

Journal Transparency, Principles, and Standard Practices for scholarly Publishing

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Introduction

Scholarly publishing is the process of creating and evaluating scholarly literature, disseminating it to the general public and the scholarly community, and archiving it for later use. [1]. It promotes investigation, cooperation, and the generation of fresh data. Nonetheless, most academics carry out their research and disseminate the results with little to no expectation of making a direct financial gain [2].

Throughout the past few decades, scholarly publication has undergone tremendous transformation. The internet, electronic journals, and e-books have all made it simpler to share knowledge, yet publishing costs have skyrocketed. The two main causes of this are the industry consolidation in academic publishing and the expansion of academic journals. The following is a list of the main issues and unresolved issues in scholarly publication [3].

The Standards of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publication should be followed by all published content, including special issues and conference proceedings. When practices deviate from accepted standards, editors must explicitly describe the methods the journal uses [4].

These standards also acknowledge that it is the duty of editors and publishers to promote equity, diversity, access, and inclusivity everywhere. Editorial decisions should be based on intellectual merit. The writers' nationality, ethnicity, political beliefs, race, or religion should not be affected by the manuscript's place of origin. Journals should regularly assess their policies for inclusivity and make sure that no rules encourage a hostile climate toward anyone who wants to contribute to the publication [5]. Certainly, a fundamental rule of scientific publishing must be adhered to while creating a website. A journal's website and the content it contains should both demonstrate that great care was taken to uphold the highest ethical and professional standards. It must not contain any information that could lead readers or authors astray, including any attempts to imitate the structure or style of a website belonging to another magazine or publisher [5]. An "Aims & Scope" statement and a description of the target audience ought to be present on the website. Together with authorship guidelines, a declaration on what a journal would consider for publication should be made (such as not considering repeated submissions or duplicating articles). The ISSNs ought to be appropriately presented (separate for print and electronic) [7]. In the same vein, information regarding a journal's ownership and/or administration must be prominently shown on the journal's website. It is against the law for publishers to use names for organizations or publications that might mislead editors and potential contributors about who is behind the Journal [8]. The name of the journal must be unique, difficult to confuse with

the name of another journal, and clear of any words that might mislead readers or potential authors about the journal's background or relationships with other journals [4]. Any ambiguity in the peer review process should be avoided. If a piece of journal content has received peer review or not must be made extremely clear. Peer review is the process of soliciting opinions on particular publications from subject-matter specialists who are not employed by the editorial board of the journal. The method of peer review employed and any policies relating to the publication's peer review procedures must be made clear on the journal's website. Journal websites shouldn't make claims concerning the speedy acceptance of submitted manuscripts or peer review [2]. The editorial board and any other governing body names and organizations must be listed in full on the journal's website. It is necessary to include the editorial staff and contact details. The entire names and affiliations of a journal's editors must be listed on the website, along with contact information for the editorial office, which must include an accurate address [9]. It is crucial to remember that all published articles must list the copyright holder and that the author instructions must specifically state the copyright policy. The license information must also be clearly stated in the website's rules and on all published content, both in HTML and PDF formats. If authors are allowed to publish under the Creative Commons license, any unique restrictions must be made clear. If there are any regulations for posting final, accepted drafts or published papers on outside repositories, they must be made clear [10]. Similar to the above, writers must be made aware of any fees or costs required for processing submissions and/or publishing content in the journal, either before they begin preparing their manuscripts for submission or in a location that is simple for potential authors to find. The absence of any such expenditures should also be made abundantly evident [11]. Additionally, it's critical to remember that publishers and editors are required to take reasonable steps to identify and prevent the publication of papers that contain evidence of research misconduct, such as but not restricted to plagiarism, citation manipulation, and data fabrication/falsification. Under no circumstances may the editors of a journal knowingly permit or encourage such misconduct. The publisher or editors of that journal must adhere to COPE's (or a similar) set of guidelines when they are confronted with allegations of research misconduct regarding a piece of writing that was published in that journal. [12] A journal must have policies guiding ethical publication as part of the Standard Practice for Scholarly Publishing. They should cover the following subjects and be clearly featured on the journal's website: Policies governing authorship and contributorship; handling of grievances and appeals; conflicts of interest/competing interests; data sharing and reproducibility; ethical

oversight; intellectual property; and possibilities for post-publication discussions and revisions [13]. A journal's publication schedule must be clear, and readers must be informed of the method(s) used to access the journal and individual articles. Information presented about the publisher or magazine must be truthful and not misleading in order to assist readers and authors [14].

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