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A Team Approach: Library Publishing Partnerships with Scholarly Societies

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INTRODUCTION The journal publishing service at the University of Florida George A. Smathers Libraries is structured to use a team-based approach that integrates subject specialists across the library. **DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM** Since 2012, the UF Libraries have worked in partnership with a number of scholarly societies to publish their research. The focus, to date, of academic library publishing on institutional publications belies potential partnerships with scholarly societies and organizations external to the library's institution. Services provided, challenges faced, and examples of successful publishing partnerships with UF Libraries are described. The team approach enables the library to be innovative and nimble in response to publishing opportunities. Scholarly societies most interested in entering publishing contracts with the Libraries publishing program are those that share aspects of the library mission such as accessibility and innovation. **NEXT STEPS** Academic library publishing offers unique partnership opportunities for scholarly societies and external organizations that are mutually beneficial and that complement library publishing of institutional material.

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INTRODUCTION

Academic library publishing today is expanding in innovative ways enabled by digital platforms, increasingly in partnership with university presses, and always in keeping with the library mission to provide access to, and preservation of, scholarly information. Today, there is a “growing assumption that publishing is in some way and to some extent a critical function for the library of the future” (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, 2019). The “vital” service of library publishing is “helping the academy regain ownership of the process and products of research” (Schlosser, 2018, p. 360). Library publishing has, however, traditionally focused on institutional publications rather than potential partnerships with scholarly societies and organizations external to the library’s institution.

The journal publishing program at the University of Florida George A. Smathers Libraries (UF Libraries) provides a case study of successful external partnerships in the emerging field of academic library publishing. Since 2012, the UF Libraries have worked with a number of societies to publish their scholarly work. Each partnership is unique, yet commonalities exist. The publishing program has grown and modified in response to the needs of these societies. The team-based approach to journal publishing at the library is integrated with a Liaison librarian service model. Library publishing experiences with several small scholarly societies are summarized; these partnerships are recommended as mutually beneficial opportunities for other academic library publishers.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Scholarly Society Publishing

Since their inception in the 17th century, scholarly societies and associations (learned societies) have published research results and related news for the purpose of advancing knowledge in the covered disciplines (Potts, Hartley, Montgomery, Neylon, & Rennie, 2016; Spier, 2002). Society publications are distributed as a benefit of membership or in exchange for subscription fees. Revenue from society publications is often critical to the financial health of the society (e.g., Schloss, Johnston, & Casadevall, 2017; Suzuki, et al., 2016). Societies use publication revenues to further their mission, host society conferences where scholars share new research, support young scientists with awards and grants, provide public education programming, and advocate for public policy. Interestingly, Waltham (2008) determined that the primary rationale for society memberships is the professional networking available through annual conferences and member activities. Ashman (2009) reported that events were nearly equally important as journals to members of 22 societies surveyed. Suzuki summarizes this for the *Journal of Neurochemistry*: “Although the Journal is the major

source of income of the ISN [International Society of Neurochemistry], one of the major pros of society-owned journals is that their predominant purpose is not commerce but service to their membership community” (Suzuki et al., 2016, p. 23).

Business models employed to publish scholarly society journals vary. It is not uncommon for scholarly societies to work with for-profit publishers through collaborative or contracted publishing services, particularly since the advent of digital publishing raised the costs for publishing technology and expertise that is out-of-reach for some societies (McGonagle-O’Connell & Ratan, 2019; Schloss et al., 2017; Ashman, 2009). However, there is growing concern that for-profit scholarly communication undercuts scholarly society publications, and through loss of publication revenue, society missions (e.g., Nugent, Edriss, Ball, & Bjork, 2019; Schloss et al., 2017; Suzuki et al., 2016). Schloss et al. (2017) urges scholars to eschew for-profit “glam” journals and mega-journals to support scientific society sponsored journals for the benefit of “our scientific enterprise”. Scholarly societies “are in a unique position to effectively disseminate research to policy makers, educators and the public as part of a cohesive message, something rarely done by independent publishers because it is not part of their mission” (Schloss et al., 2017, p. 4). In contrast, commercial publishers return very little revenue to the source of the content they publish, the scholarly community (Morgan, 2016; Potts, et al., 2016). Society publications advance knowledge in their respective disciplines, and society funds are reinvested into the discipline through research, education, and advocacy.

Academic Library Publishing

Academic libraries provide unique perspectives and opportunities in scholarly publishing as a result of their mission to support the research and education agendas of their scholars. Although generally viewed as a new phenomenon, the origins of library publishing have been traced to print editions of the library catalog as an original document (Okerson & Holzman, 2015). According to Lawrence (2010), journal price increases, combined with demand for more freely available information, have “pushed” libraries into the publishing arena, using either open access or subscription business models. Four library publishing programs were built for nonprofit publishers in the 1990s—BioOne, Euclid, HighWire Press, and Project MUSE—in response to the “never ending” increases in journal subscription prices from for-profit publishers (Lawrence, 2010, p. 235). By 2007, 65% of the Association of Research Libraries member libraries surveyed were delivering or planning to develop publishing services (Hahn, 2008). A key finding of the ARL survey was that “the question is no longer whether libraries should offer publishing services, but what kinds of services libraries will offer” (Hahn, 2008). Library publishing activities vary considerably, reflecting local conditions in this emerging field. As Schlosser (2018, p. 360) notes,

“Generally, library publishing requires a production process, presents original work not previously made available, and applies a level of certification to the content published, whether through peer review or extension of the institutional brand.” Lippincott (2017) points out that it is far more important to comprehend why library publishing exists than to focus efforts on defining library publishing. Library publishing furthers the academic library mission and the vision of its host institution by employing community-owned infrastructure to make diverse knowledge freely accessible in the name of the public good (Ghamandi, 2018).

The modern interest in academic library publishing is fueled in part by librarians’ and scholars’ frustration with business practices that reflect the conflicting goals of for-profit commercial publishers and academic libraries (Lippincott, 2017). Top commercial publishers reap profits in excess of 20% from academic journal publishing, using content and peer review provided by uncompensated scholars, while libraries’ cost per use of journals increases, and academic libraries struggle financially (Shu et al., 2018; Wenzler, 2017). The goal of commercial publishers to generate profits conflicts with the aim of academic libraries to make information accessible (e.g., McGuigan & Russell, 2008; Miller & Harris, 2004). New concerns of publishers’ potential to limit information is arising from vertical integration of products and services by some publishing leaders who are “moving from a content-provision to a data-analytics business” (Aspesi et al., 2019; Posada & Chen, 2018). As commercial publishers consolidate more of the scholarly research services, Wilinksy (2018) and others (e.g., McGonagle-O’Connell & Ratan, 2019; Morgan, 2016) envision a competitive library-based nonprofit cooperative model.

Academic libraries have been developing expertise in academic-led publishing. Rooted in digital preservation of its own scholars’ output, library publishing is a logical evolution of institutional repositories. Institutional repositories (IRs) were built to provide a home for digital library collections, notably electronic theses and dissertations. Once built, librarians recognized the capacity of IRs to provide a permanent location for an institution’s grey literature (e.g., unpublished research reports, working papers, fact sheets, and policy statements). In a recent survey of 95 institutional repositories, Shorey (2018) reports that 87% include collections for theses and dissertations and 82% include departmental/institutional materials. IRs are now common among libraries, but they may perpetuate an outdated concept of libraries as static repositories, preserving collections of digital items, rather than serving as active publishing platforms engaged in online discovery and discourse. Factors contributing to stagnant IRs include low rates of faculty self-archiving, need to retrain library personnel to recruit and add content, and lack of automated content population (Bull & Schultz, 2018). Bankier and Perciali (2008) describe how to reinvigorate IRs in better alignment with faculty and university core missions by including self-designed fac-

ulty websites that showcase selected works such as working papers and instructional material. For some academic institutions, publishing platforms are embedded within the IR.

Academic libraries entering publishing may do so within an IR or employ a separate publishing platform. Many library publishing programs focus on publications by the institution such as those giving voice to undergraduate and graduate students or special programs and centers within the institution (Library Publishing Coalition Directory Committee, 2019). Innovative publishing activities in libraries today include limited edition book art, 3-D models, data sets, computer code, oral histories, and audiovisual material.

Partnership Opportunities

Additional opportunities exist for transformative collaboration between library publishing programs and an institution's scholars. Academic library publishing programs can provide an alternative platform for scholarly societies or organizations which may be linked to the library through scholars at the same institution. Only 34% of library publishing programs in 2019 include "journals produced under contract/MOU [Memorandum of Understanding] for external groups" as a publication type (Library Publishing Coalition Directory Committee, 2019), reflecting only a minor increase from the 28.4% supporting external journal publishing in 2014 (Library Publishing Coalition Directory Committee, 2014). The serials crisis and big deal journal subscription packages have been a "nightmare" for small society publishers, creating a "big squeeze" where reduced subscriptions lead to lower visibility and usage which spirals into decreased impact, leading to further loss of subscriptions (Posser, 2004, p. 19). Journals with lower impact rankings or no Journal Impact Factor[®] (JIF) "may face a competitive disadvantage in attracting prestigious authors/contributors" (Eddy & Solomon, 2017). Librarians can provide "critical leadership and guidance" to scholar editors based on their professional skills and knowledge to advance the mission of society publications (Eddy & Solomon, 2017). Case (2008) states that "partnering with faculty in the act of creating knowledge in the digital age is not only a tremendous opportunity for libraries, but ultimately an obligation" (p. 153). Library publishing offers an alternative to expand, not restrict, access to scholarly output. It is particularly relevant to scholarly society publications today.

Open Access Opportunities

Emerging government requirements for free access to publicly funded research results create a relatively new pressure for scholars. In the United States, compliance with the 2013 Public Access Mandate is now a requirement for renewal of federal agency grants such as those awarded by the U.S. National Institutes of Health (National Institutes of Health, 2019).

This mandate requires recipients of public research funds to make publications of their research findings publicly available within 12 months of publication through use of open digital repositories. The 2013 Public Access Mandate in the United States was expanded by law in January 2019 to include open access to research data in addition to publications (115th Congress of the United States of America, 2019). In Europe, Plan S requires immediate free access to research outputs effective January 1, 2020 (Schlitz, 2018). While many scholars support global free access to publicly funded research, they also express anxiety about fulfilling these new government requirements (e.g., Cooper et al., 2017; Harley, Acord, Earl-Novell, Lawrence, and King, 2010). Scholars, especially in nonmedical fields, are unclear on how to make their research publicly available and how doing so will impact their institution's assessment of their research quality since universities "tend to use journal prestige and impact as surrogates for quality" (Clark, 2008). Scholars and even the developers of the JIF© decry its misuse as a measurement of the importance of an individual scholar's research (Pendlebury & Adams, 2012). Many scholars are more hesitant to publish in open access venues (Cooper et al., p. 22). For-profit publishers are responding by offering authors the option to publish open access articles within subscription journals, creating a "hybrid" journal business model. Authors who elect to make their research open access in these journals are assessed Author Processing Charges (APCs). Khoo (2019) documented price insensitivity among academics along with steep increases in APCs for open access articles in higher-ranked journals. Several scholars caution that these public access mandates encourage replacement of a "pay-to-read" subscription model with a "pay-to-publish" model that requires scholars to redirect research dollars into publishing (e.g., Kowaltowski & Oliviera, 2019). A pay-to-publish model threatens the rigor in selection of quality content since profits increase with higher submission acceptance (Morgan, 2016). Open access based on APCs also disenfranchises authors and institutions with limited resources, thus decreasing the diversity of published scholarly works (Kowaltowski & Oliviera, 2019; Posada & Chen, 2018). Khoo (2019) describes the rise of a "pay-to-publish, or perish" mentality in response to the concomitant pressure to meet public access mandates and evaluate work by the publication ranking. There is additional concern on the impact public access policies may have on society publications. Clarke (2018) foresees that the reduction of key revenue streams through Plan S will have a larger negative impact on societies than on commercial publishers. Public access policies may create additional opportunities for academic library publishing programs to meet these new expectations of research scholars.

Description of Service

The journal publishing program at the UF Libraries uses a team-based approach, integrating colleagues with expertise in relevant subject matter including a team leader, the Scholarly Communications librarian, the Digital Support Services director, and the Scholarly Reposi-

tory librarian. In addition, the most appropriate Liaison librarian for each publication, typically the subject specialist for the affiliated campus unit, is integrated into the team. The team meets with publishing partners to review publishing goals and options; provide guidance on web design, editorial workflow, indexing, and archiving; and offer training in the use of the Public Knowledge Project Open Journal System digital publishing platform, Florida Online Journals (<https://journals.flvc.org/>). There are numerous benefits to this team approach. Each member contributes from their area of expertise. The team leader ensures that publishing progresses with open communication and oversees publishing policies. The team leader has, for example, led revisions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), developed a checklist for Liaison librarians to consult when vetting inquiries about publishing with the library, and assisted in developing workflows for new publishing services such as digital object identifier (DOI) registration. The Scholarly Communications librarian provides guidance on the MOU and copyright policy options. The Digital Support Services director contributes to discussions of discovery, archiving, and preservation, with a focus on metadata quality. As the institutional repository (IR) manager, the Scholarly Repository librarian implements DOI assignment, data harvesting, and other requested features. The Liaison librarian typically has long-established relationships with faculty involved in the publication or known to the publication editors, which introduces a level of trust into the publishing partnership with the library from the start. Liaison librarians are key team members at initial meetings with each journal's editorial staff. Liaison librarians aid in indexing the published journal(s) in appropriate databases based on their familiarity with research practices of scholars in the related disciplines. Liaison librarians typically elect to participate in initial meetings, again when indexing services are needed, and at annual check-ins. Regular journal publishing team meetings and a shared document site facilitate teamwork.

All team members proactively educate publishing partners and promote preferred policies during journal consultations and through outreach activities. For example, UF Libraries prefer to publish open access over subscription publications, favor author retention of copyright through use of Creative Commons licensing, and encourage transparent review policies. The UF Libraries journal publishing program is developing best practice guidelines. The goal is to use these guidelines to promote ethical publishing practices with our publishing partners and assess progress in implementing these practices. Key resources useful to the development of ethical publishing practices are available from the Library Publishing Coalition Ethical Framework Task Force (2018), Directory of Open Access Journals (2018), and the Committee on Publication Ethics (2019).

Support for the Publishing Service

UF Libraries administration supports the publishing service in numerous ways. In order to

implement best practices and maintain high-quality service, dedicated, experienced library personnel may be required. Existing personnel are encouraged to enhance digital publishing skills and competencies, and positions for “domain specialists” have been created. Selected aspects of publishing activities are outsourced, including technical support for the publishing platform and print-on-demand service providers. The journal publishing team at UF Libraries is comprised of a blend of subject and domain specialist librarians. Library employment of professionals as “domain specialists” or “functional experts” is an area of active discussion across library administration (e.g., Rockenbach, Rutenberg, Tancheva, & Vine, 2015).

Collaboration is critical to these emerging library roles and models. As Jaguszewski & Williams (2013, p. 13) note, “The hybrid model of liaisons and functional specialists requires a team approach as well as a strong referral system.” The team-based approach to journal publishing at UF Libraries exemplifies this new model, enabling the library to be innovative and nimble in response to publishing opportunities.

The UF Libraries publishing services are promoted at various outreach events on campus, through liaison librarian training, and, most importantly, through referrals.

Examples of Publishing Partnerships

At a large academic university like the University of Florida, the libraries have long-standing working relationships with several scholarly societies. Although external to the academic institution, these societies and their publications are dominated by contributions from the university scholars as authors, reviewers, editors, and society leaders. Two of the four founding officers of the Florida Entomological Society, for example, were members of the University of Florida. In 1993, this society initiated efforts with the Florida Center for Library Automation (today known as Florida Academic Libraries Services Cooperative) to provide open access to a digital version of the official journal of the society, *The Florida Entomologist: An International Journal of the Americas* (Wilhelmina Randtke, personal communication, November 6, 2018). *The Florida Entomologist* is a quarterly peer-reviewed journal that has been published since 1917; it was originally titled *The Florida Buggist*. Beginning in 1994, the society made electronic files from the commercial printer available online in Portable Document Format (PDF) following print production (Capinera, 2017). A few years later, the society funded digitization of all back issues of their publication. This society serial is reported to be the first life science journal to have free access to all its content on the internet and the first journal to host all its content in PDF format on the internet (Capinera, 2017). It was one of the first journals in BioOne, an aggregator of life science publications, to offer freely accessible full content (Lauren Kane, personal communication, May 23, 2019).

Inspired by this successful relationship with the Florida Entomological Society, the UF Libraries journals publishing program welcomed publishing partnerships with scholarly societies that maintain an established connection to the university. Started in 2012, the program is currently publishing 15 journals; 7 are society publications and 3 are published in partnership with nonprofit organizations external to the university. The Libraries provide a digital publishing platform along with training and scholarly communication support; editorial oversight of content is provided by each journal's editorial board. For publishing partners external to the university, the editorial board must maintain an affiliation with the university; typically at least one editorial board member is a faculty member of the university. In the event that there is no longer a direct connection to current UF faculty, UF Libraries work with the publishing partner to migrate their publication process to a new host.

In 2015, the president of the Florida State Horticultural Society approached the UF Libraries to discuss concerns about the state of the society's official publication, the *Proceedings of the Florida State Horticultural Society*. Although the society had digitized all of their annual conference proceedings back to their beginnings in 1888 and provided access through their website, journal usage remained low and new submissions were declining. Society leaders decided to explore additional hosting of archival content on Florida Online Journals. Metadata of archival issues were expanded and corrected prior to publishing with the library (Stapleton, Fruin, Shorey, Taylor, & Dinsmore, 2017). Full-text search capabilities of the OJS software were favorably received; the society website now directs patrons to the library publishing platform for access to archives. As a consequence of library involvement, the society proceedings are now indexed by the Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux International (CABI), providing global discoverability through a major aggregator in the natural sciences. CABI reports 792 unique uses of the *Proceedings* through their database since Google Analytics was initiated for this title in 2018 (Hope Jansen, personal communication, October 7, 2019). Articles are also now discoverable on Google Scholar, which requires abstract metadata (Google Scholar, n.d.). In 2018 the society elected to eliminate its three-year embargo and allow full open access to the *Proceedings*.

The Society of Tropical Lepidoptera was publishing its biannual scientific journal, *Tropical Lepidoptera Research*, on its own website. In 2017, editors of this journal approached the library seeking improvements in publication of the society's serial. Specifically, the editors were seeking a more professional design and a platform to manage online submissions. During initial meetings with UF Libraries, the editors' concerns regarding long-term preservation of the journal emerged. Through the library publishing program, publication archiving as well as technical support to improve resolution and display of digital issues was offered. Beginning with volume 27, the serial has been published with the UF Libraries on Florida Online Journals. By July 2017, one editor summarized the success of this publishing partnership with colleagues:

The circulation of the journals and visibility through Google Scholar has already greatly improved.

I think that all journal editors at the Florida Museum . . . should take note of this opportunity, which is incredible, considering the cost or/and strings attached if one were to engage in similar cooperative agreement with a commercial publisher. (Andrei Sourakov, personal communication, July 13, 2017)

Learned societies can benefit from publishing partnerships with academic libraries. Collaborations with the Florida Entomological Society, Florida State Horticultural Society, and Society for Tropical Lepidoptera represent successful publishing partnerships with UF Libraries.

Another class of serial publications in the libraries journal publishing program are conference proceedings from sponsors that are not formally incorporated as a society or non-profit organization. In 2016, librarians met with faculty in the College of Journalism and Communication to explore the feasibility of initiating a new journal. The new journal was inspired by the annual conference in public interest communications, *frank*, promoted as a “gathering of changemakers” (University of Florida College of Journalism and Communication, 2019). Public interest communication is a new field “for people who use strategic communications to drive social change” as defined by Frank Karel (University of Florida College of Journalism and Communication, 2019). Primary concerns of the journalism faculty were how to afford start-up costs, how to establish credibility as a new open access journal, how to attract submissions, and whether the library publishing partnership would endure when editors rotated to other institutions. The journal publishing team provided guidance and training on editorial policies and board formation to align with values of the founding editors and address their concerns. The subject specialist Liaison librarian assisted with journal registration, cataloging, and indexing to help the journal establish credibility, readership, and participation. *The Journal of Public Interest Communication* (JPIC) launched in 2017, publishing two issues. Each year one issue of the journal contains peer-reviewed articles based on presentations at the annual “frank” gathering, while submissions to the second issue are not affiliated with the conference. This arrangement ensures submissions of active research from conference participants while broadening author submissions beyond the conference. JPIC was accepted for inclusion in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) in 2018, following review of its first two published issues. Indexing of the journal in DOAJ is a great boost to both credibility and access. As Schlosser (2018) concludes, “Inclusion in the Directory of Open Access Journals (<https://doaj.org/>) is both a marker of quality and an invaluable tool for making journals discoverable.” Publishing costs for this journal include a part-time journal manager and limited marketing and promotion; original

funds were provided by the college. Rotation of the editor-in-chief began with the second issue; connection to University of Florida is maintained through the journal supervisor, journal manager, and at least one editorial board member.

Two new publications with organizations that sponsor scholarly conferences were recently launched: *The Journal of Civic Information* and *The Journal for Assessment in Higher Education*. In each case, conference organizers reached out to the UF Libraries to explore the feasibility of starting a new academic journal based on research presented at conferences. Formal publication of conference proceedings as a serial can elevate the intellectual discourse on the conference topic and fuel ongoing research in the field. Careful review of the need and capacity for any new journal is warranted to ensure its long-term sustainability. The continuing growth of interdisciplinary research may warrant new publications, as evidenced by JPIC in the emerging field of public interest communication.

Reflections

The UF Libraries publishing program is expanding based, in part, on partnerships with “early adopter” scholarly societies. Scholarly societies most interested in entering publishing contracts with the UF Libraries publishing program are those that share aspects of the Libraries’ mission, such as accessibility and innovation. Specific unmet needs for publishing assistance and limited financial resources also contribute to scholarly societies’ interest in publishing with the Libraries. This case study demonstrates that societies’ unmet needs for publishing assistance include a) increased discovery and usage of society publications, b) efficiencies in article submission and review process, c) initiation of a new open access journal, and d) a new publisher. Scholarly societies may seek a new publisher when editors change or to strengthen alignment in publishing missions.

Identification of appropriate publishing partnerships should be based on review of strategic goals and resources of each partner. Successful partnerships align with the mission and vision of both the society/organization and the libraries. It is advisable to establish, review, document, and make transparent expectations and responsibilities, as well as workflows to follow when a partnership is disrupted. A prerequisite for publishing with the UF Libraries is a face-to-face review of a MOU that details each partner’s responsibilities in publishing (see Appendix 1). Administrative directors for the libraries and the external organization sign the MOU in addition to the publication editors. Journal publishing set-up and maintenance can require a substantial time commitment, depending on journal needs and existing expertise (Newton, Cunningham, & O’Connell, 2014; Stapleton et al., 2017). The journal publishing program at the UF Libraries provides examples of collaborations between academic libraries and external learned societies, with direct connections to scholars from

the library's institution. These individual types of publishing partnerships can supplement larger publishing cooperatives across libraries, offering open access to scholarly publications as promoted by Willinsky (2018) and Ghamandi (2018). Library publishing may offer a critical alternative for publications of scholarly societies to remain viable, endure, and grow.

NEXT STEPS

Library publishing offers unique partnership opportunities for scholarly societies and external organizations that are mutually beneficial. These endeavors complement library publishing of institutional material. Customized, hands-on publishing services build upon established relationships between subject specialist librarians and scholars to offer an economical means to publish innovative or traditional scholarly content with a global reach. Publishing relationships can be cultivated through broadening usage of existing archives by migrating content of a publication onto the library publishing platform. Partnerships can also be cultivated with scholars who are already publishing in a web-based format by providing improved features in the library publishing platform (e.g., quality metadata for indexing, online submission, and review). Further opportunities for publishing partnerships may exist for starting new publications, such as ones based on annual conference proceedings or innovative publication of research data. These publishing opportunities should be strategic and evaluated for long-term viability. Sustainability of required resources for new journals to grow beyond the first two issues needs to be included in the evaluation, including sufficient submissions, willing reviewers, a journal manager, and means to market the new title. As academic library publishing develops into a critical part of fulfilling a library's mission, libraries may need to dedicate additional resources to this innovative means to expand access to scholarly output. It is increasingly apparent that publishing partnerships between academic libraries and scholarly societies and organizations offer mutually beneficial opportunities.

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APPENDIX A:

Memorandum of Understanding Open Access E-Journal Publishing Template

WHEREAS the parties desire to promote effective scholarly communication that enables local control of intellectual assets, this Memorandum of Understanding memorializes the duties and responsibilities of the George A. Smathers before Libraries (“Libraries”) and _____ (“Publishing Partner”) with respect to the Publishing Partner’s use of the no-fee Open Journal Systems (OJS) software for publication of _____ (“Journal”). OJS is a journal management and publishing system that is hosted by the Florida Academic Library Services Cooperative (FALSC), or its successor and assigns, and made available to University of Florida users through the Libraries.

A. PUBLISHING PARTNER’S DUTIES

The Publishing Partner will do the following:

Maintain a clear and direct affiliation to UF (e.g. publisher is a College, Department, Center or other official unit of UF, chief editor is a UF faculty member, etc.).

Be fully responsible for all aspects of the creation, transfer and updating of Journal content.

Acknowledge that the Libraries coordinates access to these services as an accommodation to the Publishing Partner and that the Libraries shall not be liable for any damages, costs or losses whatsoever arising in any circumstances from these services including, without limitation, damages arising from the breakdown of the technology, the failure to install upgrades and difficulties with access.

Be fully responsible for the content and copyright management of the Journal and indemnify and hold the UF harmless from any claims, losses, damages or legal actions incurred by the Libraries and arising from the content or dissemination of the Journal’s content.

Be fully responsible for completing the necessary additional documentation regarding any fees collection by the Publisher for the Journal.

Grant the Libraries the non-exclusive right to host the journal title on the OJS platform and distribute electronically the Journal’s content. This right does not include the right to sell the content or sell access to the content.

Be responsible for notifying the Libraries if the publishing personnel or the Journal's UF affiliation changes.

B. THE LIBRARIES' DUTIES

In consideration of the Publishing Partner's duties, the Libraries will provide the necessary systems and structures to make the content available online, freely accessible to all. The Libraries will provide this publishing service free of charge. Furthermore, the Libraries will: In cooperation with FALSC as software host, strive, in the absence of unforeseen technical difficulties and routine maintenance, to provide 24/7 access to the Journal.

Work with FALSC to ensure access to the appropriate OJS software, including timely installations of software upgrades, to establish a unique account for the Publishing Partner's Journal in the OJS site hosted by FALSC, and to assist in development of a management plan to transfer existing Journal content, if applicable, to the OJS site.

Use its best efforts to protect the content from damage, alteration or defacement, and to maintain an archived version of the content in such form as may be used to restore the content to its original condition online in the event of such damage, alteration or defacement. In the event the content has been damaged, altered or defaced, The Libraries will ensure the prompt restoration of content to its originally approved format and appearance. Utilizing the granted "journal manager" status within the OJS system, the library will archive the journal, with copies to be stored in the UF Libraries' back-up system and in the Florida Digital Archive, which is managed by FALSC.

Forward inquiries to Publishing Partner from users requesting additional rights than those codified by Publishing Partner. The Libraries will not grant additional rights without the permission of Publishing Partner.

Continue to host the Journal provided the editorship and/or other connection to the UF remains as a local point of contact. In the event that no editors or other connection to the UF remains, the Libraries will collaborate with the new home institution and/or an outside service provider to transfer the journal in a seamless manner that does not impact access.

Conduct an annual, informal review of the journal publishing partnership to ensure that the Publishing Partner and the Libraries are fulfilling their respective duties and assess partner satisfaction with the arrangement.

TERMINATION OF THIS AGREEMENT

Either party may terminate this agreement with at least 30 days’ notice. In the event of termination of the publishing relationship, the Libraries will cooperate fully and use reasonable efforts to provide a smooth transition of all necessary components of the archived content to another publishing service provider designated by Publishing Partner. However, the Libraries reserves the right to make the content accrued during the time of this agreement available to users. In the event that the Libraries can no longer offer this service free-of-charge, it will provide the Publishing Partner with at least six (6) months’ notice and assist with transition to another host.

This document shall be reviewed one year from the date of signing, and annually thereafter, to give both the Publishing Partner and the Libraries an opportunity to revisit and revise both parties’ responsibilities.

 Signature
 (Individual authorized to sign on behalf of Publisher)

 Signature
 (Associate Dean of the UF Libraries)

 Name (please print)

 Name (please print)

 Telephone number

 Telephone number

 Email address

 Email address

 Date

 Date

 Signature
 (Department Chair or Equivalent)

 Signature
 (Dean of the UF Libraries)

 Name (please print)

 Name (please print)

 Telephone number

 Telephone number

 Email address

 Email address

 Date

 Date