The G³ of Writing and Publishing Tips: Gentle Guidelines, Great Stories, and Gigantic Scholarly Gains
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Purposes of this Session
Part I: The Process
a. Exploring the process for getting published
b. Selecting a journal for publication
c. Academic information resources
d. Predatory journal issues
e. Taking the plunge
Part II: Writing Tips and Insights
a. Examining 20+ writing tips
b. Making commitments to future writing
III. Slaying I-Monsters
a. Detailing the pros & cons of SSCI publications

99 Seconds Activity #1
With your next chair neighbor discuss 1 to 2 writing dilemmas currently facing.

Insights and Advice on Getting Published in Higher Education
Part I: The Process

Writing Difficulties and Challenges of a Early Career Scholar
1. Time
2. Writing habits
3. Resources
4. Local/Global Support
5. Starter text
6. Reputation
7. Connections
8. Journal awareness
9. Energy/Stamina
10. Service/Teaching duties

Put Forward your Best Work
1. Collaborative research projects
2. Literature reviews
3. Reflections/conceptual pieces
4. Grant projects
5. Class projects
Finding a Journal that Fits

What to look for?
1. Who will be your target readers?
2. Who are the authors and journals you cite the most related with your research program?
3. Is there a match between your work and the journal aims and scope?
4. What is the journal turnaround time?
5. What is the journal acceptance rate?
6. Do you know the editor(s)?

Where to start?
Practitioner Journals
1. Target practitioners
2. Deal with problems and issues tied directly to practice
3. Receive wider circulations and visibility
4. Refereed or nonrefereed articles

TOP-TIER JOURNALS
- British Journal of Educational Technology
- Educational Technology Research and Development
- The Internet and Higher Education
- Instructional Science

SECOND-TIER JOURNALS
- Journal of Educational Computing Research
- TechTrends
- The American Journal of Distance Education

Finding a Journal that Fits

Where to look for?
1. Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI) is a commercial citation index product of Clarivate Analytics. It was originally developed by the Institute for Scientific Information from the Science Citation Index.
2. European Reference Index for the Humanities and the Social Sciences (ERIH PLUS) was created and developed by European researchers under the coordination of the Standing Committee for the Humanities of the European Science Foundation.

Where to start?
Peer-Reviewed Journals
1. Top-tier journals: are SSCI-indexed
2. Second-tier journals: have an established history in the field
3. Third-tier journals: often are newer to the field
THIRD-TIER JOURNALS
(often new journals)

International Journal of Online Pedagogy and Course Design
Contemporary Issues in Technology and Teacher Education
Interactive Technology and Smart Education

Resource and Idea Suggestions

- Subscribe to news feeds (not too many)
- Save links and images to interesting articles
- Review saved documents for themes monthly
- Share those links in Facebook, Twitter, etc., for peer reactions
- Write to people interviewed in articles

Academic information/Resources
(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

- Tools for research
  - Citation/reference management
    - Ex. Endnote, Zotero, Refwork, Paper, etc.
  - Incorporate other software
    - Ex. Nvivo (qualitative analysis tool, Network analysis i.e.)
- Writing Tutorial Services
- Tutoring Services
- Writing Tools (e.g., Grammarly)

Academic information/resources (Cont’d)
(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

- Journal selection/evaluation
  - Impact/accreditation (*Predatory Journals)
  - Citation index (Web of Science, Google Scholar, etc.)
  - Impact factor
  - Ranking
  - Open Access vs. non-Open Access
    - Directory of Open Access Journals
    - Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association

Academic information/resources (Cont’d)
(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

- Journal evaluation & legitimacy
  - Consult with a librarian
  - Visit & Examine the journal's web site.
  - Reach out to journal's editorial board members.
  - Aim and goals of journal. Read the scope of the journal.
  - Read their peer review policy.
  - Check to see what "author fees" are being requested
  - Research industry associations.
    - DOAJ= Directory of Open Access Journals
    - OASPA = Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association

Journal Impact Factor
(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

- Impact = The frequency in which the average article in a journal has been cited in a specific period of time.
- Rank or importance of a journal = the higher impact factor, the better rank.
- The calculation is to dividing the number of times articles were cited by the number of articles that were citable. It is usually based on a two-year period.

Tools to measure journal impact factor
- Journal Citation Report, https://go.ox/yWw8s1
- Scimago Journal Rank (SRJ), https://www.scimagojr.com/
Predatory Journals/Publishers
(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

Be Aware of Predatory Journals/Publishers!

- The publishing venue prey on academicians for making money without following scholarly publishing standards, commonly seen in the Open Access world.
- Also called “Pseudo-journals,” “fake journals,” and “sham journals.”

March 27, 2013
Investigating journals:
The dark side of publishing (The explosion in open-access publishing has fuelled the rise of questionable operators), Declan Butler, Nature
http://www.nature.com/news/disciplinary-action-1.12668

March 27, 2013
Sham journals scam authors:
Con artists are stealing the identities of real journals to cheat scientists out of publishing fees.
Declan Butler, Nature
http://www.nature.com/news/sham-journals-scam-authors-1.12681

April 7, 2014
Scientific Articles Accepted (Personal Checks, Too)
Gina Kolata, The New York Times

Predatory Journals/Publishers
(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

Be Aware of Predatory Journals/Publishers!

- Characteristics
  - The journal asks for a submission fee
  - Promises of fast peer review and fast publication
  - Spam emails to attract potential authors
  - Small size of editorial board or not indicated clearly
  - Newness and the quantity; a very new journal that consists of a high quantity of articles in one issue
  - Inconsistencies in the scope and the content or journal title and contact address

Predatory Journals/Publishers
(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

Examples of spam emails to attract potential authors
Examples of spam emails to attract potential authors

Predatory Journals/Publishers
(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

Be Aware Predatory Journals!

1. Using the “Think. Check. Submit.” checklist
   - Developed by a initiative of scholarly publishing organizations

Selecting a Journal
(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

Be Aware Predatory Journals!

- Criteria to check the journal
  - Do you or your colleagues know the journal?
  - Can you easily identify and contact the publisher?
  - Is the journal clear about the type of peer review it uses?
  - Are articles indexed in services that you use?
  - Is it clear what fees will be charged?
  - Do you recognize the editorial board?
  - Is the Publisher a member of a recognized industry initiative?

Selecting a Journal
(Feng-Ru Sheu, Kent State University, 2018)

Two resources to identify the journals and publishers

   - Identify legitimate and high quality open access, peer-reviewed journals
   - Identify predatory journals/publishers

Take the Plunge...Part 1

- Look for opportunities to create publishable manuscripts from your dissertation
- Contribute with a chapter
- Conduct an interview
- Write a practical article, newsletter, or book review
Take the Plunge...Part 2
• Write a major grant proposal
• Lead a special journal issue
• Edit a book
• Sole author a book
• Get your name out there!

Generate Starter Text...
• Author a blog
• Use social media
• Submit a conference proposal
• Write editorials
• Write book and software reviews

99 Seconds Activity #2
Commit to 1 to 2 things that take the plunge and share them with your next chair neighbor.

Insights and Advice on Getting Published Higher Education
Part II: Writing Tips and Insights

October 2, 2018
How to Learn to Write Like a Machine
Rose Jacobs, Inside Higher Ed

The Top 20 Writing Tips
1. Mark Writing Days in Planner

2. Maintain a List and Network of Potential Research and Writing Collaborators

Sidenote: Find Good People to Work With...Life is Short—Avoid Egomaniacs and People Who Lie

3. Draft a Timeline or Multiple Timelines with Flexible Goals

October 10, 2018
Perhaps write to your future self about your goals...
FutureMe.org
Write a letter to the future
https://www.futureme.org/

4. Think Ahead About the Publishing Potential of Each Project
Sidenote: Don’t Just Publish for the Sake of Publishing...

5. Be a Bumblebee and Butterfly

6. Find, Save, and Use Starter Text (overcomes writer’s block)

7. Always Scan the Reference Sections of Other Articles to See What Journals are Popular

8. Avoid High Quality (i.e., SSCI) Journal Fixations

9. Be Second or Third Author Sometimes to Spread Limited Resources
10. If Need Summer Money, Teach Short Term or Intensive Courses

Intensive Courses
Click Here

11. Edit Your Papers a Lot!
(Mozartian vs. Beethovenian)

Everyone needs an editor.

October 1, 2018
6 Tips to Shape Up Your Writing
Two-Minute Tips: Short videos to help you excel in the academic workplace
Fernanda Zamudio-Suárez, The Chronicle of Higher Education
https://www.chronicle.com/article/6-Tips-to-Shape-Up-Your/244281
https://www.chronicle.com/specialreport/Two-Minute-Tips/221

1. Writing is an exercise (write!).
2. Set goals based on output not input (e.g., 3 pages double-spaced).
3. Find a voice (don’t just focus on getting published).
4. Give yourself time (not deadlines).
5. Pick a puzzle (your writing is an answer to that puzzle).
6. Edit your work (over and over and over again... just like Beethoven).

October 8, 2018
How to Improve Your Teaching
- Philosophy Statement
Two-Minute Tips: Short videos to help you excel in the academic workplace
Fernanda Zamudio-Suárez, The Chronicle of Higher Education
https://www.chronicle.com/article/How-to-Improve-Your/244283
https://www.chronicle.com/specialreport/Two-Minute-Tips/221

October 15, 2018
How to Become a Highly Productive Writer
Two-Minute Tips: Short videos to help you excel in the academic workplace
Fernanda Zamudio-Suárez, The Chronicle of Higher Education
https://www.chronicle.com/article/How-to-Become-a-Highly/244351
https://www.chronicle.com/specialreport/Two-Minute-Tips/221

12. Organize Conference Symposia
Which Can Lead to Special Journal Issues and Books

Orchard Symposium 2018
June 20 & 21
Indianapolis, IN
13. Sponsor Visiting Scholars to Work with You; They Often Have Writing Plans

14. Try to Submit or Publish Your Paper Before the Conference

15. Be Creative Somewhere (e.g., unique model, figure, chart, etc.)

Sidenote: Modify Your Environment (Find or Create Your Personal Sandbox)

16. Try Not to Give Up: Persistence and Grit Wins the Day

17. Be Polite and Thankful to the Journal or Book Chapter Editors
18. Recap Reviewer Points and How You Attempted to Address Them

Let's Recap

19. Share Your Publication Efforts
(e.g., Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, email, ResearchGate, Academia.edu, etc.)

20. Celebrate Your Writing Accomplishments with Friends

You never know where you’ll be celebrating your writing accomplishments...
Even at a wedding of your nephew!

Just don’t celebrate too much!
11/13/2018

**Bonus #1. Be Careful Committing to Other People's Projects (OPP)**

![OPP Image]

**Bonus #2. Look for Special Issues that You Might Contribute To**

![Special Issues Image]

**Bonus #3. Save Research Articles for a Rainy Day**

(file folders on different topics)

![Rainy Day Image]

**Bonus #4. Treat Graduate Students as Colleagues**

(hec, treat everyone as a colleague)

![Graduate Students Image]

**Bonus #5. Find a Mentor and Ask Senior People for Advice**

![Mentor Image]

**Time to Recap...**

1. The process for getting published
2. The process for selecting a journal for publication
3. Writing tips and insights
4. Curated resources
5. You commitments to future writing
Additional Bonus Section: Part III. Slaying “I” Monsters

There’s a Global Health Issue

No, it is no longer SARS...

It is not H5N1 (i.e., Bird Flue)...
It is Particularly Acute in Taiwan

It is the use of:
Social Science Citation Index (SSCI)

And...
Science Citation Index (SCI)

As well as...
Arts & Humanities Citation Index (A&HCI)

For much decision making.
Per one of my students from Singapore:

“SSCI is very important in Singapore. In order to ramp up the University ranking, the key way to stay in the university is to publish. If SSCI is important for the University ranking system, then it will be important in competitive Singapore. =)” (Quoted from June 14, 2014)

Audience Poll #1:
Have you seen this I-Monster around?
Audience Poll #2:
Who wants to help catch and slay a few monsters?

Monsters University Final Trailer
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xBlFup5BCzi

Time to List the Pros and Cons

99 Seconds Activity #3
With your next chair neighbor discuss 1 to 2 Pros and Cons of SSCI.

Part I: Pros of SSCI (SCI & A&HCI)

Pro #1. Provides Goals and Targets to Strive Toward (i.e., a focus)
Pro #2. Provides a common Lingo

Pro #3. Measure or Benchmark for Performance (e.g., monthly, quarterly, or annual reports)

Pro #4. Scholarly Accomplishments to Analyze, Compare, Celebrate

Pro #5. Sense of Pride, Identity, or Emotional Lift

Pro #6. Boosts Journal Quality

Pro #7. Impact Factor Receives Increased Attention
I-Monsters in Taiwan

One person later pointed out that the "I" monster in Taiwan not only includes SSCI but also SCI (Science Citation Index) and A&HCI (i.e., Arts & Humanities Citation Index)...this three-headed "I" monster or beast "has totally slayed Taiwan's merit and value system for Taiwanese scholars and professors."

I-Monsters in Taiwan

"Some universities even have adopted an "I" point system, i.e., the promotion and merit of a professor are based on the number of points accumulated by publishing a certain number of "I" articles. One very "strange" requirement in Taiwan's academia is that a doctoral student is not able to graduate without accumulating enough "I" points."
I-Monsters in Taiwan

"Some public universities even set a certain number of "I" publications or points as their main Ph.D. candidacy requirement. In this way, the doctoral students in Taiwan, in effect, become "I" slaves, working for their "I" professors. Similarly, there are some public universities which accordingly entitle "distinguished" or "chair" professors with salary raises using the tax payer's money based on "I" points."

Con #1. Research Publication Takes Priority over Value Creation

Con #2. Research-Practice Gap Widens
(lack of caring or concern about true impact or reality)

Con #3. Greed Factor
(e.g., chasing bonuses, raise, etc.)

Con #4. Values Messed Up
(i.e., publications more important than the actual results)

Con #5. Easy Journal Syndrome
Con #6. Limited Journal Selection

Con #7. Field Becomes Narrowly Focused (periphery shortchanged)

Con #8. Journal Editorial Board Dominance

Con #9. English Dominance

Con #10. Creativity and Spontaneity is Shortchanged

Con #11. Lack of Passion and Interest
Con #12. Elitism Reigns Supreme
(and, at times, the less important and inferior are known)

Con #13. Rats in a Cage
(i.e., do “this” and then “this” and then “THIS!!!”)
Con #17. Productivity Slaves

Con #18. SSCI Preparedness Training Programs

Con #19. Publications Skewed toward those with Technology Backgrounds

Con #20. Research-Practice Gap Widens
(lack of caring or concern about true impact or reality)

Con #21. Student Issues

Con #22. Personal Growth and Development Curtailed
(i.e., negative impact on sense of self, identity, self-actualization, etc.)
Con #23. Limited Teaching Exposure and Experience

Con #24. SSCI is Corporate

Con #25. Impact Factor Ranking Manipulations

Con #26. Distinguished Title and Status Goals (i.e., lack of genuine interest in field)

Con #27. Narrow-Minded Recruitment Practices

Con #28. Unethical Publication Practices
July 16, 2014
Peer Review Scandal Takes Down Taiwanese Minister
By Yu-Tzu Chiu, IEEE Spectrum

Taiwan’s Education Minister Wei-ling Chiang resigned this week over an academic publishing scandal involving a peer review ring plotted by a young Taiwanese researcher.

In early July, 60 academic papers—five of which list Chiang as a co-author—were retracted from the Journal of Vibration and Control (JVC) after an investigation revealed a “peer review and citation ring” involving former National Pingtung University of Education (NPUE) associate professor Peter Chen (Chen-yuan Chen).

July 31, 2017
China cracks down after investigation finds massive peer-review fraud
Dennis Normile, Science Magazine

Audience Poll #3:
Is there any hope?
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xIFJLMyUwrg

As a result, there is a sense that they care little for the implementation of their research findings and ideas. And the gap continues to widen between researchers and practitioners with each passing day, month, and year. Is there any hope Obi Wan Kenobe?

Audience Poll #4:
Should the system be changed?
A. Yes
B. Maybe
C. No

Audience Poll #5:
Is there an I-Monster ("I" (i.e., SSCI, SCI, and A&HCI)) under your bed or in your closet?
Are you sure?

Concerns? Comments? Commitments?

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