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Publishing Open Access on the Tenure Track: Observations from the Trenches

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Publishing Open Access on the Tenure Track: Observations from the Trenches

Abstract:

When I accepted a tenure-track job, I decided that my interest and insistence regarding open access meant I committing to publishing open access along the tenure track. What followed was a set of rules for myself, and a researcher journal where I have been recording my observations along the way. Now in my final year and prepping to go up for tenure in the fall of 2023, I would like to share what I have noted so far in my journey; successes and failures, and give some predictions about how libraries can lead the way in open access publishing.

Positionality/DEI statement:

Erin Renee Wahl is a white, straight, cisgender, able-bodied woman born and raised in a small farming community in the Midwest. At the time of writing, she has a dual identity as a mid-career librarian employed in a tenure-track position at an R2 research university in New Mexico, and a PhD student in Educational Leadership and Administration at that same university. As such, my perspective of my research is colored through the experiences and perspectives my background brings to the table. Her research is focused on the intersection of sustainability and libraries, library work environments, and interdisciplinary use of archives.

I am deeply invested in pursuing equity and social justice in educational change and reform in my work as a change agent and Assistant Professor in libraries and archives. I take a critical stance in my teaching, writing, and research in the borderland area of Mexico and New Mexico and am an ally to those disenfranchised by our hegemonic, inequitable, and oppressive systems.