

5-7-2013

Blobaum's Checklist for Review of Journal Quality for Submission of Scholarly Manuscripts

Paul M. Blobaum

University Library, Governors State University

Follow this and additional works at: <http://opus.govst.edu/faculty>

 Part of the [Scholarly Communication Commons](#), and the [Scholarly Publishing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Blobaum, Paul M., "Blobaum's Checklist for Review of Journal Quality for Submission of Scholarly Manuscripts" (2013). *Faculty Research and Creative Activity*. Paper 27.

<http://opus.govst.edu/faculty/27>

This Working Paper - (Unpublished) is brought to you for free and open access by OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Research and Creative Activity by an authorized administrator of OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. For more information, please contact opus@govst.edu.

Blobaum's Checklist
for Review of Journal Quality
for Submission of Scholarly Manuscripts

Paul Blobaum, University Library, Governors State University
April 19, 2013

None of these indicators establish credibility and legitimacy alone, but together may build a body of evidence that will support evaluative judgments.

- Journal is indexed in a reputable disciplinary or multidisciplinary index with established review processes. Sources: Journal web page, Ulrich'sWeb, Cabell's, etc.*
 - CINAHL
 - ERIC
 - PSYCINFO
 - MEDLINE -
 - Sociology Abstracts
 - ABI INFORM
 - Social Work Abstracts
 - Education Abstracts
 - Chem Abstracts
 - Biology Abstracts/BIOSIS
 - AGRICOLA
 - etc.
- Consider indexer's inclusion criteria. Example: National Library of Medicine's MEDLINE - <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/factsheets/jsel.html>
- Consider Jeffrey Beall's Predatory Publisher criteria <http://wp.me/p280Ch-g5> (Scholarly OA blog)
- Relevancy and credibility: Is the journal part of a core literature of the field, or is it insignificant or irrelevant? Consult core literature lists, mapping studies, citation analysis, etc.
- Reputation of journal
 - Affiliation with a scholarly or professional society, or University.
 - New vs. established publication record
 - Credentials of editorial board
 - National vs. International
 - Positive reviews
 - Acceptance rates
 - Impact factor, h-index, etc. analysis
 - Vanity vs. independent

- Profit vs. nonprofit model
- Community of practitioners/researchers

- Peer Reviewed Journal Status
 - Scholarly, research, or Trade journal
 - Levels of peer review (Blind, double blind, editorial?)

- Status of Publisher and Journal on Beall's Predatory OA Publisher List at <http://scholarlyoa.com/publishers>

Other factors to consider:

- Pay to publishing vs. page fees, open access charges.
- Copyright ownership and distribution rights
- Open access vs. firewalled
- Transparency and contact information for Publisher, Editor, Managing Editor,
- Contact authors and editors and interview them
- Review the quality of articles for yourself
- Is the publisher a member of an industry organization that vets its members? OASPA.org, International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics <http://publicationethics.org/>) etc.

*Resources notes:

University Library Databases: Ulrich'sWeb, Cabell's Directory of Publishing Opportunities, etc. are directories of various publishers, who survey publishers. Information is *self-reported*, not critically reviewed or vetted.

<http://bit.ly/how-oa> How to Publish in Open Access (wiki) – Harvard U related.

Directory of Open Access Journals <http://www.doaj.org> Caution: The Directory of Open Access Journals does not have significant independent vetting standards.

Comments and suggestions to:

Paul Blobaum

University Library, Governors State University

One University Parkway, University Park, IL 60484

pblobaum@govst.edu