Sowing the seeds of journal success: Cultivating relationships with journal editors and staff

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www.lib.ku.edu
Digital Publishing Services

Our journal publishing program started in 2007

– Two platforms support a variety of publishing models
  – Open Journal Systems (OJS)
  – KU ScholarWorks (Dspace)

– 23 journals in the sciences, social sciences and humanities; 4 more to come in 2016
  – 7 student-led journals with faculty sponsors
Engagement

We advocate for an intentional, multi-faceted approach to building relationships with journal editors as a key aspect of a sustainable publishing program.
Editors Forum

– Meets twice a year
– Only forum on campus for KU editors to talk to other editors
– University Press of Kansas, Allen Press, and library staff also attend
– Format: Presentations on various topics
– Challenge: Finding a time when editors can come and participate
– Challenge: Getting an editor to present on a topic or lead a discussion
KUEDITORS-L

• An e-mail list for journal editors and staff
  – Almost 50 members: Editors, library staff, and externals (Allen Press and UPK)
  – Infrequent usage
  – Helpful sounding board for new editors (plagiarism policies; ethics of publishing an article in more than one journal; increasing “impact” of the journal)
  – Announcements of system upgrades, new or improved services, articles/webinars of interest
LibGuide: Resources for Editors of Scholarly Journals

• Extensive collection of resources of interest to editors of scholarly journals, including links to OJS training
  – Getting Started
  – KU Libraries' Support for Journals
  – Launching a Journal: Getting Started
  – Launching a Journal: Memoranda of Agreement
  – Publication Agreements
LibGuide, cont.

- Editing 101
- Peer-Review
- Increasing Journal Visibility and Impact
- Open Access Journals
- Using Open Journal Systems (OJS)
- Working with Content Aggregators
- News from DPS
The best way to help a journal become self-sufficient is to provide lots of support before it is launched
Starting New Journals

New journal checklist

– Access models: Open, subscription, rolling
– Agreements with authors or third-parties
– Licenses: Creative Commons options
– Staff continuity
– Journal site: Policies, licenses, theme, logo
  • For OA journals, Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) requirements help guide policies on site
– Getting an ISSN
– Resources on our LibGuide
Supporting Student Editors

Annual turnover of student editorial staff, requires continual training and support of student editors unfamiliar with the publishing systems.

- Written step-by-step documentation of tasks
- For journals on OJS, we provide easy access through the LibGuide to “PKP School,” online role-based training modules developed by the Public Knowledge Project, developers of OJS
Checking-in with editors

– Consultation on solutions to journal difficulties
– Technical issues with OJS/Dspace
– Statistics
– License agreements with aggregators
– Editorial best practices
– Refresh understanding of roles and responsibilities
– See if there are new needs for which we may be able to develop new services
– Sign new MoA every 2 years or so
Internal Collaborations

Coordinating efforts with related library initiatives leverage limited staff resources

– Open Access and scholarly communication
– Digital humanities
– Subject liaisons
– Instruction
– Technology

Together, we can go further
Thank you!

Questions? Contact us!

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