

Quality in Open Access: Flashing Lights and Fairy Tales

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21st Century Scholarship Unlocked: Selecting &
Accessing Publishers



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Agenda

- Thoughts and Experiences
- Indicators to Evaluate of Quality
- Tips and Takeaways

Thoughts and Experiences



From [The New York Public Library](#), 1898,
Public Domain,

Terminology

- Predatory
- Ethical and Unethical
- Applicable to All Publishing Methods and Types

Indicators to Evaluate Quality

Quality Indicators: Positive

- Ethical Publishing Guidelines and Standards
- Publication contract:
 - Author Rights, Self-Archiving,
 - Versions
 - Short or No embargoes

Markers of Quality OA

- Publishers are OASPA members
- Publishers and Journals adhere to COPE guidelines
- Journals are Full OA
- APCs/BPCs affordable

Markers of Quality OA

- Indexing:
 - DOAJ, Ulrich's, Other
 - DOAJ SEAL
- Discovery:
 - DOIs, PermaCC, ISSN/ISBN

Markers of Quality OA

- Archiving and Preservation Implementations:
 - Portico, CLOCKSS, LOCKSS
- Accessibility:
 - WCAG AA 2.0 Standards

Quality Indicators: Positive

- Funder and University Policy support:
 - OA Policies
 - Data Management
 - Public Access
 - Proactive Publisher Deposit into Repositories

Quality Indicators: Negative

- Journal Information on website, minimal
- Repeat Editors/authors, same issues
- Peer Review is paid or type is unclear
- Marketing occurs direct to authors

Quality Indicators: Negative

- Author guidelines or Publication contract unavailable
- Embargoes are lengthy
- Self-archiving Rights, minimal
- Versions allowed, minimal
- APCs/BPCs cost prohibitive

Tips and Takeaways

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- At the point of Idea:
 - Research and Query
- Not all new journals are unethical.
- If unsure, ask, evaluate, and read the content!

Tips and Takeaways

- What top 3-5 publishers do you use?
- Where do they fall in the quality spectrum?
- Evaluate your personal publishing motivations
- How does that match with the journals and book publishers to which you submit?

Thank you!

Reading materials

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