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Journal Programs and Cross Disciplinary Research

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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

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Journal programs support interdisciplinary research

- 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

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Journal Publishing @ KU
July, 2019

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

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Visibility is key to success

Articles in the19 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

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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

Common Strategies For Visibility

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

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Common Strategies For Visibility

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

Additional Resources

- [Journals @ KU](#)

- [Resources for Editors of Scholarly Journals](#)

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