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Considerations for Where to Publish Your Work

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Considerations for Where to Publish Your Work

The handout should be used as a guide for faculty to consider where to publish their work and to discuss potential publication venues with their mentor and other trusted advisors.

Factor	Explanation & Suggestions	Notes
Audience	Consider the audience you are trying to reach. Who are the primary readers of the journal, conference proceedings, etc.?	
Author Order & Documenting Contributions	<p>Generally, the first author is the person who contributed most to the work, including writing of the manuscript. The sequence of authors should be determined by the relative overall contributions to the manuscript. Author order can vary by discipline. As an assistant professor, it is valuable to be the first author on some publications. It's best to have these conversations at the start of projects.</p> <p>It's also best to document your contributions to report your efforts accurately. Many journals now require reporting contributions using the CRediT guidelines: https://credit.niso.org/</p>	
Publication Type	Establishing a record of publishing articles in peer reviewed journals is a top priority for assistant professors on tenure track. Other publication types can add value to your scholarly record, but should be considered carefully and strategically.	
Peer Review	Double anonymized peer review is considered the gold standard, but may not be available for some disciplines. To determine, check the journal website, Cabell's Academic database, Ulrichsweb.com database, or check with the editor. The review process for books, book chapters, and conference papers can vary in procedure and rigor, so check with the editor, or your mentor and other trusted advisors.	
Suitability	Does your topic and treatment of the topic align with the journal's aim and scope? It can be helpful to search and review past issues or check with the journal editor if you are uncertain.	



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Reputation	Is the publication considered strong by well-established researchers in your area? This is a highly subjective factor, but one that should be explored with your mentor and other trusted advisors.	
Turnaround time	What is the typical turnaround time from submission to publication? Sometimes this information is not available, but it is occasionally on journal websites, in Cabell's Academic database, or your mentors and others who have published in that venue before can share their experiences.	
Journal Metrics	<p>Consider journal metrics. The Journal Impact Factor (JIF) was the only metric available for many years so it is a widely known indicator of journal impact. However, other metrics are now available, but they may not be as widely understood or respected as JIF in certain communities.</p> <p>https://guides.library.cmu.edu/biblio/jrankings</p> <p>https://pitt.libguides.com/bibliometricIndicators/JournalMetrics</p>	
Open Access	<p>OA publications tend to be cited at a higher rate. If the journal is not diamond OA, consider your options, such as a publisher with an OA agreement with the Libraries, the Libraries OA fund, and the ability to put a version in Purdue e-Pubs (i.e., Green OA).</p> <p>https://guides.lib.purdue.edu/oapublishing</p>	
Discoverability	<p>Determine where the publication is indexed. Publications indexed in Web of Science and Scopus are widely discoverable and contribute to university and department rankings. Discipline indexes should also be considered.</p>	
Journal Acceptance Rate	Journal acceptance rate can be an indicator of the rigor of a publication. Sometimes this information is not available, but it is	



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	occasionally on journal websites, in Cabell's Academic database, or your mentors and others who have published in that venue before can share their experiences.	
Altmetrics	Are you able to obtain metrics other than citation data from the publication, such as downloads, views, social media shares, "most read" lists, etc? These types of metrics can also be useful in demonstrating the reach and impact of your work.	

