

Predatory Open Access Journals

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Open Access

- Definition
 - Generally
 - Green vs. Gold
- Access to knowledge
 - mostly article like publications
 - Some monographs, learning objects
 - Data sets (much generated by government agencies)
- Access for students after graduation
 - Institutionally unaffiliated
- Trends to greater number of downloads

Open Access

- Spawned “Predatory” journals
 - Exploiting the “Gold” model
- Predatory OA have uneven peer review
 - Or even no peer review
- Typically target less experienced scholars
 - Heavy e-mail / spam like solicitation
- Typically targeting in less developed countries
 - Where “international” exposure is a P&T must
 - More aggressive in developed parts of the world recently

Open Access Publishing Infographic

- <https://magic.piktochart.com/output/1800841-open-access-and-the-publishing-c>

“Red Flag” attributes of Predatory OA Journals

- Beall’s list, <http://scholarlyoa.com/publishers/>
 - Not perfect, not comprehensive
- Publishers content, practices, website
- Contact info, no location
- Minimum or no copy editing
- Aggressive email solicitation
- Content is overly broad
- Journal name is similar to an established journal

“Red Flag” continued

- Immediate payment, payment on submission
- Distribution of scholars on editorial board
 - From a variety of countries/institutions
 - Contact information

Positive attributes of Open Access Journals

- Indexed in LibrarySearch discovery service
- In Serials Directory
- In Cabell's Directories of Publishing Opportunities
- In Directory of Open Access Journals, doaj.org
- Archives, previously published articles available

- Try checklist approach from Think Check Submit
 - <http://thinkchecksubmit.org/>

Activity

1. Journal of Social Welfare and Human Rights
<http://jswhr.com/>
2. PLOS Medine
<http://journals.plos.org/plosmedicine/>
3. American Journal of Polymer Science
<http://www.sapub.org/journal/articles.aspx?journalid=1019>

How can the librarian help?

- Subject librarians
 - Will perform searches in
 - Serials Directory
 - DOAJ
 - Library Search
 - Cabell's Directories of Publishing Opportunities
 - Will run checklists
 - Beall's
 - ThinkCheckSubmit
 - Will recommend alternative publishing venues

Thank you!



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