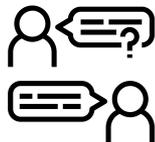


Making the Publishing Process More Transparent:

Identifying a Baseline for Publishing Support through Researching Gaps between Graduate Students and Their Faculty Advisors' Support

Research Overview



Details:

What: Mixed-methods research study

When: Spring 2021 – Present

Why: To research a gap in the literature and practice in order to inform library support around publishing for graduate students.

Research Questions

- What are the publishing practices of graduate students and faculty?
- How do graduate students and faculty understand the publication process?
- What are faculty telling students about publishing?
- What gaps in publishing support for grad students are there, both within and across disciplines?

Phases:



Phase 1: Interviews of faculty (Fall 2021 - Present)

Phase 2: Interviews of graduate students (Spring 2022)

Phase 3: Survey of both faculty and students (TBD)

Gap/Need



Takeaways from the literature review:

Inconsistent access to mentoring and faculty time

Mentoring of graduate students on publishing by faculty is inconsistent, if happening at all. Time and invisible labor are concerns for faculty.

Relation to field

Support of graduate students with publishing may be disciplinary-focused or interdisciplinary.

Librarians' responsibilities

The role of a librarian is to “complement, not intervene, where there are productive mentor-protégé relationships among faculty and students” (Buehler & Zald, 2013, p. 218).

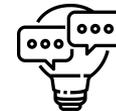
Action from librarians

Librarians' response to the need for publishing literacy is to add instruction sessions, but it is unclear what specific areas of publishing need to be covered.

Hidden curriculum

Grad school brings hidden rules, like how to balance the research and teaching workload, that students have to learn, and publishing becomes another obstacle.

Inspiration for Research



Students ask:

- “How long does it take to get published?”
- “What is open access?”
- “When should I pick a journal for my article?”
- “Should I do peer review for others?”
- “Do I have to respond to all of the review comments?”
- “It can cost money to publish?” (e.g., Article Processing Charges or APCs)
- “My dissertation will be Open Access?! Can I still turn it into a book?”

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in publishing

- Publishing literacy connects to DEI given the **known lack of diversity in publishing**, like in peer reviewers, editorial boards, and representation in fields.
- **Defining and increasing publishing support** for grad students as they become authors could help address this DEI issue by helping them navigate publishing.
- First generation students encounter challenges with the “**hidden rules of graduate school**,” such as writing and how to talk with faculty. They also find “limited access to mentors” (Peraza et al., 2021), which could be exacerbated by **inconsistencies in mentoring**.

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References / Reading



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