

## LESSON 5: IDENTIFYING QUALITY JOURNALS TO PUBLISH IN

### Key Points

- No journal or publisher is immune from publishing concerns, e.g., quality of peer review, editorial bias, author conflicts of interest, undetected ethical breaches (plagiarism, inappropriate authorship attribution, copyright infringement, unreplicable experiment, etc. )
- Reputable publishers adhere to international norms promulgated by governing groups and associations, such as the *Committee on Publication Ethics* (COPE); *Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association* (OASPA); *Society for Scholarly Publishing*; *International Committee of Medical Journal Editors* (ICMJE); and others.
- Disreputable, or predatory publishers, exploit the gold Open Access model (pay to publish) by charging to publish in journals that lack some of the features of reputable journals. They charge an article processing fee and may also assess additional fees for page charges, color, or even DOI registration.
- There is no definitive register of reputable scholarly publishers. Legitimate journals that are newly established may not show up on “White Lists” such as the *Directory of Open Access Journals* or the *Thomson Journal Citation Reports* despite meeting the criteria for reputable journals. Journals with quality control issues (redacted content; disputed peer review processes) may not show up on black lists such as *Beall’s List: Potential, possible, or probable predatory scholarly open-access publishers*.

### Criteria for Evaluating Journals

Each author needs to evaluate the quality of a journal of interest. Here are some features to look for to establish quality and credibility of the journal

#### Journal

- Journal website contains complete information on editorial policy; lists editorial board members; publishes accurate and complete Article Processing Fee (APC) schedule; and specifies periodicity at which issues are released.
- Editorial Board members are experts in the subject area of the journal; are their credentials are represented accurately; and contribute substantive guidance to the management and policies of the journal;

- Journal has an ISSN, issues DOIs for articles, maintains a publicly-posted schedule fee for all charges to be paid for publishing, uses a blind peer review process with more than one reviewer
- Listed in *Directory of Open Access Journals* (DOAJ) with seal of approval (or indicator that an application for such is pending) : *may not be applicable for new journals*
- Not included in *Beall's List* : *may not be applicable for new journals*
- Author(s) do not transfer copyright to the publisher as a condition of publication
- Copyright holders allow users to “copy, use, distribute, transmit and display the work publicly and to make and distribute derivative works, in any digital medium for any responsible purpose, subject to proper attribution of authorship...” in the case of journals.
- Any direct marketing activities, including solicitation of manuscripts, shall be appropriate and well targeted to authors based on demonstrated expertise in the subject area.

#### Publisher

- Publisher is a member of OASPA, COPE, and one of the DOI Registration Agencies (e.g., CrossRef) and adheres to the principles and code of conduct of these organizations
- Publisher website is written in clear, grammatically correct language.
- Publisher clearly states plan for electronic backup and preservation of access to published content in the event a journal is no longer published

#### Additional Resources & Readings

- *Beall's List of Potential, possible, or probable predatory scholarly open-access publishers*: <https://scholarlyoa.com/publishers/>
- *Coalition for Responsible Publication Resources*: <http://www.rprcoalition.org/>
- *Committee on Publication Ethics*: <http://publicationethics.org/>
- *Directory of Open Access Journals*: <https://doaj.org/>
- *International Journal of Medical Committee Editors*: <http://www.icmje.org/>
- Shen, Cenyu and Björk, Bo-Christer, 2015. ‘Predatory’ open access: a longitudinal study of article volumes and market characteristics. *BMC Medicine*, 2015. 13:230. DOI: 10.1186/s12916-015-0469-2
- *Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association* : <http://oaspa.org/>

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### CASE STUDY

Evaluate the following journal that solicited contributions from the workshop instructor (a research librarian at Caltech).

Do you think this is a predatory publisher? Why or Why not?

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What features give confidence that the journal is reputable? What features would you like to see changed before agreeing to publish in this journal?

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**From:** [Editorial staff of Praise Worthy Prize](#)  
**To:** [Peretsman-Clement, Gail](#)  
**Subject:** Invitation to submit a paper to the International Journal on Communications Antenna and Propagation (IRECAP)  
**Date:** Thursday, January 14, 2016 12:25:41 AM

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Dear Dr. Gail P. Clement,

We found that you publish interesting and quality papers on arguments inherent the topics of our **International Journal on Communications Antenna and Propagation (IRECAP)**.

Therefore we would be very honoured to receive your submissions for the Journal.

**IRECAP** is a bimonthly peer-reviewed International Journal, that publishes original research and research review articles and it is currently indexed in [SCOPUS \(Elsevier Bibliographic Database\)](#), [Academic Search Complete \(EBSCO Information Services\)](#), [Google Scholar](#), [Cambridge Scientific Abstracts \(CSA/CIG\)](#). We are working closely with many other major databases to get them indexed, including ISI Journal Citation Reports® (with Impact Factor), Engineering Index (Compendex) and Mathematical Review database. **The 2014 Journal Metrics data powered by SCOPUS and the 2014 SCImago Journal Rank are now available on the home page of the website of the journal.**

The Journal welcomes both unpublished original work and extended versions of conference papers.

[Full instructions](#) can be found on the web site of the journal.

[Table of contents](#) of the current issue of the journal is available on the journal's web site.

#### **Advantages of publishing with Praise Worthy Prize**

**Peer review:** Effective and professional, made by researchers with high H-index on the topics.

**Fast review process:** average review time: up to 60 days.

**High visibility:** the Journal is indexed on SCOPUS (Elsevier Bibliographic Database), Academic Search Complete (EBSCO Information Services), Google Scholar, Cambridge Scientific Abstracts (CSA/CIG).

**Low Publishing fees** - The journal charges the following author fees: Article Publication Fee: 240.00 (EUR) After a manuscript has been accepted, and the author has been notified of acceptance, the author or the author's organization should buy 1 copy of the Journal issue (240 euros for the e-journal version), or alternatively the print copy of the issue (euros 270 + shipment fee), to cover part of the publication cost.

The previous charge is assessed for the number of pages beyond the standard length for our Journals` paper of ten (10) printed journal pages. In the final format paper, the 11-th page and above will incur an excess page charge, currently euros 35 per page.

The publication of **Highly commended papers** selected by the Editors of the journal will be free of charge. The Article Publication Fee for **Commended papers** selected by the Editors of the journal will be paid with 50% discount.

If you intend to submit your paper for consideration in our Journal, we will be very pleased to receive your paper.

Yours sincerely,

**Anna Bosso**

**Head of the Editorial Staff**

On behalf of **Prof. Rongxing Lu**

**Editor-in-Chief of IRECAP**

\*\*\*\*\*

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# International Journal on Communications Antenna and Propagation (IRECAP)



ISSN: 2039-5086  
e-ISSN: 2039-5094

**Editor-in-Chief:**  
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Division of Communication Engineering  
School of Electrical and Electronics Engineering  
Nanyang Technological University  
Singapore

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Journal Aims

The **International Journal on Communications Antenna and Propagation (IRECAP)** is a peer-reviewed journal that publishes original theoretical and applied papers on all aspects of Communications, Antenna, Propagation and networking technologies.

The topics to be covered include but are not limited to:

**Communications** and Information theory, multimedia signal processing, communication QoS and performance modelling,

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Wireless communications and networking, coding for wireless systems, multiuser and multiple access schemes, mobile and portable communications systems, real-time transmission over wireless channels, optical wireless communications, resource allocation over wireless networks, security, authentication, and cryptography for wireless networks, signal processing techniques and tools, wireless traffic and routing, ultra wide-band systems, wireless sensor networks, wireless system architectures and applications, wireless ad-hoc and sensor networking, cooperative communications and networking, bio-inspired wireless communications systems, broadband wireless access, broadband networking and protocols, internet services, systems and applications, P2P communications and networking, satellite and space communications, vehicular networks, emerging wireless communication technology and standards.

**Antenna** analysis and design, antenna measurement control and testing, smart reconfigurable and adaptive antennas and multiple antenna systems for spatial, polarization, pattern and other diversity applications, novel materials for enhanced performance,

**Propagation**, interaction of electromagnetic waves with discrete and continuous media, radio astronomy and propagation and radiation aspects of terrestrial and spacebased communications, theoretical and computational methods of predicting propagation and sensing, propagation and sensing measurements in all media, interaction of electromagnetic waves with biological tissue, characterization of propagation media and applications of propagation, multipath interference, channel modeling and propagation.

The journal publishes invited tutorials or critical reviews; original scientific research papers (regular papers), letters to the Editor and research notes which should also be original presenting proposals for a new research, reporting on research in progress or discussing the latest scientific results in advanced fields; short communications and discussions, book reviews, reports from meetings and special issues describing research on all aspects of Communications, Antenna, Propagation and networking technologies

**IRECAP** also publishes letters to the Editor and research notes which discuss new research, or research in progress in any of the above thematic areas.

### ***Frequency:***

published bimonthly, appearing on the last day of February, April, June, August, October, December.

### ***Abstracting and Indexing Information***

**IRECAP** is covered by the following abstracting/indexing services:

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Critical analysis of scholarly open-access publishing

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## LIST OF PUBLISHERS

### Beall’s List:

#### Potential, possible, or probable predatory scholarly open-access publishers

This is a list of questionable, scholarly open-access publishers. We recommend that scholars read the available reviews, assessments and descriptions provided here, and then decide for themselves whether they want to submit articles, serve as editors or on editorial boards. The criteria for determining predatory publishers are [here](#).

We hope that tenure and promotion committees can also decide for themselves how importantly or not to rate articles published in these journals in the context of their own institutional standards and/or geocultural locus. We emphasize that journal publishers and journals change in their business and editorial practices over time. This list is kept up-to-date to the best extent possible but may not reflect sudden, unreported, or unknown enhancements.

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