

IFLA PRESENTS

How to get published



Privacy

This event is being recorded, including chat.

The recorded session will be posted at IFLA Journal Editorial Committee - How to get published in scholarly journals – Asia, for 30 days after the webinar, at <https://www.ifla.org/node/93895>

Microphones **have been muted** for this event.

Questions or comments? Please type into the chat or Q&A box.

The talk is GDPR-compliant

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<https://www.ifla.org/data-protection-policy>

<https://zoom.us/privacy>

Questions regarding privacy

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IFLA PRESENTS

How to get published

Moderator: Lihong Zhou, Wuhan University, China

Presenters: Steven Witt, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA

Long Xiao, Peking University/Shanxi University, China

Diljit Singh, University of Malaya, Malaysia

22/June/2021



Contents

- Why publish (Steven)
- Choosing a journal (Steven)
- ***IFLA Journal*** (Steven)
- A published author's view (Long)
- The editorial and peer review process (Diljit)
- Author support and resources (Lihong)
- Questions (All)



Why publish and choosing a journal

Dr. Steven Witt, Editor, IFLA Journal

Associate Professor, Library
Director, Center for Global Studies, Illinois Global
Institute, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences,
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



Why journal publishing matters

- Lots of research going on and presented but if you don't publish it, nobody knows!
- Need for local, regional, national and culture-specific perspectives
- For practitioners, academic journal publishing provides an evidence based approach to sharing professional knowledge
- Evidence of value and relevance for employers. May contribute to promotions
- Academics are in a global transfer market – reputations built on research outputs & global university rankings are influenced by it



Choosing a journal

- Think about who you want to have a conversation with
- Who is your potential audience?
- National? International?
- Open access?
- Metrics?

- Read some recent issues
- Read the Guidelines for Authors
- Check the “About” page
- Email the Editor



IFLA Journal aims and scope

- Editor: Steve Witt (University of Illinois)
- Sage Publications <https://journals.sagepub.com/>
- International journal publishing peer reviewed articles on LIS and the social, political and economic issues that impact access to information through libraries.
- Seeks to reflect values of IFLA, viewing profession and its practices from within both local and global contexts.
- We seek research and commentary navigates between the global and local to produce research that “revolves around traces that suggest relations between local and global frames” (Khan and Gille, 2021, p. 235).



Why publish in *IFLA Journal*?

- Global readership
- Reach in developing countries
- Abstracts in 7 languages
- Author accepted manuscripts can be archived with no embargo
- Your article will be published online at <http://ifl.sagepub.com>
- **Open access** at www.ifla.org



IFLA Journal submissions

- Types of submissions

- **Original articles** - *should recognize in their design and analysis that topic may be operating at multiple conceptual and spatial levels relevant to their study (Darian-Smith and McCarty, 2017, p. 77). Make attempts to discuss and reference both the importance and significance of the local context and connections to broader global structures that influence and relate to the topic*
- **Review articles** - *A review article should not only document important figures working on a topic but also examine recent advances, current debates, gaps, and future directions for research on the topic.*
- **Case studies** - *should help create routes toward understanding how global phenomenon within LIS is represented, manufactured, reimagined, and adapted locally in various ways*
- **Essays** - *Provide informed analysis of viewpoints, trends, and controversies within the field of LIS. For example, an essay may contribute an important conceptual analysis of policies that impact and contribute to the information environment as it impacts the profession locally and/or globally.*



IFLA Journal submissions

- Typical article length 3,000 – 8,000 words
- Range of research approaches
- Diverse topics
- Special issues
- How to submit: Online submission and peer review system, SAGE
Track: <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ifl>



A published author's view

Long XIAO

Professor, Peking University Library

Director, Shanxi University Library

China



Long XIAO's experience

- Why I chose IFLA Journal?
 - An official journal of IFLA
 - The Librarian's own journal
- How to select and determine the topic?
 - Specific vs empty
 - Theory vs practice
 - Case study vs data



Long XIAO's experience

- Submission and review process
 - May-2019, submission, confirmation and manuscript ID
 - July-2019, the first comments and suggestions by the reviewers
 - Oct-2019, the second comments and suggestions by the reviewers
 - Feb-2020, proof copy
 - April-2020, published journal and article

- Revise each issue according to the comments of the reviewers
- Reply to the decisions letters carefully



Long XIAO's article in IFLA Journal

- Innovative application of knowledge management in organizational restructuring of academic libraries: A case study of Peking University Library
- *IFLA Journal*. 2020, 46 (1) : 15-24
- <https://journals.sagepub.com/eprint/MKENT7NCYWUJKMEYECPK/full>
- <https://doi.org/10.1177/0340035219892289>



The Review Process

Diljit Singh

Retired from University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Currently

Visiting Professor, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Manila

Adjunct Professor, NILIS, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

Involvement in professional associations

International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA)

International Association of School Librarianship (IASL)

Librarians' Association of Malaysia



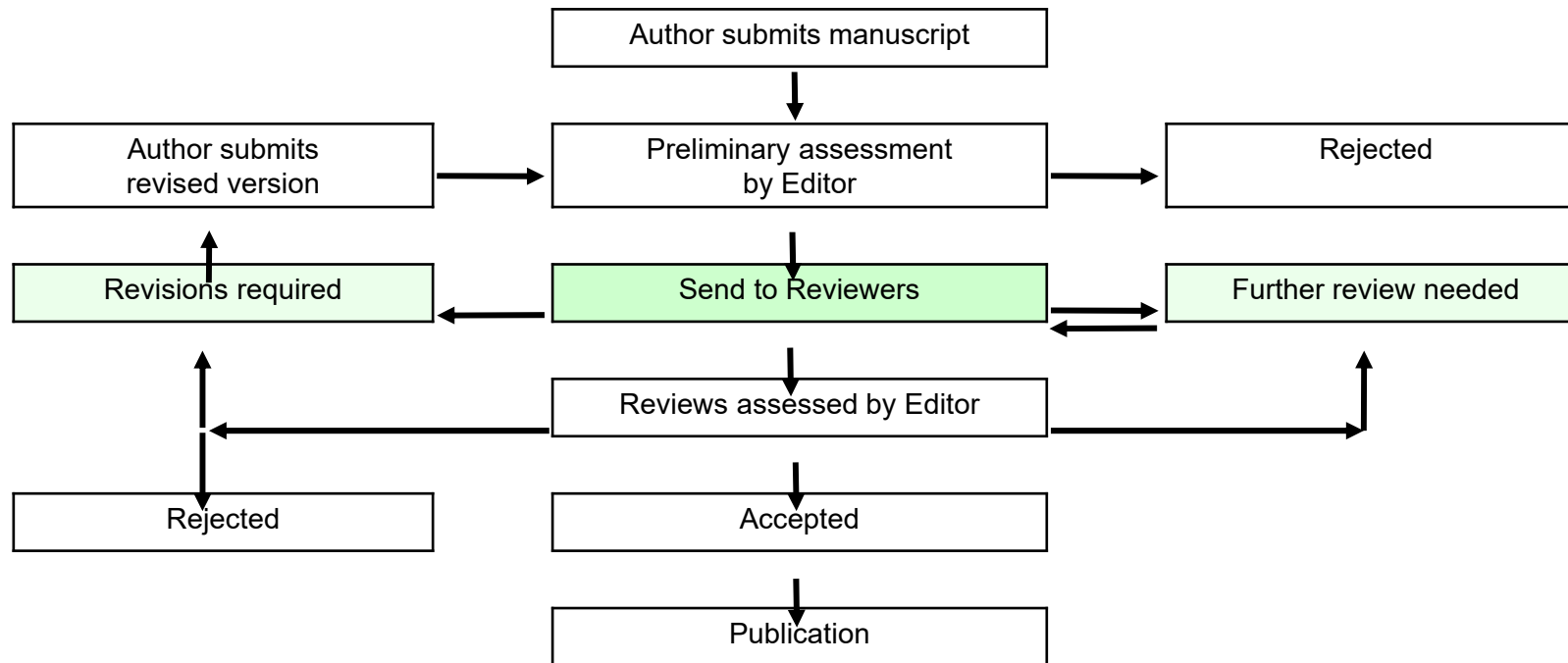
The Review Process

What is the review process?

Manuscripts submitted to a journal are examined and commented upon by independent experts in the same field (peer review)



The Review Process



Why Review?

A form of quality control

Helps determine if the manuscript meets the standards of the journal



Why Review?

Helps determine

- If the work falls within the scope of the journal
- If the work has been clearly formulated, carried out and described
- Objectives, methodology, findings, conclusions are appropriate
- Significance of the work
- Ethical aspects (if related) have been considered
- Readability of the work
- Work is plagiarized



Why Review?

Helps the Editor decide whether a manuscript should be

- Accepted
- Needs revision, or
- Rejected



Types of Review

Single-blind review

The name of the reviewer is hidden from the author

Double-blind review

Both the reviewer and the author remain anonymous to each other



What Do Reviewers Look For?

In general

Reviewers look for coverage, content and ideas presented

Slight variation based on type of manuscript

Original research, review article, case study, or essay



What Do Reviewers Look For?

At macro level, reviewers look for

- Work falls within the journal's scope
- Novelty and originality of the work
- Work has been clearly formulated, and a suitable approach has been taken to address the issue(s)
- Methodology used, appropriate and clearly described
- Ethical aspects (if relevant)
- Findings and discussion
- Significance of findings
- Readability of the work



What Do Reviewers Look For?

At micro level, reviewer may also look at

- Title
- Abstract
- Keywords
- Literature cited
- Methodology
- Findings
- References



What Do Reviewers Look For?

Key factors in IFLA Journal

- Whether the submission makes a significant contribution in terms of the knowledge or information conveyed
- Whether the submission is sound in terms of methodology, findings and structure



What Do Reviewers Look For?

Occasionally, manuscript may be recommended for rejection

It does not necessarily mean work is of poor quality

It may be

- Work may be out of scope of the journal's requirements
- Work does not meet the standards of originality required
- Scope is too localized – it may be more suitable for a local or regional journal, but not international



Sample of Shortcomings

- Title is not reflective of content
- Abstract is too long-winded
- Keywords are not appropriate
- Information taken from other sources is not appropriately cited
- Rationale for study is not clear
- Objectives are vague
- Literature review is just a narrative
- Literature cited is outdated



Sample of Shortcomings

- Methodology / approach is not clear
- Statistical analysis carried out without meeting requirements for tests
- Findings are not reflective of objectives
- Significance is not clear, esp. for an international audience
- Recommendations not based on findings; represent personal views
- Conclusions do not reflect objectives of work
- References are outdated



Reviewers Recommendation

Reviewer's recommendation

- Accept with no changes (*rare!*)
- Accept if certain minor revisions are made
- Revise and re-submit for review
- Reject



Dealing with Reviewers Comments

Take an objective look at your work

Respond to all the points as thoroughly as you can

If uncertain, ask for clarification

If reviewers' comments are conflicting, ask for clarification from

Editor

If disagree or unable to change, explain why; respond with evidence

List all responses in a separate cover note

Respond on time

Submit a 'clean' version of your manuscript



Take Home Message

Treat the review process
not as a barrier to publication
but a friend to help make your work better

We look forward to working with you to publish in



Author support and resources

Lihong Zhou

Professor, Associate Dean
School of Information Management
Wuhan University



Check your manuscript for the final time: Checklist

- READ the manuscript submission guidelines
 - Type of paper
 - Referencing style
 - Correct citations
 - Word limit
 - Title, abstract, keywords
 - Conventions of academic writing
 - Supplemental data?
- Proof read – good standards of grammar and spelling
- Cover letter



Preparing your manuscript: Copyright and ethics

- Obtain permission for all copyrighted material
- Authorship / Acknowledgment
- Funding statement
- Conflict of interest
- Plagiarism (don't do it)
- Journal Contributor's Publishing Agreement
- COPE - <http://publicationethics.org/>



Pre-publication services

- SAGE: Submission guidelines on the SAGE Author Gateway including PDF guide on how to get published <https://uk.sagepub.com/en-gb/eur/how-to-get-published>
- *Publishing Journal Articles*, by L. Becker & P. Denicolo: <https://uk.sagepub.com/en-gb/eur/publishing-journal-articles/book236083>
- Publishing in *IFLA Journal*: Balancing between the global and the local, by S. Witt: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/03400352211020871>
- SAGE Language Editing Services: <http://languageservices.sagepub.com/en/>
- SAGE Research Methods (books, cases, datasets and video) <http://methods.sagepub.com/> & Methodspace <http://www.methodspace.com/>



Post-publication services

- Search engine optimization (SEO)
- Abstracting and Indexing (ESCI, Scopus, EI....)
- SAGE Journals Platform
- Alerts, usage and citation tracking
- Use Kudos to increase impact via social media
<https://www.growkudos.com/>
- Researchgate: build your own research community



Other ways to promote your paper

- Link to your article in your email signature
- Email a link to interested colleagues and peers
- Use your social media account – WeChat, Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Baidu Scholar, Google+ account
- Follow peers and other relevant accounts in the field and share links to your work to encourage active engagement in the scholarly community
- Share at conferences with fellow researchers



Questions

Useful contacts

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- IFLA's Publications Page: <http://www.ifla.org/ifla-publications>

