

Title of Session: Publishing Your Work
Moderator: Debra Sprague
Title of File: 20060425publishing
Date: April 25, 2006

Room: Hot Tub Conference

BJB2: Welcome to Publishing your work

DebraSp: We usually start with an introduction. I am a professor in Virginia.

BJB2: if you are new to Tapped In a reminder to go to Actions in the top right of your chat window and click on Detach

EmilyW: I am on helpdesk at Tapped In

BJB2: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania

DebraSp: I edit the Journal of Technology and Teacher Education

ReneL: I'm a pre-service teacher in Houston, Texas

DebraSp: Wonderful, Rene.

DebraSp smiles

BJB2 adds some scented bubbles to the hot tub

DebraSp: I like having preservice teachers online.

JeffC: I'm on Helpdesk here, in Forest Grove Oregon, a disenchanted and disenfranchised educator with a question.

DebraSp toasts Rene.

SusanR . o O (feels quite relaxed)

DebraSp: Jeff, you always have a question. What's on your mind tonight?

JeffC: Getting admins to let students, or at least their teachers, post blogs.

JeffC: The filtering is completely absurd and irrational. Paranoia runs deep.

DebraSp: Yeah. That is an interesting question that my students wrestle with as well.

DebraSp: Emily and Susan, post an introduction?

JeffC: Analogous to the situation here in Oregon where the state government has issued a rule stating that no Oregon legislator may post a link to outside of oregon.gov sites.

DebraSp: We went from one extreme to another on the Internet. Sorry, Emily. Did not see it, but do now.

DebraSp: Ok. I guess we can get started. Are there any specific questions regarding publishing that you would like me to address?

ReneL: are we only talking about publishing in Journals?

ReneL: Research?

DebraSp: That is the focus of this session, but if people wish to talk about publishing in other venues, we can.

ReneL: okay, just wanted to know...new to this

DebraSp: To publishing or Tapped In?

ReneL: both

DebraSp: I tend to run an informal conversation when i do these sessions, Rene. I have a general talk i go through, but I am always willing to discuss whatever is on people's minds.

DebraSp pours a glass of wine and takes a sip.

JeffC: I recommend publishing online to a university journal, or NWREL, etc... doesn't have to be peer reviewed... pretty much guaranteed with a rewrite or two you'll get in if you have something interesting to say. I'd like to hear Debra's ideas (and any links people have) to "how to convince admin that blocking blog sites is ludicrous" (looks in google scholar to see if there are any articles already lurking).

JeffC hopes Debra didn't just do a spittake with her wine.

EmilyW: Jeff, what exactly is going on? What sites are they blocking?

DebraSp: Peer review is important if you are trying to get a job at a university. It is not as urgent if you are not at a university.

JeffC: all sorts of sites Emily... blog sites are taking a big hit now... filtered left and write (sic).

EmilyW: what exactly are you trying to find out?

ReneL: I blog on blogger.com

EmilyW: me too

DebraSp: I also have a couple of blogs on blogger.com

DebraSp: Part of the reasons blogs are blocked is because the filters pick-up certain words in the blogs or because of the site itself, such as MySpace.com

JeffC: I'm trying to find a website with a cogent and coherent argument as to why admin are foolish to filter blog sites.

JeffC: right... myspace.com is definitely one that gets blocked.

EmilyW: xanga and livejournal are probably blocked a lot too

DebraSp: Jeff, check out Andy Carvin's site. He has been blogging about this very issue.

JeffC: myspace is more than a blog, it's a social gathering point... but in order to get that site unfiltered I think academics need to get more involved with the argument as to why filtering has more of a chilling effect on constructive use of technology than any positive benefits.

JeffC: Yes... Andy's been involved with it a lot lately, as have a lot of us at the wwvedu listserv.

JeffC: and start at a lower level... I really don't think blogs should be filtered... what they should be is monitored (which is something that myspace does do)... each school should set up a parent/student/teacher monitoring club... people need to know what is going on... and yes... that it's appropriate, or at least known about. The trouble is... when you tell your kid "no pizza" three times... what will they want for dinner?

DebraSp: Does anyone else have any questions regarding publications or should I just go over the steps to get published?

ReneL: steps please

DebraSp: Ok. Step one is to decide which journal you want to submit to. You want to write the article to meet the interest of the readers so you want to know who reads the journal. Does the journal go to university faculty? To teachers? To specific teachers, like Art or Reading? To speech pathologists? Each of these audiences needs to have the article written in a different way.

DebraSp: Feel free to ask questions as I post these.

EmilyW: How do you find out about the different journals?

ReneL: So...anyone can publish?

DebraSp: Oh, yes. Read the journal you want to submit to so you become familiar with the style

DebraSp: Yes, anyone can publish. It is the quality of the article that counts, not your credentials

ReneL: oh...

ReneL: did not know

DebraSp: Emily, there is an Index of Citations that lists many of the journals. You can also do a websearch on journals. Or check your local university library. They often subscribe to journals.

DebraSp: Step two, read the author's guidelines. If you do not follow the guidelines the article will be rejected, no matter how good it is. The guidelines tell you page limits, font to use, how to submit the article, how the references are to be listed, and how figures and tables are to be addressed.

EmilyW: where can I find the index of citations?

SusanR: Emily, you may wish to get some ideas from Merlot

DebraSp: I have a link to it in my e-mail. If you email me I will send it to you. Your university library should also have a hard copy.

SusanR: <http://www.merlot.org/Home.po>

DebraSp: Step Three, write the article. This is the hardest part of the process because you are putting your thoughts and ideas out there for other's to read and critique. That can be scary. But if you don't then you can't join the community of scholars. So jump in and write the article.

DebraSp: Step four, submit the article for review. Send it to the journal, guidelines will tell you how. Some want electronic submissions, some want paper versions.

DebraSp: The next steps are out of your control, but here is what happens once the article reaches the hands of the editor.

DebraSp: Step five depends on rather or not the journal is peer-reviewed. If it is not, the editor will read the article and make a decision as to rather or not he or she wants to

publish it. If the journal is peer-reviewed, as mine is, the editor sends the article out to two or three reviewers. The editor then gets the reviews back from the reviewers and makes a decision as to whether or not to publish it.

DebraSp: Peer-reviewed journals are considered more prestigious.

DebraSp: Keep asking questions. I love questions.

DebraSp smiles

DebraSp: Step six is notification to the author. You will get a letter saying one of three things. First, the dreaded rejection letter. This one is what everyone fears, but we have all gotten them at one time or another. Sometimes the article needs too much work to be published. Other times it is not a good match for the journal you submitted it to.

DebraSp: If you get the rejection letter read the comments from the editor and reviewer. If it is a case that it is not a good fit, find another journal to submit it to. Some other journal make like it. If it is a case it needs to be rewritten, then rewrite it. Don't give up.

DebraSp: I recently saw an article in another journal that we rejected because it was not a good fit.

KellieBeaC: Question - academic journals are probably very different than entertainment media journals, right?

KellieBeaC: I've written many, many articles for animation and the process is a bit different.

DebraSp: True, I am referring to academic journals.

DebraSp: If you want to talk about other publications, feel free to do so.

KellieBeaC: Good, I need to learn a thing or two about this process for sure.

DebraSp: The second response you could get is Accept with Revisions. This means the journal is interested in the article, but they would like you to revise it somewhat. Again read what they are saying and do what they say. Follow the time line. If they want it back in two weeks make sure it is back in two weeks. If not, it will be rejected because journals have timelines as well.

DebraSp: The third option is the one we all want to receive...the acceptance letter. This means the article is great and they will publish it. Rarely do you receive this letter when you submit the article. Most always there are revisions required.

DebraSp: Step seven. The article has been accepted and proofread by the copy editor. You will see the copy proofs. These are the pages that show you exactly what the article

would look like when it goes to press. You will have the opportunity to check these over and correct any typos and errors in the article. Once you approve the page proofs (again pay attention to the due date) the journal is sent to the printer and you will see your article published!

ReneL: Just a question. How many of your articles have been published?

DebraSp: Mine? More than I can count.

DebraSp: I think about 20 or so.

ReneL: Wow!! Do you work for a publishing company?

KellieBeaC: Question - once you've published a few does it get a bit easier?

DebraSp: I also have several book chapters and one book.

KellieBeaC: In writing a book, do you need a literary agent?

DebraSp: No publishing company, just been doing this for 10 years.

ReneL: literary agent?

DebraSp: It gets easier, but you still get rejections.

ReneL: where do you find one of those?

DebraSp: No literary agent. You need a publishing company.

KellieBeaC: May not need one for academia but you do for entertainment works

DebraSp: True for nonacademic.

ReneL: How do you get one?

KellieBeaC: Best to cover this in another talk

ReneL: okay

DebraSp: Here is a great article on getting published that gives great advice for someone getting started. <http://www.citejournal.org/vol4/iss2/editorial/article1.cfm>

KellieBeaC: Question - do you have someone (a friend or co-worker) who proofs your work before you submit it?

DebraSp: Yes, I do.

KellieBeaC I knew that

DebraSp: Always a good idea.

KellieBeaC nods

DebraSp: Do you all have other questions?

KellieBeaC: Are there some resources for journals that cover specific academic topics?

KellieBeaC: Say... Games in the classroom?

DebraSp: Such as? Not sure what you mean.

DebraSp: Yes. There is Games and Culture.

KellieBeaC: i.e Some journals cover psychology some engineering some art

KellieBeaC: Ah, Games and Culture, great!

SusanR . o O (interested in games in the classroom)

DebraSp: Oh, yes. Each academic area has their own journals.

SusanR: educational games in the classroom

DebraSp: Games and Culture is published by Sage Publishing Co.

KellieBeaC: Where do I look to find these journals? I'd like to read a few to see what they cover.

DebraSp: Games are a hot topic right now.

KellieBeaC: Great! I want to build a game as a classroom online

DebraSp: You should check out SimSchool. They are building an online simulation to educate preservice teachers

KellieBeaC: Yes, I'm currently reviewing SimSchool - good lead!

DebraSp: There are too many journals to list them all. You need to check out the Index of Citations for a list of journals.

KellieBeaC: Index of Citations... okay, will do. Just do a search under google?

DebraSp: Yes. I have the exact link somewhere, but that should do it.

KellieBeaC: I'll find it, TY

BJB2: the big hand is straight up

DebraSp: You are welcome.

BJB2 . o O (good timing, Rene)

DebraSp: Got it, BJ.

DebraSp smiles.

KellieBeaC: Looks like our time is up. I'm super glad I came, even if it was late!

BJB2: Thanks, Debbie. Turned out to be a good discussion.

ReneL: me too.

DebraSp: Thank you all for attending. See you next month.

BJB2 . o O (May 23)

BJB2 waves goodnight

DebraSp finishes her glass of wine.

ReneL: is it possible for me to send you a question or two about publishing?

DebraSp: Yes. My e-mail address is dspragul@gmu.edu I lead this discussion every month.

ReneL: thank you.

ReneL: this was interesting and insightful