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The Ethics of Authorship: Social Science

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Why write?

- Reflection
- Organise thoughts
- Catharsis
- Journaling
- Recording (aide memoire)
- Pen to paper (sensory experience)

[a valued private experience]
Why publish?

- Money (????)
- Something to say
- Disseminate ideas/findings
- Engage scholarly dialogue
- Fame/notoriety
- Esteem (name in print)
- Sensory experience (‘holding’ the book)
- Professional/career requirement (a ‘pressure’?)

[valued public ‘display’]
Pressures to publish:

- HE career path
- Building a CV
- Progressing ‘science’
- Advancement of knowledge
- The REF
- Commissioned reports (deliverables)
- Networking
- Scholarship
Problems consequent on the pressures:

- Outlets - How and where to publish: Journal hierarchies / New journals
- Priority disputes and IPR (whose 'knowledge'?).
- Multiple authorship and the ‘co-researcher’
- Collegial working – collaboration or competition?
- Risk management
- Protection of corporate image
- Haste
- Open access
- Digital media (the e-book and online journal)
- Authoritative citation
Academic journals immensely contribute to the validation and the dissemination of breakthrough knowledge. For the researcher, the affirmation of a quality journal stems from the ranking indexes in their disciplines that are currently available...

...the extensive propagation of journal rankings plays a monumental role in tenure and promotion evaluations in academia. For evaluators, it is exigent to objectively gauge the quality of a candidate's work since it is highly probable that most, if not all, committee members hail from different disciplines; consequently, evaluators look to the ranking of journals in a candidate's discipline to serve as a surrogate measure.
1 AGING CELL
2 NEUROBIOLOGY OF AGING
3 JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN GERIATRICS SOCIETY
4 JOURNALS OF GERONTOLOGY SERIES A - BIOLOGICAL SCIENC...
5 MECHANISMS OF AGEING AND DEVELOPMENT
6 JOURNALS OF GERONTOLOGY SERIES B - PSYCHOLOGICAL SCI...
7 EXPERIMENTAL GERONTOLOGY
8 AGE AND AGEING
Solutions?

- Institutional policies and procedures (e.g. UUK Concordat?)
- COPE cases
- New Journals (e.g. SRA)
- Online publishing with quality assessment
- Blogging
- RRI ‘culture’ (zero-tolerance of misconduct)
- Positive mentorship from champions/leaders
- Training: formal courses on ethics, integrity, scientific writing
- Improved systems of academic/scientific assessment
  (problems of measuring ‘worth/value’ – cf impact assessment)
Promoting excellence in services through research, policy and practice
Ethics of the peer review process – a publisher perspective

• An author should expect a timely and fair peer review of their paper on submission to a journal
• Timescales for the peer review process among subject areas and journals in the Social Sciences vary greatly
• The use of editorial systems (such as ScholarOne) make the timescales of the peer review process transparent and easy for editors and publishers to monitor
• Editorial systems also allow authors to keep a check on the progress of their paper
Peer review process - benchmarking

• Most publishers have internal benchmarks that they will monitor to ensure that their editors are operating an efficient and fair peer review system for authors.

• For instance, Emerald’s benchmark editorial time – submission to final decision – is 22 weeks.

• Authors submitting to an Emerald journal should expect to receive a decision on their paper well within that benchmark editorial time.
Usage trends - customers

Top Institutions:
The following institutions have downloaded the most articles from QAOA during the last 12 months.

- OPEN UNIVERSITY
- University of The West of England
- BRUNEL UNIVERSITY
- University of Leeds
- UNIVERSITAS CIPUTRA
- AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
- SURABAYA UNIVERSITY
- UNIVERSITY OF WEST LONDON
- Health Education South West
- UNIVERSITY OF EAST ANGLIA

Top Countries:
The following countries have downloaded the most articles from QAOA during the last 12 months.

- United Kingdom
- UK
- Australia
- Indonesia
- Peoples Republic Of China
- Canada
- USA
- New Zealand
- Hong Kong
- Malta

- 340 customers have accessed the online version of the journal during 2013 (at end November 2013)
Usage trends – top articles

The following articles published in any year have been downloaded the most during the last 12 months:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author(s)</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Journal</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Pages</th>
<th>Downloads</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alisoun Milne (2011)</td>
<td>&quot;Living with dementia in a care home: capturing the experiences of residents&quot;</td>
<td>Quality in Ageing and Older Adults</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Vol. 12</td>
<td>No. 2</td>
<td>pp 76-85</td>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Woods (2012)</td>
<td>&quot;Well-being and dementia – how can it be achieved?&quot;</td>
<td>Quality in Ageing and Older Adults</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Vol. 13</td>
<td>No. 3</td>
<td>pp 205-211</td>
<td>343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Burke (2012)</td>
<td>&quot;Shared experiences: why we're better off when we're united for all ages&quot;</td>
<td>Quality in Ageing and Older Adults</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Vol. 13</td>
<td>No. 4</td>
<td></td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joy Watkins, Lorely Stanton, Barry Saunders, Gillian Lasocki, Pat Chung, Penny Hibberd (2011)</td>
<td>&quot;Working in partnership with family carers: the importance of learning from carers' experiences&quot;</td>
<td>Quality in Ageing and Older Adults</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Vol. 13</td>
<td>No. 1</td>
<td>pp 25-35</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
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<td>Alison Wray (2012)</td>
<td>&quot;Patterns of formulaic language in Alzheimer's disease: implications for quality of life&quot;</td>
<td>Quality in Ageing and Older Adults</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Vol. 13</td>
<td>No. 3</td>
<td>pp 168-175</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann Hemingway, Eleanor Jack (2013)</td>
<td>&quot;Reducing social isolation and promoting well being in older people&quot;</td>
<td>Quality in Ageing and Older Adults</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Vol. 14</td>
<td>No. 1</td>
<td>pp 25-35</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antony Bayer (2012)</td>
<td>&quot;Progress in diagnosis and management of Alzheimer's disease&quot;</td>
<td>Quality in Ageing and Older Adults</td>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Vol. 13</td>
<td>No. 3</td>
<td>pp 189-196</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Tooke (2013)</td>
<td>&quot;Involving people with dementia in the work of an organisation: Service User Review Panels&quot;</td>
<td>Quality in Ageing and Older Adults</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Vol. 14</td>
<td>No. 1</td>
<td>pp 56-65</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Jamieson (2007)</td>
<td>&quot;Education and the quality of life in later years&quot;</td>
<td>Quality in Ageing and Older Adults</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>Vol. 8</td>
<td>No. 3</td>
<td>pp 15-23</td>
<td>119</td>
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<td>Bob Woods (2011)</td>
<td>&quot;Well-being and dementia – how can it be achieved?&quot;</td>
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<td>No. 3</td>
<td>pp 205-211</td>
<td>343</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Submissions and peer review

Since April 2012 the journal has used ScholarOne for managing submissions and the peer review process.

Submissions can be made at: [http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/qaoa](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/qaoa)

Peer-review average turnaround times (for last 12 months):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process</th>
<th>Ideal / Industry Standard</th>
<th>Quality in Ageing and Older Adults</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Editors to assign reviewers</td>
<td>2 weeks (14 days)</td>
<td>12.9 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review turnaround time</td>
<td>6 weeks (42 days)</td>
<td>22 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission to first decision</td>
<td>3 months (90 days)</td>
<td>19.5 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Budget for 2014:**
- 24 papers
- 224 pages
Solutions?

- Institutional policies and procedures (e.g. UUK Concordat?)
- COPE cases
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