

**Title of Session:** Publishing Your Work

**Moderator:** Debra Sprague

**Title of File:** 20040927publishing

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Room: Hot Tub Conference Room

**BjB:** shall we start with introductions, Debbie?

**DebraSp:** Yes, let's start with introductions.

**MarionCT:** From Vancouver, BC, Canada area, teaching career decision making to adults

**SarahSa:** from Boston, MA, teaching tax

**BjB:** Welcome to tonight's Publishing your work.

**BjB:** I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania

**DebraSp:** From Fairfax, Virginia, teaching ed. tech courses.

**DebraSp:** Editor of Journal of Technology and Teacher Education

**DebraSp:** I try to keep this informal and address participants' needs. Is there something specific either of you want to know?

**SarahSa:** I wanted to find reviews and accounts of using tech - not sales info

**MarionCT:** ooo

**MarionCT:** I'm learning about online tools

**MarionCT:** and the possibility of using these with students

**MarionCT:** Wondered about the publishing aspect

**MarionCT:** so curious mostly

**MarionCT:** If you

**DebraSp:** There are several journals that publish such articles Sarah. Learning and Leading with Technology focuses on use in K-12 education.

**SarahSa:** so I was more interested in what is published, where, and who, rather than in publishing myself

**SarahSa:** Thank you

**BjB:** are you familiar with Leading and Learning with Tech, Sarah?

**BjB:** o O ( [www.iste.org](http://www.iste.org) )

**SarahSa:** no - Thanks for the URL

**DebraSp** joined the room.

**MarionCT:** welcome back

**BjB:** wb, Debra

**DebraSp:** Sorry, I got thrown out.

**MarionCT:** hope you landed softly

**BjB:** I showed the iste webpage, Debbie

**DebraSp:** It was a surprise, but expected with this connection.

**BjB:** Sarah, click on L&L on the blue menu

**DebraSp:** That is what I was just going to do, BJ. Thanks.

**DebraSp:** Well, the first step in the publishing process, Marion, is to have an idea for an article.

**SarahSa:** bingo - thank you

**MarionCT:** right ... much like putting a website together

**DebraSp:** Then you need to figure out where you want to submit it. You can only submit it to one journal at a time.

**SarahSa:** how long do you leave it with that journal?

**MarionCT:** is it still your property once you submit it?

**DebraSp:** You leave it until you hear rather or not it has been accepted.

**DebraSp:** It is your property until it is accepted by the journal. However, you can not send it to more than one journal at a time.

**DebraSp:** That is frowned upon.

**DebraSp** frowns

**MarionCT** nods

**DebraSp:** The important thing is to get to know the journal, read what they are publishing, become familiar with the style.

**SarahSa** . o O ( efficient use of scarce editorial resources )

**SarahSa:** are most of them online, or does one have to subscribe?

**DebraSp:** The problem occurs if it is accepted by more than one journal. Then who publishes it?

**JeffC** joined the room.

**DebraSp:** There are some available online, but most tend to be print journals.

**MarionCT:** Hi Jeff

**JeffC** waves

**SarahSa:** hi

**JeffC:** I'm \*only\* published online.

**MarionCT:** congrats

**DebraSp:** Many university libraries subscribe to the main journals.

**DebraSp** waves to Jeff.

**JeffC** waves to Debra

**DebraSp:** Some online journals require a subscription to read the entire article.

**JeffC:** Debra, are you familiar with "getcited"?

**JeffC:** <http://www.getcited.org/mbrx/PT/1/MBR/11074367>

**DebraSp:** L&L is one such journal (actually it is a magazine).

**DebraSp:** No, Jeff. What does it do?

**JeffC:** You can basically link to all of your work online... whether the publication is online or offline is immaterial.

**JeffC:** Click the above link and you'll see the links to my publications.

**JeffC:** It's kind of a weird system... because \*anyone can edit anything\*. It presumes that if you register and login as a professional, you won't muck up the work of others. But... if... for example, I wanted to create links to Professor John Searle's works from Berkeley... I could do so.

**JeffC:** But bottom line, it's a great site because it allows professionals to put their publications links in one spot for others to access.

**DebraSp:** That is a strange system, Jeff. Not everyone acts professional.

**MarionCT:** why not just have your own website?

**DebraSp:** I will have to check it out and try it. Thanks for sharing.

**DebraSp:** Guess it saves you the trouble of creating the website.

**SarahSa:** Ok - I got it, and linked to one of your articles. Can one only link to articles that are already available online, rather than to an uploaded copy of an article published in a print journal?

**JeffC:** You could do it that way as well Marion, this is a central database... allows you to be part of (yet another) community.

**MarionCT** nods

**JeffC:** Placing your publications there also makes you "searchable" ... if someone searches on "collaboration" ... they might hit one or two of my articles.

**DebraSp:** We were discussing the publishing process. What needs to be done before you have something to put into this database.

**DebraSp** smiles

**DebraSp:** It is easier to get an article published if you are familiar with the journal and its format.

**DebraSp:** You also need to understand between a refereed journal and a non-refereed journal.

**DebraSp:** A refereed journal means it is reviewed by several people in the field.

**MarionCT:** is the Bachelors Degree recognized ... or do submissions have to come from PhDs?

**DebraSp:** A non-refereed journal means only the editor reads it.

**DebraSp:** Anyone can publish, Marion. A degree is not needed, only the idea you are presenting.

**MarionCT:** good news

**JeffC:** And... you basically have two general routes: peer reviewed and non-peer reviewed. I personally don't care if my article meets up with every last MLA criteria... and hence... have an easier time publishing!

**DebraSp:** I have seen articles published by high school students. If the idea is sound, the writing correct, and the research well done, you can get published, even in a refereed journal.

**DebraSp:** Peer-reviewed and non-peer reviewed is the same thing as refereed and non-refereed.

**JeffC** nods

**DebraSp:** Jeff, that may be true, but if you are at a university and going for tenure you need some peer-reviewed publications.

**SarahSa:** who are the referees for your journal?

**JeffC:** Oh... absolutely Debra.

**DebraSp:** I have 80 reviewers, some well-known people in the field.

**JeffC:** I just had to work with the editor in one case... and with several others for my NETC journal article.

**SarahSa:** so you pick reviewers who would be appropriate for the specific article?

**DebraSp:** That is true, Sarah. Check out this website for the list of reviewers for my journal: <http://www.ace.org/pubs/jtate/board.cfm>

**DebraSp:** I read the abstract and look at the keywords and try to match with a reviewer with expertise in that area.

**SarahSa:** nice list!

**MarionCT:** impressive

**DebraSp:** It is impressive. Because of the quality of the reviewers JTATE has a high reputation in the field.

**DebraSp:** It receives far more submissions than we could ever publish.

**DebraSp:** That brings me to the next topic. Not to get discouraged if the article is rejected.

**HongG** joined the room.

**SarahSa:** would the submitter get some feedback on the problems with the manuscript?

**DebraSp:** An article can be rejected for main reasons, only one of which is the quality of writing.

**SarahSa:** hi, Hong

**DebraSp:** Usually, although it varies by journal.

**MarionCT** waves to Hong

**DebraSp:** We try to give specific feedback as to the issues with the article.

**DebraSp** waves to Hong

**MarionCT:** what was the best feedback you were ever given?

**DebraSp:** However, I had an article rejected once that just said "does not meet our current needs."

**DebraSp:** Most of my feedback was ways to improve the article, someone else's work I should consider that was relevant to what I was writing.

**SarahSa:** that kind of feedback would soften the rejection

**MarionCT** oOoOo

**DebraSp:** An article might be excellent, but not the right fit for the journal. That is why it is important to know the journal you are submitting to.

**DebraSp:** Articles actually fall into 4 categories.

**MarionCT** listens intently

**DebraSp:** They can Accept, Accept with Revisions, Reconsider after Revisions, or Reject.

**DebraSp:** JTATE does not do Reconsider after Revisions but many journals do.

**HongG:** hi everybody

**DebraSp:** If an article is rejected, you should consider submitting it somewhere else, especially if there are few comments about the quality.

**DebraSp:** What is rejected by one journal maybe accepted by another.

**MarionCT:** are you judged by a word count?

**DebraSp:** Most journals have a word count or page limit. It is important to follow these guidelines.

**DebraSp:** Failure to do so could result in the article being rejected without going through the review process.

**DebraSp:** All journals provide Author Guidelines that should absolutely be followed.

Great question, Marion.

**SarahSa:** I got a beautifully hand-calligraphed 300 page Japanese manuscript once. I had the first page translated to get the address for sending it back!

**HongG:** I think I probably missed part of the conversation. But usually how many reviewers is a paper sent to?

**DebraSp:** Yes! I got one that was 80 pages and refused to review it.

**DebraSp:** Hong, for peer-reviewed articles they are usually sent to three reviewers.

**DebraSp:** For JTATE I send it to 2 reviewers and I serve as the 3rd reviewer. I review all articles submitted.

**MarionCT:** what an incredible experience that must be

**MarionCT:** so much learning !!!

**HongG:** How many submissions do you have in a month?

**DebraSp:** I have a very broad understanding of the field and what people are doing.

**DebraSp** smiles.

**SarahSa** staggers

**DebraSp:** We received between 12-29 a month.

**MarionCT:** that's it Sarah!

**HongG:** What is the average acceptance rate?

**DebraSp:** Sorry, 12-20

**DebraSp:** Our acceptance rate is around 20%. Each journal has a different acceptance rate based on number of submissions and how often they publish.

**HongG:** what is the average turnaround time?

**DebraSp:** Most journals turn around in 1-3 months. JTATE has taken longer, but is currently averaging 4 months.

**HongG:** Do you actually set a deadline for the author to make revisions?

**DebraSp:** Authors have a month to make revisions. After that it is dropped from the database and is treated as a new submissions (goes back out for review).

**SarahSa:** that is a deadline with TEETH

**SarahSa** checks out Debra's fangs

**DebraSp:** Yes, if I catch it I can review the revisions, but I do not always catch it before sending it out for review.

**HongG:** Can you talk about how you got started serving as a reviewer? I am a graduate students and it sounds scary to review others' papers

**DebraSp:** The problem is if I am sending out a revised article for review then I have to delay sending out a new submission because I do not have a reviewer available.

**HongG:** How many reviewers do you have in total?

**DebraSp:** Hong, some journals, including JTATE, allow Grad students to review. What I would do is pair you with an experienced reviewer so you can learn.

**DebraSp:** I have 80 reviewers.

**MarionCT:** How long on average does a reviewer spend on the submission before comment

**DebraSp:** The reviewer has four weeks to read the article and submit their review. If they don't they get a "reminder"

**MarionCT:** also impressive

**DebraSp:** After 6 weeks they are dropped off the article. Lose 3 articles and they are gone.

**SarahSa** clicks her teeth quietly

**HongG:** How long is the process of "pairing/mentoring" before the graduate student is qualified to be an independent reviewer?

**MarionCT** thinks Sarah is funny

**DebraSp:** I look for reviewers who have a publishing record. It is difficult to review others' work if you have not published yourself.

**MarionCT:** I like your questions, Hong.

**HongG:** Thanks, Marion.

**DebraSp:** By pairing/mentoring I mean that you will get an article sent to you and I will also send it to a seasoned reviewer. then I compare your reviews.

**MarionCT:** hmmm

**HongG:** so the grad is independent from day one

**HongG:** except he/she will get feedback from you

**DebraSp:** Once I read the article and make my decision you will get an e-mail with the decision plus your review and the other person's review. You can then see if you are on the right track.

**DebraSp:** I always provide feedback to my reviewers, something they appreciate.

**HongG:** What is the process to become a reviewer? Are you the person that I should be talking to?

**SarahSa:** how long have you been editing JTATE?

**DebraSp:** Also, JTATE is published by SITE. We do a reviewer workshop for people interested in reviewing for us.

**DebraSp:** This is my 4th year as editor.

**SarahSa** takes off her plumed hat and bows to Debra

**DebraSp** laughs

**DebraSp:** Thanks, Sarah.

**DebraSp:** Hong there is a website that you can go to and sign up as a reviewer. I think if you go to <http://www.aace.org/newpubs> you can sign in and then choose to become a reviewer. Once you do that, the editor has to make the final decision. I currently have plenty of reviewers but other AACE journals might need more reviewers.

**HongG:** Thanks for the info. I will check it out

**DebraSp:** This has been a great discussion and I hope you found it useful. It is time for us to sign off before BJ kicks us out.

**DebraSp** smiles at BJ.

**HongG:** Thanks very much.

**BjB** smiles...I wouldn't do that!

**MarionCT:** good lead for Hong

**SarahSa:** thank you, Debra - that was a very professional introduction to your journal

**BjB:** thanks, Debbie.

**HongG:** Thanks, everybody

**MarionCT:** thanks, Debra ...

**DebraSp:** You are all welcome. Maybe I will see you all next month.

**MarionCT:** Good night

**SarahSa:** bon soir

**DebraSp:** Good night, all.