

Today's Webinar will start at 3.00 pm (Singapore time, GMT+8)...

Identifying Predatory Journals and Conferences (40 mins)

*Speaker: **Joe Ng**, Acquisitions Editor, Social Sciences, Cambridge University Press*

*Please **mute your microphone** when the host is speaking.*

*You can **unmute during the Q&A session** and raise your questions to the host.*

The slides will be circulated afterwards.

Thank you for your cooperation!



Part of **Academic Publishing Webinar Series**
Find out more <http://ow.ly/M2o950zsAQR>



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Topics

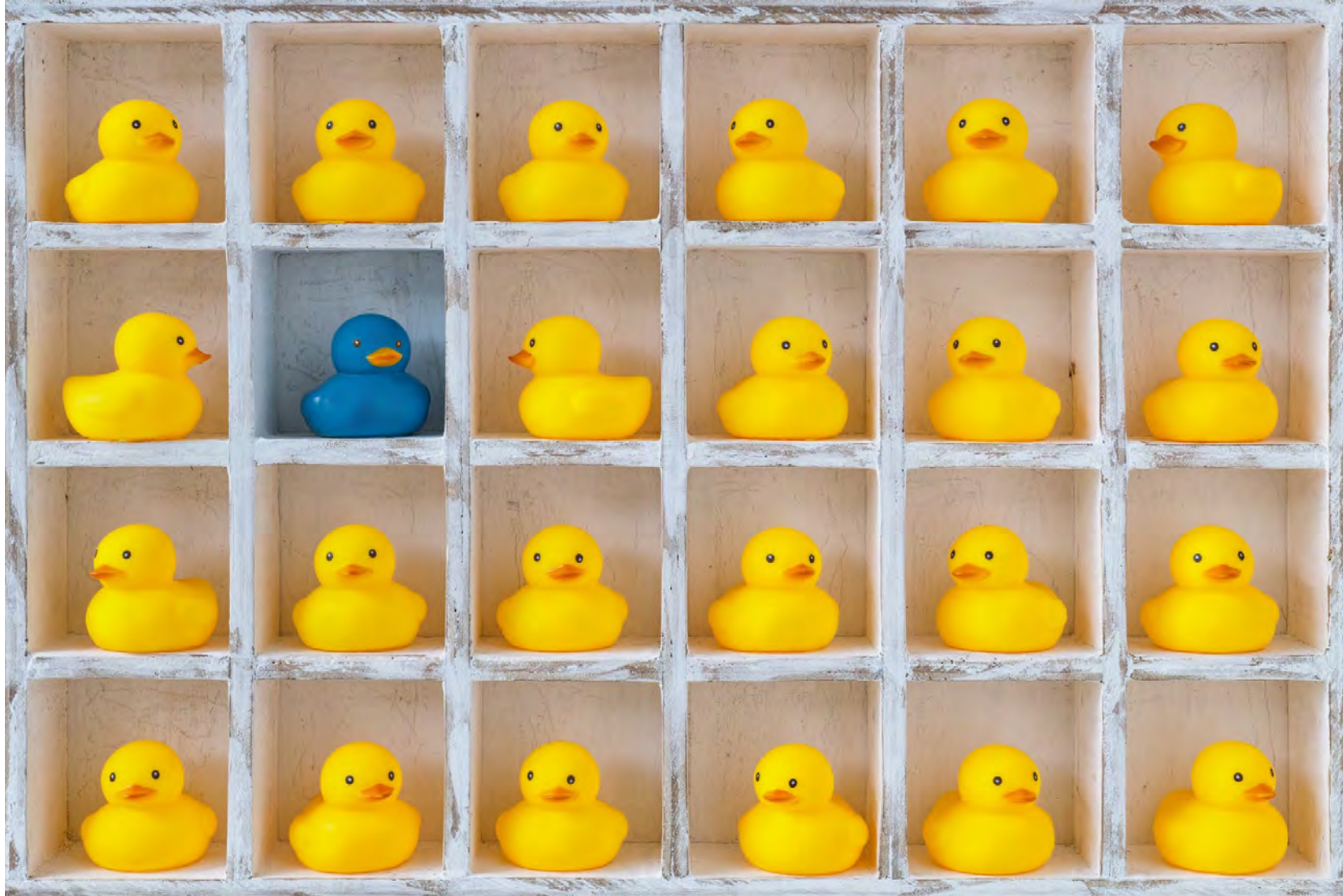
- Academic publishing landscape
- About Cambridge University Press
- What is Open Access?
- Identifying predatory journals and conferences
- Cambridge Open Engage
- Q&A (20 minutes)

THE PUBLISHING LANDSCAPE

Academic Publishing Landscape

- Over **33,000** journals (excluding 9,400 non-English journals)
- More than **3 million** articles published each year
- More than **200,000** new books each year
- STM: \$25 billion, HSS: \$2.4 billion (annually)
- Many publishers (some small, some large)

Your Challenge!



Ecosystem

- scholars
- funders
- libraries
- publishers
- learned societies and professional associations

All working together towards expanding access to the fruits of research

Rapidly Changing Landscape

- Journals business has been digital for over 20 years
- Digital is more and more important for books
- Open Access journals and experimentation with OA books
- Scholarly Collaboration Networks (Research Gate, Academia.edu, SSRN)
- Impact and other metrics (e.g. altmetrics)
- Lots of “free” content ! (Both legal and not so legal!)

Cambridge University Press

- An integral part of the University of Cambridge
- World's oldest publisher, founded in **1534**
- Our first book was published in 1584
- Now looking forward to future with big investment in digital publishing



Our Mission and Character

- Not-for-profit

All surplus reinvested in our publishing infrastructure, services and the University – distinguishing us from commercial presses

- Global

We work with the best scholars and the best universities around the world – employing our offices on 6 continents

- Quality

Our commitment to research of the highest quality is fundamental to our being – unlike our commercial counterparts.

WHAT IS OPEN ACCESS?

Definition of Open Access (OA)?

Research (mainly journal articles) that are:

- *freely* available on the public internet;
- permits *any users* to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles;
- *allows spiders* to crawl the articles for *indexing*;
- pass them as *data* to software (machine-readable);
- use them for any other *lawful* purpose;
- *without* financial, legal, or technical *barriers* other than those from gaining access to the internet itself.



Source: [Budapest Open Access Initiative](#)

OA – The Numbers...

- c. 14,849 peer-reviewed Gold OA journals (+50% vs 2016!) ¹
- c. 5 million Gold OA articles published (+50% vs 2016 !) ¹
- c. 4,700 Green OA repositories²
- c. 6.2 million full-text articles on PubMed Central³
- c. 60,000 OA and public domain ebooks in [Project Gutenberg](#)⁴
- c. 30,000 OA books from 388 publishers registered⁵
- c. 1,060 OA mandates⁶

Sources: ¹ [Directory of Open Access Journals](#) as of Jun 25, 2020;

² [Registry of Open Access Repositories \(ROAR\)](#) as of Jun 25, 2020;

³ As of Jun 25, 2020; ⁴ Correct as of Jun 25, 2020;

⁵ [Directory of Open Access Books](#) as of Jun 25, 2020; ⁶ [ROARMAP](#) as of Jun 25, 2020.

IDENTIFYING “PREDATORY” JOURNALS AND CONFERENCES



What are “predatory” journals/conferences?

- No conclusive definition for all disciplines
- low-quality journals vs predatory journals
- typically Gold OA journals
- Superficial or no peer review before publication
- “pay to publish” – sometimes pay before peer review
- At conferences, minimal engagement/discussion of your paper at the panels (“pay to attend”)

Checking for Predatory Journals & Conferences 💣💀

- Think! Check ☒ Submit 🤞 😊

<https://thinkchecksubmit.org/>

- Think! Check ☒ Attend ➡ 😊

<https://thinkcheckattend.org/>

Identifying Predatory Journals & Publishers



- Is it indexed in DOAJ? Scopus? Web of Science?
 - Some predatory OA journals are indexed in DOAJ
- Where is their editorial office?
 - Google the address
 - Is it a residence, mail forwarding address or PO box?
- Who are their editorial board members?
 - Are the journal editors academics? Their affiliations? Or is it missing?
 - board members duplicated across the publishers' journals?
 - Email them directly to ask about the journal.

Identifying Predatory Journals & Publishers



- Pay before peer review?
 - Does publisher requests payment of APC before they start peer review?
- Fake or misleading journal rankings or impact factors?
 - e.g. Universal Impact Factor; Journal Impact Factor, Global Impact Factor
- False claims of being indexed in WoS and Scopus?
- New publisher (last 5 years)?
 - Stick to reputable publishers and journals published by international societies
- Does it have an ISSN?
 - <https://portal.issn.org/advancedsearch>

Identifying Predatory Journals & Publishers



- check the peer review policy?
 - Is the policy clearly stated on website?
 - turn-around time faster than 4 weeks?
 - not thorough if review completed very quickly
- journal title = its impact
 - No restriction to use “International” or city/country name as part of its title
 - e.g., Oxford Journal of Dubious Research
- Beall’s list
 - <https://beallslist.net/>
 - <https://predatoryjournals.com/journals/>

Identifying Predatory Journals & Publishers



- No articles listed or missing archives
- Same article appears in more than one journal of same publisher
- No policies for digital preservation,
 - eg, Portico, LOCKSS, CLOCKSS, JSTOR
- Publisher hides relationship with for-profit partner companies
- Cabells Journal Blacklist (via subscription)

Source: <https://www.exordo.com/blog/9-signs-this-is-a-fake-conference/>

Identifying Predatory Conferences

- Usually skip or skimp peer review of papers
- Run by for-profit companies who present themselves as not-for-profit
- Often claim to publish your papers in their predatory journals or never publish conference proceedings

Identifying Predatory Conferences

1. Has an overly ambitious title, e.g., with “international” and “global” buzzwords
2. Technical programme is overly broad, e.g., combine too many disciplines and claims to be “interdisciplinary”
3. Language on conference website is “off”, eg., full of spelling/grammar mistakes or poorly written

Identifying Predatory Conferences

4. False claims of renowned organisations sponsoring the conference
5. Organiser's contact details missing or incorrect, e.g., names of organisers not provided
6. Another conference with a similar name already exists, eg., passing itself off

Identifying Predatory Conferences

7. Conference link to known or suspected predatory journals/publisher
8. Charging higher than normal registration fees
9. Conference is held multiple times each year in different cities

GOLD OA JOURNALS PUBLISHED BY CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Gold OA Journals @ Cambridge (44)





**The collaborative site to upload, share
and advance your research**

Cambridge Open Engage is the new early content platform from Cambridge University Press, designed to provide researchers with the space and resources to connect and collaborate with their communities, and rapidly disseminate early research. It is free to upload and read content.

www.cambridge.org/engage/coe/public-dashboard

SUPPORT FOR RESEARCHERS & AUTHORS

Journal Recommendation Services

- Cambridge University Press (partnered with AJE):
www.cambridge.org/academic/author-services/services/journal-recommendation/
- Other publishers / service providers
 - Wiley's Journal Finder
 - Taylor & Francis Journal Suggester
 - Elsevier JournalFinder
 - Springer Nature Journal Suggester
 - Cactus Editage Journal Selection
- Search Web of Science database / Scopus for the top journals if your institution have subscribed to it

Editing/Translation Services

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- 420 area of studies with > 1,000 qualified editors
- editors are native English speakers, with Masters/PhD/MD from top research universities and a specialist in your discipline
- More details here: www.cambridge.org/academic/author-services/

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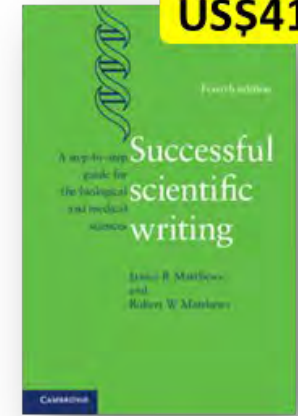
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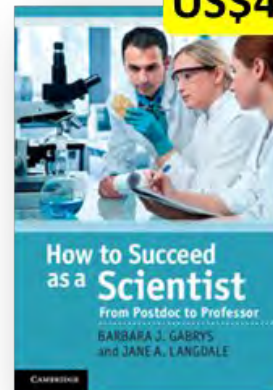
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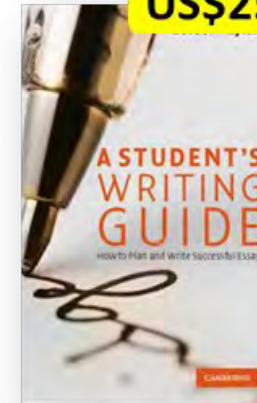
9781107691933

US\$41



Gabrys & Langdale
9780521186834

US\$25



Taylor
9780521729796

Thank you!



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