Journal Programs and Cross Disciplinary Research
Barriers to publishing cross disciplinary research

- Publishers that need to be commercially viable may not want to risk publishing new cross disciplinary research.
- Interdisciplinary research may not fit in the narrow scope of existing journals in the field.
- Author fees for existing journals may be a barrier to authors of cross disciplinary scholarship, especially in the humanities or when publishing with international partners, since there may not be external funding available.
Visibility of research brings in new research partners, submissions

Cost effective (no charges for journal hosting) and low risk

Since there’s no need to be commercially viable, journals can experiment with new forms and combinations of scholarship

Lower journal overhead if online only can be used to eliminate author fees that can be a barrier

Journal programs support interdisciplinary research
Two platforms:
- KU ScholarWorks (DSpace) – 16 journals
- Journals@KU (OJS) – 19 journals

Library/IT Staffing*:
- Direct user support – .25 percent FTE (me)
- Layout services – As needed
- Metadata librarian – Metadata services to enable preservation/DOIs/content ingest
- Part of a system/application administrator

*More resources needed for new program
Visibility is key to success

Articles in the 19 Journals@KU journals on OJS were downloaded over 1.4 million times in 2019.
Common Strategies For Visibility

Open Access

• Make as much content as possible publicly available without a paywall
• Use Creative Commons licenses
• Add back content
Common Strategies For Visibility

Make articles easier for search engines to find

- Assign DOIs
- Include ORCIDs
- Machine-readable CC licenses
- Follow Google’s guidelines

- Result: Higher download statistics
Editors as partners

- Ensure that public information about the journal (author guidelines, licenses, publication agreement) is clear and complete
- Include abstracts with articles
- Follow accessibility guidelines
- Encourage authors to share in IR
Editors as partners

- Reputation of the journal team is key to success
- Editors coached in successful journal promotion
- Take advantage of scholarly networks
  - Social media
  - Disciplinary distribution lists
  - Conferences

Common Strategies For Visibility
Additional Resources

- Journals @ KU
- Resources for Editors of Scholarly Journals
Questions or comments?
Marianne Reed
mreed@ku.edu