The Early-Career Researcher

Challenges ahead for the researcher, the publisher, and the literature

Presented by:

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Dr. Eddy™ personifies the efforts of Editage to support authors with good publication practices.
Personal “Old-School” Outlook

• Given the availability of tools and technologies today, anyone who embraces these technologies in their research cycle is sure to succeed!

• A young, energetic, tech-savvy researcher/author has a clear advantage over their peers
GLOBAL PUBLICATION LANDSCAPE
Research Output Tendencies

Current and projected publication trends

Data source: Royal Society of London, Knowledge, Networks, and Nations, 2011
GLOBAL PUBLICATION LANDSCAPE
Research Output Tendencies (BRICK)

ANNUAL RESEARCH PUBLICATION OUTPUT OF THE FIVE BRICK COUNTRIES

FIGURE 5

Source: Thomson Reuters Web of Knowledge. (See also Figure 7 on trajectories of patent output.)

Data source: Building Bricks, February 2013 (Thomson Reuters)
Supplied by: Nicolas Stipp, Director of Business Development – China, Thomson Reuters
China, by Design

- Initially, easy to get a PhD
- Very large, highly-motivated researcher pool (in work ethic and in culture)
- Relative ease to publish in Chinese journals
- Ignited fever through cash incentives and peer pressure to publish in Western, SCI-indexed, high-impact English-language journals
- Reduced PhD slots
- Publication requirements for PhDs and MDs
- Quality expectations and ethics reform

The squeeze is on, and the publication curve is steep!
Two sets of surveys were conducted by Editage

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<th>Survey 1</th>
<th>Survey 2</th>
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<td><strong>Target audience</strong></td>
<td><strong>Editors of International English-language journals</strong></td>
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<td>Researchers from East Asia</td>
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<td><strong>Language</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Translated into Japanese, Mandarin, and Korean for dissemination in each country</td>
<td>Disseminated in English</td>
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<td><strong>Distribution channels</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Social media forums for researchers</td>
<td>• Discussion groups for editors on LinkedIn and ResearchGate</td>
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<td>• Workshops for academic researchers</td>
<td>• EASE and ALPSP listservs</td>
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<td>• Academic societies and research universities</td>
<td>• ALPSP blog</td>
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<td>• Japanese science newspaper</td>
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Low response rate despite active outreach, but adequate representation from each population

Only complete responses considered for analysis

Total respondents: 326 East Asian authors, 54 journal editors
How Well Do Authors Understand Publication Ethics?

How authors rate their understanding vs. how often journals encounter problems in these aspects

Parameters: A-Data fabrication and falsification; B-Plagiarism; C-Salami slicing; D-Authorship criteria; E-Ethical board approval for methods used; F-Conflicts of interest disclosure; G-Copyright transfer polices

Scores indicate the average rank assigned to each parameter on a 1-to-7 scale, where 7 = best understood aspect (for authors) or most problematic aspect (for editors)
How Well Do Authors Know of Tools/Technologies?

- I frequently (informally) survey post-docs and early-career scientists in the life sciences and medical fields about their awareness of the following resources and tools, and am always shocked at their limited awareness.
  - ORCID
  - ScholarlyOA.com/Beall’s List
  - Retraction Watch
  - Editorial Manager
  - ScholarOne
  - ResearchGate
  - Mendeley
  - Reference Manager
  - CrossCheck
  - CrossRef
  - iThenticate
  - CHORUS
  - Digital Science
    - Altmetric
    - Figshare
    - Overleaf
    - Readcube

- Education cannot be fast enough, but it is one of the hardest and most costly changes to bring about.
What Keeps Me Awake at Night

Share of Voice in the Literature
- What is it going to take to get a paper:
  - Accepted
  - Published
  - Read (discoverability)
  - Cited
- Getting a good paper in a good journal is going to be ever-increasingly difficult
- What will institutions and the publishing community need to do to support this challenge?

Predatory Practices
- The whole ‘axis of publication’ now has elements of a predatory nature in the hands of unethical individuals:
  - Editorial Board solicitation
  - Peer Reviewer solicitation
  - Manuscript solicitation
  - Peer Review practices
  - Predatory Author Services
    - Authorship for sale
    - Plagiarism
    - Writing fraud
    - Data fraud
- In 2-years’ time, an author will have a very hard time identifying ethical practices.
PUBLICATION PRACTICES AND INTEGRITY OF LITERATURE
The Chef, the Actor, and the Scoundrel
Question Period / Open Discussion

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