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Editorial

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EDITORIAL

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Welcome to the Fall 2022 issue of the *Purdue Journal of Service-Learning and International Engagement* (PJSL). It has been another year of significant transitions. For many of us, back to campus this past year did not bring a return to normalcy, and we continue to contemplate the challenges, inequities, and disparities of both old and new ways of being in the world. This year marks one in which we highlight the resilience of Purdue students and faculty to engage in meaningful service-learning, meeting the opportunities where they exist to do important work in our communities.

At the core of PJSL's mission, and Purdue's land-grant pillar of engagement, is the scholarly work of Purdue students, faculty, and staff as they engage with and in their communities through service-learning and global experiences. In this issue, we continue to see how the turn toward remote modalities affects but does not deter these efforts, at times opening new spaces for community impact. In Detroit, Kayla Neal describes novel activities to build rapport with students over virtual media in a partnership to support literacy interventions at the city's Downtown Boxing Gym. Josh Lefton and colleagues describe an opportunity to contribute research findings to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to improve children's medication dosing errors through a virtual event, and student Lara Chuppe profiles a community partner, Pax Populi, that has leveraged the online education space to address the needs of Afghan students arriving in the United States in the wake of political turmoil abroad. Other articles in this issue describe the impactful contributions of community-centered design, from an effort to develop a better device for gynecological cancer patients' self-monitoring care, to the management of cables in hospital settings, and in the classroom, to build programs to improve disability awareness and peer understanding. As you read, we invite you to consider the creativity and commitment of our students, faculty, staff, and community partners in the co-creation of these service-learning initiatives.

The past year has also been one of transition for the journal, as we said goodbye to outgoing editor Dr. Jennifer Bay, who led PJSL for three years beginning in January 2019. She saw it through some of the most challenging contexts for service-learning and international engagement in recent memory. Under her leadership, the journal saw steady increases in readership. PJSL also rose to meet societal challenges, directly addressing the COVID-19 pandemic and racial injustice through calls for special sections in fall 2021 (vol. 8). We wish to thank Dr. Bay for her many contributions to moving the journal forward. We also say goodbye to Carly Rosenberger, our journal coordinator and a newly minted Purdue alumna, and welcome Kamilah Valentin Diaz to the role. We remain thankful to Purdue's Director of Service-Learning Lindsey Payne and Associate Provost for Engagement Steve Abel and their teams for their continued guidance and support of the journal.

As we begin to contemplate our next steps for PJSL in the years ahead, we remain focused on highlighting the value of service-learning as a high-impact pedagogy at Purdue. This work would not be possible without the many contributions of our reviewers, editorial board members, and faculty who serve as writing mentors, all

of whom provide valued support to our student authors year after year. We hope you enjoy reading and learning more about service-learning and international engagement at Purdue, as we look forward to the future.

READERSHIP REPORT

New for this year, we provide a readership report that summarizes the global reach and impact of PJSL. Information is presented in the aggregate since the journal's founding in 2014 and also for 2021, as indicated below. We will continue to provide these metrics for our readers in the years to come.

Summary Trends

Regarding PJSL's global impact as an open-access journal, Figure 1 illustrates the worldwide readership distribution for the journal in 2021. The heaviest concentration is in North America, but there is also significant readership across Europe and Asia. Additional readership metrics provided by bepress Digital Commons are represented in Table 1. Download totals indicate the number of times an article is accessed in full, including via search engines; metadata page hits reflect how readers interact with the journal repository via the website. Table 1 indicates steady trends of growth in
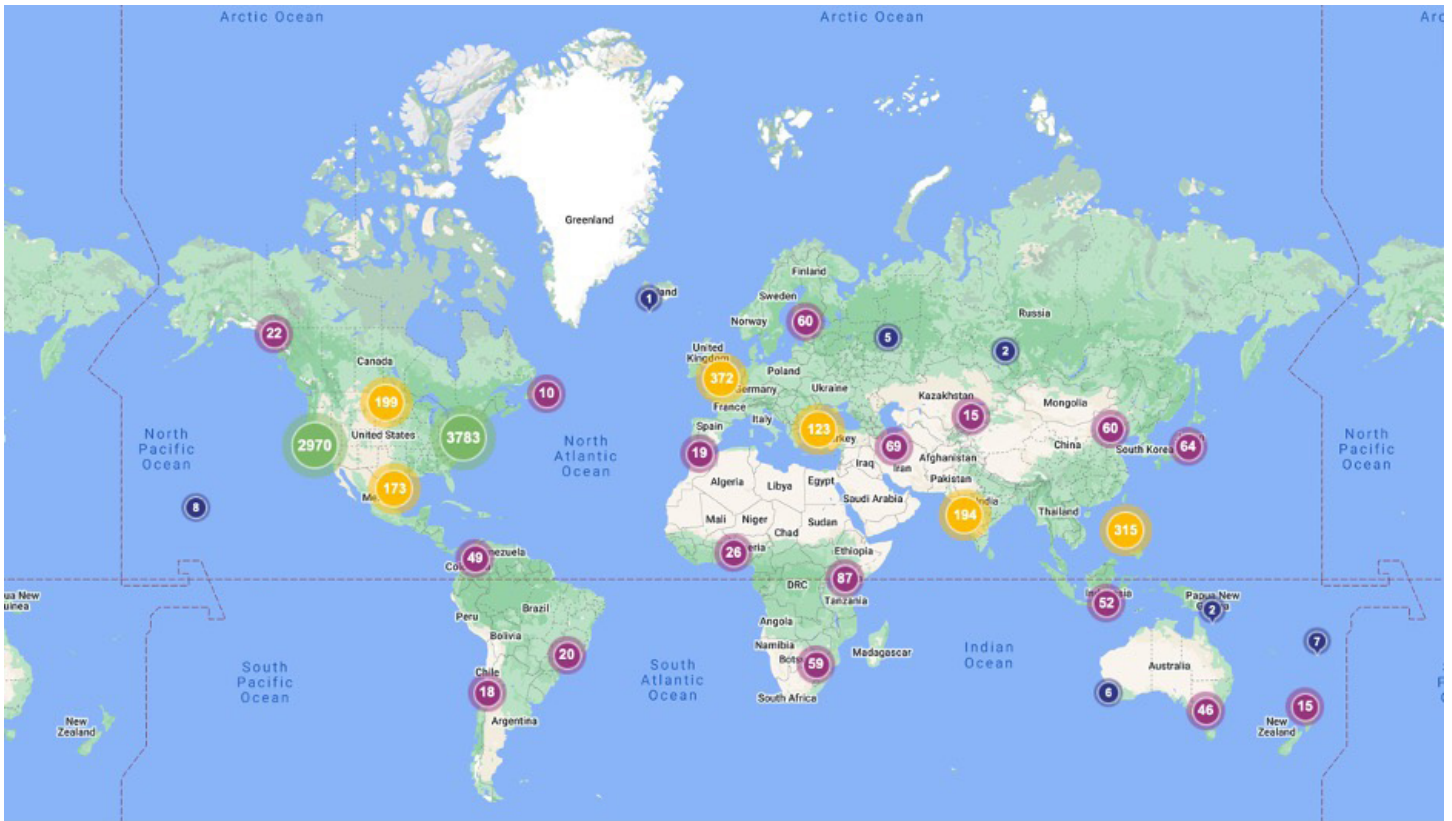

Figure 1. PJSL worldwide readership distribution from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021.

Table 1. Readership Metrics for PJSL, 2014–2021

Year	Articles	Total Downloads	Metadata Page Hits	Number of Institutions	Number of Countries
2014	14	604	709	n/a	n/a
2015	21	1841	489	199	76
2016	25	3274	1220	360	99
2017	28	3835	1805	414	108
2018	22	4155	1788	518	126
2019	19	6675	2482	495	121
2020	25	9494	3011	451	126
2021	23	8368	3551	478	125

both the total number of downloads and metadata page hits across years, and a fast-growing global distribution in the journal's first few years. The decrease in downloads in 2021 may reflect impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on readership.

High-Impact Articles

PlumX analytics provides an additional, downloads-based popularity index for individual articles. PJSL's all-time most popular paper by total number of full downloads (n = 1868) is "Community Involvement at an Elementary School: Cultural Differences and Their Effects on Education" by Tanner Givens, published in 2014 (vol. 1).[1] In 2021, PJSL published 21 original, student-authored articles (vol. 8). The most popular paper from 2021 by total number of full downloads (n = 135) is "Student Pharmacists' Response to a Pandemic: Service-Learning through Contract Tracing" by Antoinette Martin et al.

Future Directions

The COVID-19 pandemic has had likely effects on journal readership that we expect will continue into 2022 and beyond. Anecdotally, in addition to the trends in metrics described above, we note distinct changes in submission content in 2021 and a noticeable decline in overall submissions in 2022. We intend to continue to provide annual readership reports in order to track these changes over time and to strategize on ways to enhance the scholarly impact of PJSL in a postpandemic world.

NOTE

1. One article, "Data and Experience Design: Negotiating Community-Oriented Digital Research with Service-Learning" (vol. 6), produced outlier metrics and has been excluded from this report. This article has an unexplained exceptionally high rate of abstract views (n = 44,270) and metadata page hits (n = 45,140) within the PlumX analytics.