Research and Publishing in the Library World: the Academic Perspective


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Learning Objectives

- Establishing a workable pace
  - Continually working on a project or a topic
  - Factoring the time it takes to publish
- Multiple iterations of a concept/theme
  - Presentation / Working Paper / Published Article
- Expand and Renew
  - Develop a Theme of Research
  - It is not one article and out!
- Apply at Work
  - Showcase things you have done
- Expectations of the academic environment
- Resources

Establishing a Workable Pace

- Continually working on a project or a topic
  - Academic appointments expect continual publishing and presenting
  - You should have projects going at all times
  - Some will die - its OK
  - Some will never really happen - its OK
- Factoring the time it takes to publish
  - From beginning to end, process could take two years
  - Critical that you do not wait until the last moment
  - For P&T – A confirmation letter might do
Establishing a Workable Pace

- Use "Calls for Papers" for ideas
- See Beyond the Job and Library Writer's Blog
- Look at your work for ideas
- Keep current with the literature to see what is being written - do not freak out if you find your topic 'already done.'
- Embedded Librarians at SLA 2008

Multiple iterations of a concept

- Academic papers are often viewed as the end result of work in a field
- Ideas are fleshed out as presentations
- With feedback, build the final paper
- Working Papers would be nice
- Submit the papers to peer reviewed and edited journals
- Multiple articles will build expertise
- YOUR RESULTS MAY VARY!

Multiple iterations of a concept

- Collecting Popular Culture Material: Minor League Team Publications as 'Fringe Material' at the National Baseball Hall of Fame Library.
  - Published in Collection Management, May 2003, Vol. 27, no. 2. (Refereed journal), p. 3-21.
Multiple iterations of a concept


Library Catalog for e-Journals

- Almost an ejournal: Using the Library Catalog for Local Hosting and Management of Electronic Periodicals (SLA, 2007 Presentation & Contributed Paper)
- Thinking Outside the Check-In Box: Using the Library Catalog for Local Hosting and Management of an Electronic Periodical (Journal of Internet Cataloging 7:3/4)

Library Catalog for e-Journals

- Next steps for research
  - Management and Acquisition of Special Topic Material not designed for the library community
  - Management of resources for action-based learning
  - Embedded librarians support of action-based learning
- Publication is not the end of the process!
Expand and Renew

- Develop a Theme of Research
  - Many topics can yield 2-3 related and complementary articles
    - Colleen Cook, Fred Heath, and Bruce Thompson on LibQual+ (2000+)
    - Michael Levine-Clark on library acquisitions
    - Janet Swan Hill on library cataloging
    - Roy Tennant or Andrew Pace on library automation

Apply at Work

- Showcase things you have done
- Articles can be “applied learning”
- Articles can have local applications to the library (but do not need to)
- Articles might:
  - Focus on implementation of a system
  - Highlight a unique approach to a problem
  - Address new services and opportunities

Expectations of the academic environment

- Academic appointments by librarians vary school by school
- Know what is expected for faculty librarians
  - # and type of publications
- Understand that the parameters are for promotion and tenure
- Undergo regular reviews
Expectations of the academic environment

Function of different types of work
- Peer Reviewed Journals
- Edited Articles
- Professional Presentation
- Regular Columns
- Conference Proceedings or Session Recording
- Book/Media Reviews

Expectations of the academic environment

- Added value of citations - who is citing your work
- Adds value to your portfolio
- Check out:
  - Google Scholar (http://scholar.google.com/)
  - Scopus
  - ISI Web of Knowledge
Questions
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- http://mblog.lib.umich.edu/~cseeman/

Resources - Publishers
- Emerald
  - http://www.emeraldinsight.com
- Haworth
  - http://www.haworthpressinc.com/
- ALA
  - http://www.ala.org
- Ulrich’s
  - http://ulrichsweb.com/ulrichsweb/

Resources - Blogs
- Beyond the Job
  - http://librarycareers.blogspot.com/
- Library Writer’s Blog
  - http://librarywriting.blogspot.com/
- Rachel Singer Gordon’s Writing Column
  - http://www.emeraldinsight.com/info/librarians/How_to_get_Published/perish.jsp