QUALITY JOURNAL INDICATORS & TOOLS IN EDUCATION

Sara Kuhn, MLIS
Social Sciences & Scholarly Communication Librarian
January 19, 2018
Background

• Campus efforts to increase publishing quality and visibility of UND research
• Education faculty asked to create individual journal quality lists
• Research
  – Published studies providing alternative/customized journal rankings/ratings
  – Criteria for quality education journal evaluation (quality indicators)
  – Status of journals in various fields of education
  – Where to publish?
Learning Outcomes

After this workshop, you will be able to:

1. Identify and use traditional tools that provide journal quality indicators
2. Locate and list alternative journal quality indicators
3. Identify top journals (at least 3) in your field/specialty with an accompanying quality indicator
Workshop Activities

• Top 3 journals in your field with accompanying quality indicator
• Gather input for departmental guidelines on 3-5 quality indicators that faculty can choose from to make their journal quality lists
Key Tools

• JCR: Journal Citation Reports (IF; JIF – Clarivate Analytics)
• CiteScore (Scopus – SJR; SNIP; CiteScore)
• Google journal h5-index/h5-median index (what is an acceptable h5-index for education journals?)
• ERA (Excellence in Research Australia) list of quality journal publishers
About the ERA list

• Created by Excellence in Research Australia
• Widely known and utilized especially in Humanities and Social Science disciplines in Australian Universities
• Publishers included: global and North American
• A ‘good quality’ list but not a rating (A,B,C,D, rating scale last published in 2012)
• Deakin University provides a searchable interface
• Will be included in JCR as an indicator after the 2018 ERA is published
• Some faculty expressed concern with the Deakin search interface and finding journals in specialized education field
Selection of Quality Indicators

- Traditional journal metrics: (e.g. JIF, CiteScore, SJR)
- Journal acceptance rates (Bracke, 2012) – 30% or less (Bray, 2011)
- Qualifications of members of peer-review board
- Ratings in published articles – how old? Paired with another indicator?
- Expert opinion of inclusion on a “core list” of journals compiled by experts (Bracke, 2012) - e.g. more selective than ERA – research articles, other university departments
Journal Acceptance Rates

- Contact the editor
- Journal website – use Ulrichsweb Global Serials Directory
- Cabell’s directory (CFL to trial in February)
- APA Journal Acceptance Rates
Resources


• Scholarly Communication Suite of Research Guides for all topics: https://libguides.und.edu/scholarly-communication-CFL

• University of Michigan’s “Research Impact Metrics: Citation Analysis” guide – Google Journal Metrics tab: http://guides.lib.umich.edu/c.php?g=282982&p=3410433#s-lg-box-wrapper-12423703
References


• Richardson, J. W., & McLeod, S. (2009). Where should educational leadership authors publish to get noticed by the top journals in the discipline?. *Educational administration quarterly, 45*(4), 631-639.
Call: 701.777.4629
Email: reference@library.und.edu

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