not be about you.*
Questions?
Resources and Support...

• **Center for Research Quality**
  – researchcenter.waldenu.edu
  – Research Resources tab

• **New Scholars Workshops & Community**
  – More information: NSW@waldenu.edu

• **Professional Conference Sessions**

• **Do you have additional questions? Please Tweet them to Center for Research Quality:** @WaldenResearch
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