AIRS
Advanced Information Research Skills

AIRS Module 10

Getting published

the university for the real world®

Contents

Module 10 Getting Published

Workshop presentation (YouTube, 1hr13min)

Learning objectives

This module provides an overview of formal scholarly publishing, outlines the opportunities and obligations of open access publishing, and offers a brief guide to the process of academic journal publishing. By the end of this module you will:

- develop knowledge of tools to assist in making decisions about where to publish.

Applying the content to your resource log

As you progress through this module, consider, and refer to the requirements of the resource log and apply your learning to each question.

Resource Log

Getting published (10 marks)

a) Name one scholarly journal in which you would like to publish. *[See Module 10 and Module 11].*

b) Justify why you would like to publish in this journal.
    Some factors to consider might include: i) publishing model (e.g. open access or subscription); ii) impact measures (e.g. impact factor/quartile ranking/readership); iii) relevance (e.g. to your research area, career goals, audience, reach); iv) Publication factors (e.g. peer review, acceptance rate, frequency of publication, time to publication).

c) Describe how you would format your manuscript based on the author guidelines for your chosen journal *[See Module 10].*
    List specific requirements and how you would meet them.

d) Write a very short proposal **or** abstract **or** cover letter for a journal article (See the eBook by Linda Olsen in Module 10.1).
    Summarise the research you will write about, what kind of article it is, expected findings or outcomes, and the significance of your research (See 'Which journal' on the HiQ Research students community website).

10.1 Selecting what and where to publish

Background reading

Olsen, Linda (2014) *Guide to academic and scientific publication: How to get your writing published in scholarly journals,* Academia.

Introduction

Writing for publication requires a higher academic standard than writing an undergraduate essay or project report. While undertaking your research degree you may publish one or more of the following:

- a research report
- a conference paper
- a journal article.

Background references

- Murray, Rowena. (2013). *Writing for academic Journals*
- Scholarly publishing: QUT Library's guide to publishing and open access journals.
- Publishing in academic journals: Tips to help you succeed.

Finding where to publish

Publishing in a high ranking journal or conference proceedings is important. However, there is intense competition to publish in high impact journals. Consult with your supervisory team and peers for further advice.

SciMago is a portal that includes journals' scientific indicators developed from the information contained in the Scopus® database (Elsevier B.V.) The SCImago Journal Rank is a measure of scientific influence of scholarly journals that accounts for both the *number of citations* received by a journal and the *importance or prestige* of the journals from which the citations have come. These journal quality indicators can help to:

- identify journals in which to publish
- identify journals relevant to your research
- confirm the status of journals in which you have published.

SciMago provides links to the journal homepage and how to publish in the journal. Find out more information on publication metrics.

The Australian Government's Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) initiative produces a list of journals organised by 'fields of research' through extensive consultation with discipline experts, academic peak bodies and members of the public.

Invitations to publish

You may be invited to submit a paper to be published as:

- a book chapter
- an article in a special edition of a journal (usually on a particular topic)
- an entry in an encyclopaedia.

These opportunities are particularly valuable because you know in advance that your work will be accepted for publication as long as your writing meets editorial standards. Being part of a larger collaborative writing project improves your writing, builds your research track record and increases your impact factor.

Be wary of email invitations from print-to-order publishing companies to have your thesis published as a 'book'. This form of publishing is generally considered to be 'self-publishing' and attracts little or no prestige within the academic community. Furthermore, the publishing agreement terms may constrain your right to re-use your own work.

Your completed thesis will be published online via QUT ePrints. This means that it will be discoverable via search engines and may be cited by other researchers. You retain copyright ownership of your thesis and the power to grant others non-exclusive rights to use all or parts of it.

Avoiding submitting to deceptive journal publishers and fake conferences

Think, Check, Submit is a website aimed at researchers who want to get their work published, whether it's in a journal or a book. The site provides a series of checklists to help you consider the quality and reputation of a publisher/publication regardless of the discipline or format.

Their companion site, Think, Check, Attend is to help you consider the legitimacy, authenticity and appropriateness of conference so you can decide on whether to attend.

Open Access (OA) is free, immediate, unrestricted and permanent online access to peer reviewed journal articles, theses, scholarly books and book chapters worldwide.

OA content can be found by general search engines such as Google. The academic search engine BASE includes over 167 million open access documents from 8,000+ academic sources including QUT ePrints. National portals such as the National Library of Australia's Trove also provide an access point for region-specific open access content.

OA is important because it exposes your research to a wider audience thus increasing the possibility that it will be read, used and cited by other researchers and/or practitioners worldwide. Many studies have shown across all fields that journal articles made freely accessible to all are cited significantly more than articles that are accessible only to subscribers (Gargouri, 2010).

SHERPA/RoMEO provides summaries of the rights retained by authors under the terms of the standard agreement contracts used by hundreds of publishers. You can search these databases to find a journal or publisher at a specified level of open access.

Repository-based Open Access

With repository-based open access, the author publishes their article in a subscription journal and shares a manuscript version via a repository. Some repositories are maintained by research institutions and include scholarly content created by researchers affiliated with the institution. Other repositories focus on a specific discipline such as economics or biomedical research. QUT ePrints is an example of an institutional repository.

QUT ePrints

The QUT Open Access Policy requires that all academic staff and HDR students provide a copy of the accepted manuscript version of their peer reviewed publications for QUT ePrints. When a new publication is added to Pure, the University's Research Information Management System, Library staff will contact one of the QUT authors on the publication to request a copy of the accepted manuscript version if the file has not been attached to the Pure record by one of the authors. The accepted manuscript will be made freely available via QUT ePrints under a Creative Commons Licence Non-Commercial licence (CC-BY-NC or CC-BY-NC-ND). The Library takes on the responsibility for checking the copyright requirements of the publisher and setting an appropriate access date. It is the responsibility of the authors to ensure that they retain (or procure from the corresponding author) a copy of the accepted manuscript version and provide it for QUT ePrints.

Your completed thesis will be also be published online via QUT ePrints under a CC-BY-NC-ND licence. This means that it will be able to be downloaded, read and cited by others. However, you will be still be the copyright owner. If anyone wants to republish or use your thesis commercially or create a derivative work (for example, a translation), they are legally required to seek your permission first. Providing open access to your research outputs via QUT ePrints ensures your work is read by a broad audience and gives greater equity of access to people who are unable to access the large proportion of research literature that is locked behind publisher paywalls. If you subsequently publish a journal article which includes a figure you created for your thesis, remember to reference your thesis as the original source and include the CC licence information. This continues to protect your ownership of that figure even when copyright in the article is transferred to the publisher.

Journal-based Open Access

Open access journals provide immediate open access to the full content of each issue. Most open access journals publish articles under a Creative Commons licence. Some open access journals charge fees (article processing charges) that must be paid by the author or the author's institution. However, many open access journals are free to authors (and readers) as they are fully funded by a host university (acting as a publisher) or a scholarly society. For example, see the open access journals published by QUT. The Directory of Open Access Journals provides details of over 10,000 open access scholarly journals. QUT staff and HDR students can apply for faculty funding to cover the cost of the article processing charge (APC). Only some faculties are participating in this scheme and strict eligibility criteria apply. The eligibility criteria and application form can be found on the HiQ website.

Activity – use SciMago to identify a suitable journal to publish in

1. Identify one suitable journal to publish your work in from the SciMago database - note the journal must be current and refereed.
2. Using the SHERPA/RoMEO service consider the open access policies of the publisher for your chosen journal.Write a 280-character tweet communicating an aspect of your current research to a broad audience.

10.2 Authorship

In this section you will consider the requirements that define authorship as outlined by The [Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#), authorship guidelines and QUT tools you can use to manage your research authorship. As a researcher, you will most likely be an author and/or co-author on scholarly publications such as journal articles, conference papers and books. Ensuring your work is accurately and fairly represented is critical to your research reputation and relationships with other researchers.

Your author profile

Build your author profile and create the unique YOU. Many efforts are currently underway to disambiguate author names and assign unique identification numbers so that publications by a given author can be reliably identified. Research identifiers help others find specific authors work and to distinguish the author's research activities and outputs from those of other researchers with similar names.

Research identifiers

There are a variety of web-based databases where authors can create a unique identifier linking all their articles and other relevant information. Unique identifiers clearly differentiate authors with similar names.

- If institutional affiliation and contact information changes, the link between you and your scholarly work is maintained.
- A profile pulls all research together in one place. Avoids problems including variations in authors' names and confusion with common names.
- Profiles link work done with multiple granting agencies, research groups, or institutions.

Profiles can help:

- authors to find potential collaborators
- institutions to collect showcase and evaluate the activities of their faculty
- publishers to simplify the publishing workflow, including peer review

- funding organizations to evaluate scholarly impact, simplify grant submission workflows and track the research they funded.

- ORCID is the upcoming international standard. All researchers at QUT are advised to join the registry. ORCID is an international, interdisciplinary, open, and not-for-profit organisation created for the benefit of research institutions, funding organisations, publishers, and researchers to enhance the scientific discovery process and improve collaboration.
- ResearcherID is a global, multi-disciplinary scholarly research community. If your research publications are indexed in Web of Knowledge, you can register with ResearcherID.
- Scopus differentiates authors and their publications with Author ID.

Activity – Create and use ORCID

1. Go to https://orcid.org/
2. Register with your name, email and a password. Action the confirmation email to log in.
3. See what other profiles look like. Look up a researcher in your field or an example QUT author. e.g. Marcus Foth.

Watch the video: Minimum Requirements (YouTube video, 2m34s)

Minimum requirements for authorship

The Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (see P4 and R25) has clearly defined minimum requirements that define authorship as being based on substantial contributions in a combination of three criteria:

1. conception and design of a project
2. analysis and interpretation of research data
3. Drafting significant parts of a work or critically revising it so as to contribute to the interpretation.

These criteria are in turn based on the Vancouver Protocol developed by a group of editors that later evolved into the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. Researchers apply these three criteria in determining authorship and the contribution of each author for a particular research outcome.

Author order

The guidelines by the ICMJE assist collaborating researchers to assign primary and secondary authorship. As your research partnerships develop and increase, you will need to establish fair attribution of authorship.

Determining author order

Author order and its relationship to credit and collaboration should be discussed early in the process of the writing the manuscript through a joint decision of all authors.

Be aware that some disciplines and some journals specify how authors should appear on a by-line. For instance, in biological sciences, the first author typically makes the greatest contribution and the last has a leadership role. In mathematics and theoretical computer science the authors are listed in alphabetical order of their surnames, irrespective of their contribution to the work, using the Hardy-Littlewood Rule (PDF, 547KB).

Tools to assist for management of authorship issue at QUT

These tools are very useful to avoid or assist difficulties with co-authors and/or supervisors. These tools assist you in setting publication goals and negotiating authorship agreements as well as providing mechanisms for recording and reporting these agreements.

- Dissemination plan (Word DOCX, 42KB)
- Tracking Postgraduate Supervision Tool (PDF, 195KB)

General tips when assigning authorship

- It is much easier to clarify authorship arrangements early in the drafting of documents.
- The contributions of authors may change through the writing process.
- The hardest worker is not necessarily the one making the biggest contribution as an author.

10.3 Copyright and intellectual property

In this section you will develop an understanding of what constitutes good practice in relation to managing your own copyright, respecting the copyright of others and using Creative Commons licences. You will be able to apply your knowledge of copyright, including ownership of intellectual property, to effectively protect your own rights when liaising with publishers.

What is copyright?

Copyright laws define and protect the rights of a creator of a piece of written or recorded literary or artistic work, such as sound recording, film, art works or written text. Copyright does not apply to ideas or concepts, styles or techniques. Books, conference papers, web pages, computer

programs, journal articles, play-scripts, artworks (including book jackets and album covers), videos, music recordings, TV and radio broadcasts are all protected by copyright.

In Australia, you do not have to apply or register to be recognised as a copyright owner of your own work. There is no requirement to put a copyright notice on your work, nor is there a need to formally publish the work for copyright to apply. A copyright owner has an exclusive right to copy/reproduce the work and (if applicable) to perform it publicly. A copyright owner can sell rights to, or prevent others from, reproducing or performing their work. As a general rule, you cannot reproduce (copy) anything for publication, entertainment or sharing purposes, unless you have the copyright owner's permission.

However, under the 'fair dealing' provisions within the Commonwealth *Copyright Act 1968* (Copyright Act), individuals are allowed to reproduce limited portions of copyright materials for the purpose of criticism, review, study, research, parody or satire without permission. Fair dealing for research or study applies to your use of other people's copyright material in writing and submitting your thesis for examination.

"Fair dealing" does not apply when copyrighted material is made available on the Internet as it is then considered to be *published*. Before making your thesis available online, consider whether you want to publish parts of it elsewhere, such as in a journal article or book chapter. After your thesis has been examined, you may be required to submit a print copy of your thesis for the Library collection and a digital copy which will be made *publicly* available online through QUT ePrints.

Therefore, if you have included material from other people's work in your thesis, you will need to obtain the copyright owner's permission *before the digital version is placed online*. Citing the source of the material is sufficient for the print copy while it is held in the Library and not available for loan. However, a citation is not sufficient when you are sharing the material online.

You are required to attach *written evidence of permissions* to your final thesis submission form. If you have not been able to obtain the necessary permission by the time you are ready to submit your thesis, you will need to remove the copyright material from the digital version (it can remain in the print version). The QUT ePrints Copyright Owner Request Form (Word DOC, 12KB) simplifies the process of obtaining permissions.

Copyright and journal articles

It is important to understand that copyright also applies to material included in journal articles and conference papers that you have written. You may be asked to assign your copyright to the publisher.

When you submit an article to a journal for peer review and publication, read the publishing agreement provided by the publisher. If the agreement requests that you transfer copyright to the publisher, negotiate retaining some rights for yourself. Such rights might include the right to use the material for research and teaching, or the right to deposit your final manuscript in an open access repository. If you are enrolled in a 'thesis by publication' program, you will automatically have the rights to deposit the full text final manuscript versions of your articles in the digital version of your thesis without requesting publisher permission.

Watch the video: Copyright (YouTube video, 2m40s)

Copyright and images

How do we as researchers get started with copyright, particularly when using images in our publications? This video offers an introduction by Katya Henry (QUT Copyright Officer) to best practice when working through this process and answers some important and commonly asked questions that arise both before and after publication, when it comes to understanding the copyright associated with images and the choices available to creators.

Watch the video: Getting started with Copyright - A guide to using images in your research publications

Requests to publish your thesis as a book

Thesis authors are often approached to relinquish their work freely by publishers who will then sell the work for profit. Before you decide whether or not to accept an offer to have your thesis published as a book, ask the publisher if they will be contributing proof-reading, copy-editing and typesetting. Also consider the reputation of the publisher in terms of other works they have published and if these are held in academic libraries. If their publications are only theses, be aware that the finished product may have no more status than a self-published book.

If the publisher asks you to transfer copyright, remember *that this may prevent you from re-using material in your thesis in future publications.* If you decide to proceed, before you sign any contract you must advise the publisher that you have already granted QUT a non-exclusive license to make the thesis available via QUT ePrints. *Your thesis is your intellectual property.* It is valuable and worth managing carefully as it is preferable to retain your copyright and ownership.

Intellectual property

Intellectual property includes patents, trademarks, and designs, copyright for original material, inventions and confidential specialised information.

Early in your candidature even on commencement, consult your supervisor as to whether the research project requires you to complete an Intellectual Property Agreement. This discussion is usually initiated by your supervisor.

There is a difference between intellectual property created by students and staff at QUT.

QUT students own the intellectual property that they generate. However, students may need to assign their intellectual property to QUT if a project is externally funded in order to fulfil QUT's legal obligations or has clear commercialisation potential and objectives.

By law, QUT is the owner of intellectual property created by QUT staff during the course of employment (e.g. a laboratory technique whilst doing research at the university), however it does not extend to work done outside employment at QUT (for example a song written in leisure time).

11

To be sure of rights and obligations regarding intellectual property, read QUT MOPP Policy D/3.1.

Activity – QUT intellectual property policy

To help understand and begin to apply Intellectual Property Policy at QUT in an informed way, go to the suite of online resources, sponsored by the eGrad School. These include modules on research commercialisation and entrepreneurship.

If you see your future as a researcher involving research management, commercialisation and entrepreneurial work, you can acquire a greater depth of knowledge via postgraduate coursework awards (Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma and Masters in Research Management and Commercialisation)

10.4 Other publishing – journal articles, social media

This section provides a brief guide to the process of academic journal publishing, and how to successfully navigate the world of publishing. It also discusses how to use social media to communicate your research to a broader audience. Academic publishing is complex and there are many aspects to consider along the way as identified in the Authorship and Publication map (PDF, 898KB).

From what and where to publish to preparing, presenting and polishing your work for publication the Guide to Academic and Scientific Publishing provides the novice and experienced author with practical tips and advice on all aspects of getting published.

Getting published in a scholarly journal

In the beginning

Refer to the journal's 'guidelines for authors' to learn how to prepare a manuscript for publication including word count and citation format. Make sure your research aligns with the journal's mission statement, editorial perspective and audience.

Submitting

When you submit an article for publication, you must confirm that the manuscript has only been submitted to the one journal and ethical clearance has been made for your research (if required). You must never submit a manuscript to more than one journal at the same time. It is professionally disrespectful to submit an article to be reviewed that you might then withdraw if your work is accepted for another journal.

Practical tips for submitting:

- Cite your QUT affiliation as 'Queensland University of Technology (QUT)'. See Authorship

and publication and the QUT Author Affiliation Guidelines (PDF, 124KB) for more information.

- Cite your ORCID iD (as this will travel with the article metadata into the citation databases).
- State why the paper will be of interest to the readers of the journal if there is an opportunity to do so.

Waiting

Once submitted, you will need to be patient as the process takes time. Editors read manuscripts to screen out unsuitable submissions and then pass the remainder to reviewers in a similar field of research. Quality journals will go through a "double blind" peer review which means that the author's name does not appear on the paper going to the reviewers and the names of the reviewers are not made known to the authors. It may be your responsibility to remove your name and perhaps acknowledgments to ensure anonymity.

Reviewers are generally given between three weeks to three months to review an article. Once all reviews have been returned, editors make a final decision and respond to authors via letter or email. If you have not heard from the Editor after six months, it is reasonable to contact the journal to inquire regarding your submission's progress.

Revising and resubmitting

The peer review process may identify weaknesses in your writing, your research methodology or your argument. Many high ranking journals will respond with a "revise and resubmit" letter to most manuscript submissions. Formally, the manuscript has been rejected at this point. However, if you use the reviewer's comments productively and revise your manuscript to incorporate suggested changes, then you have a strong chance of having the revised manuscript accepted for publication. Revised and resubmitted papers can result in more citations than first submissions (Ball, 2012). Try to reframe criticism in a positive way to see how the manuscript can be modified to improve the strength of your argument.

Your chances of being published improve if you respond quickly to the recommendations of editors and reviewers. Where the advice of different reviewers appears to conflict or where you disagree with comments, indicate that you have considered each objection or suggestion carefully and respectfully. When resubmitting, include an extensive cover letter:

- thanking the editor and reviewers
- identifying the main points of revision
- demonstrating how you have revised the manuscript to address concerns
- explaining areas not revised with substantial evidence to defend the original submission.

Responding to rejection and peer review

How do we as researchers respond effectively to rejection and peer review? This video aims to discuss some of the common experiences from QUT academics and recently graduated students

to offer some insights on positive steps through this process.

We asked some of our exceptional QUT Science and Engineering professors about their editing, reviewing and publishing experience, to offer their tips to those new to publishing. We also canvassed some current and recently graduated QUT PhD students to ask them how they have dealt with and responded to rejection and peer review.

Watch the video: Dealing with rejection and responding to peer review (YouTube video, 4m04s)

Social media

Social media provides alternative forums for publication outside the formality of scholarly publishing. Blogs and Twitter are accessible ways to engage a wider audience with your research, enabling them to respond, collaborate and comment and providing a more socially interactive way to work. They are also useful tools to get you into the practice of writing and self-reflecting on your research.

ResearchGate is a popular social networking site for researchers. It functions as a profile page, a communication space and a mechanism for sharing copies of publications with other researchers.

ResearchGate uses information in the profile to match the researcher to publications. If the researcher 'claims' a suggested publication, they are prompted to upload a full-text copy. However, when uploading a full-text publication to ResearchGate, the researcher assumes full responsibility for checking that the upload does not constitute an infringement of the publisher's copyright. Note that publishers have escalated legal battle against ResearchGate.

The recent report, *'Feeling Better Connected': Academics' Use of Social Media (PDF, 870KB)* identifies the benefits, limitations, insights and strategic ways academics and postgraduate students are using social media to maximise attention to their academic work.

Activity – Practice promoting your research

3. Write a 280-character tweet communicating an aspect of your current research to a broad audience.
4. Write a 280-word blog post to outline your current research – be aware that this should be to an audience of peers but not scholarly in tone.
5. Write a 240-word formal abstract outlining a potential journal article on your research.