Protecting authors from predators

@charlierapple

cse2016
You’re the good guys, right?
But how do researchers know that?
THINK
CHECK
SUBMIT
• Think. Check. Submit.
• Help researchers identify trusted journals
• A simple checklist to assess credentials
• Help ensure a body of quality scholarly literature
More research is being published worldwide
New journals launched each week
Can be a challenge to find up-to-date guidance
Stories of malpractice & deception on the rise

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#thinkchecksubmit
#cse2016
Implications for authors

- Journal has lower or no profile among peers
  > Few or no citations
- Paper not indexed or archived
  > Difficult or impossible for peers to find
- Poor publishing experience
  > Work not adequately reviewed or edited
- Damaged reputation
Are you submitting to a trusted journal? Is it the best one for your work?

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CHECK

✓ Do you or your colleagues know the journal?
✓ Can you easily identify and contact the publisher?
✓ Is the journal clear about the type of peer review it uses?
✓ Are articles indexed in the services you use?
✓ Is it clear what fees will be charged?
✓ Do you recognize the editorial board?
✓ Is the publisher a member of a recognized industry initiative?

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Only if you can answer ‘yes’ to all or most of these questions

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How would YOUR journal measure up?!
☑ Can authors easily identify you as the publisher, and contact you?
  - Does the language of your website make it easy for non-native speakers to find information about you?
  - Do you offer a range of contact options to suit different capabilities?

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✓ Are you clear about the type of peer review you use?
  • Do you explain this comprehensively for first-time authors or people of different languages?
  • Can you provide testimonials that will assure authors that your claims are accurate?

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Are articles indexed in services authors might recognize?

- Do you list this clearly on your publication along with links to those sites?
✓ Is it clear what fees will be charged?
  • Can this information be accessed before submission?
  • Are you clear about what fees are for, and when they will be charged?
  • If you offer waivers, are you open about the criteria for these?

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✔ Are your editors recognizably on board?
  • Do they mention their involvement on their own web pages?

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Are you a member of a recognized industry initiative?

- Do you make this clear on your website and link to the organizations in question?
- Do you explain the role/relevance of those organizations?

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Who?

- ALPSP
- BioMed Central
- DOAJ
- INASP
- ISSN
- LIBER
- OASPA
- SPARC
- Springer Nature
- STM
- Ubiquity Press
- UKSG

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Progress?

• Launched 8 months ago
• Almost 1,000 email subscribers
• Almost 400 Twitter subscribers
• > 23,000 website views
• 20% of website users go through all three pages (Think > Check > Submit)
• > 2,000 video views

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HELP IS NEEDED!

• The campaign needs to reach the most at-risk audiences – can you help?
  ✓ Link to thinkchecksubmit.org from your website
  ✓ Blog about the campaign
  ✓ Include in your guidance to authors
  ✓ Mention in your workshops, talks etc
  ✓ Add to your eTOCs

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Get involved

- Visit thinkchecksubmit.org, sign up for news
- Submit your FAQs via #thinkchecksubmit