LIBRARY-BASED PUBLISHING
FOCUS ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH JOURNALS

ASERL Webinar Series
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Simultaneously published in print (3,000 copies) and online (www.jpur.org).
- 85 proposals for 2013. 11 articles, 35 “research snapshots,” 3 interviews published.
- Students are authors, editors, designers. Faculty act as advisors and reviewers.
- Supported by Libraries/Press (lead), Marketing & Media, and Writing Lab
- Sponsored by Office of Provost. Initially for 3 years (2013 is third year)
ONE OF MANY...

OVER 110 UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH JOURNALS LISTED BY CUR

www.cur.org/resources/students/undergraduate_journals/
57% of responding libraries publish student journals (undergraduate and graduate)

Florida Atlantic University
University of Illinois at Chicago
State University of New York at Geneseo
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
University of Calgary
Portland State University
University of Wisconsin-Madison
University of Oregon
University of Waterloo
Miami University
Edith Cowan University
Emory University
Utah State University
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Vanderbilt University
Humboldt-Universitaet zu Berlin
University of Idaho
Texas Digital Library
Cornell University
University of North Texas
Virginia Tech
University of Kansas (KU)
Wayne State University
Florida State University
University of Maryland College Park
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Colby College
Cal Poly - San Luis Obispo
University of Tennessee
University of Nebraska-Lincoln Libraries
University of Florida
Georgetown University
The College at Brockport, SUNY
Thomas Jefferson University
University of Iowa
Indiana University
Syracuse University
Boston College
Macalester College
Tulane University
University of Kentucky
The Ohio State University
Wake Forest University
Tulane University
Georgia State University
Purdue University
Brigham Young University
University of Arizona
Valparaiso University
University of Victoria
Australian National University
University of Guelph
Claremont University Consortium
Grand Valley State University
University of Alberta
University of Utah
Illinois Wesleyan University
Pepperdine University
The University of British Columbia
University of Pittsburgh
Western University
University of Toronto
BENEFITS OF UGR JOURNALS FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FACULTY

• Combines “undergraduate research” and “writing-intensive courses” – two high impact practices shown to improve student retention and success.

• Provides a great recruitment tool when trying to persuade the best high school students to apply.

• Communicates the edge that research institutions have over teaching-only institutions to parents, politicians, and other funders.

http://www.aacu.org/leap/hip.cfm
BENEFITS OF UGR JOURNALS 2 FOR STUDENTS

• Helps them to deeply learn their subject areas by forcing them to articulate their work to other readers.

• Improves their research and writing skills.

• Provides them with a tangible record of their research, fully identifiable with them, that is useful for graduate school and employment applications.
BENEFITS OF UGR JOURNALS FOR LIBRARIES

• Creates an opportunity to teach information literacy skills (e.g., ethical citation practices) during the writing process.

• Raises scholarly communication issues (e.g., author rights) with students, allowing alternatives to be shared with scholars of the future.

• Highlights the new role libraries are playing as full partners in research and teaching to a wide spread of stakeholders across the university.

http://www.alastore.ala.org/detail.aspx?ID=4383 (OA version available as well)
• Student editorial team turnover. A great deal of training is involved. Establishing a succession plan / mentoring relationship is desirable.

• Faculty enthusiasm drop off. Faculty advisors are essential ambassadors to their colleagues and need to be drawn from a wide range of disciplines.

• Positioning in relation to disciplinary journals. To succeed, the journal needs to offer distinctive and complementary positioning in relationship to disciplinary / archival journals, e.g., aimed at the general reader, more focus on the context of the problem than the data, student as sole author.
• Selection: To review or not? Proposals or articles? Who are the reviewers? Who assists the student with the revision process.

• Production: Editing and design. Who to do it? What disciplinary style to follow? Who is responsible for permissions clearance.

• Dissemination: Print or online or both? How many to print and who to send those copies to?
CHALLENGES OF UGR JOURNALS 3

ASSESSMENT

• What are we assessing? This is not a standard research journal, so the conventional metrics of citation and downloads are not as important as measuring gains in student learning, effect on achieving admissions goals.

• How to do it? Construction of survey tools as well as use of appropriate usage metrics.

• When to do it? After students have experienced the process, but before they disappear for the summer / graduate.
FUTURE PROSPECTS

SUPPORTING STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP THROUGH PUBLISHING BEYOND THE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH JOURNAL . . .

• Service-learning journal?
• Public policy briefs?
• Disciplinary undergraduate journals?
• Papers from undergraduate research symposia?
• Encouraging the addition of datasets, data information literacy?
• Video abstracts done by communications students?
• Formalizing a publishing curriculum with student internships?
LPC is a library led, two-year initiative to advance the field of library publishing.

Based on core library values, our mission is to foster collaboration, share knowledge and develop common practices, all in service of publishing and distributing academic and scholarly works. Our goals is to explore how to better serve the scholarly communication needs of the academic community, through sustainable, innovative library publishing solutions aligned with institutional missions.

LPC participants currently include more than 50 college and university libraries. We are open to any academic library seeking to explore and define new publishing solutions. We actively seek strategic alliances and connections to organizations with similar values and interests.