

IFLA PRESENTS

Professional Units Virtual Events



IFLA PRESENTS

IFLA Journal Editorial Committee

- How to get published in scholarly journals –

The Americas

Moderator: Egbert Sanchez-Vanderkast

IFLA Journal

08/07/2021



privacy

This event is being recorded, including chat.

Recording will be posted on [the Unit's] publications page.

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

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

UNITS: Please customise this slide to match your intentions – i.e. event recorded and posted where? Chat recorded? Q&A protocol? Etc.

The talk is GDPR-compliant

IFLA and ZOOM privacy policies:

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

<https://zoom.us/privacy>

Questions regarding privacy

professionalsupport@ifla.org



speaker



Steven Witt

IFLA Journal Editor, Head, International and Area Studies
Library and Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-
Champaign, United States.



speaker



Debbie Rabina

Professor, School of Information, Pratt Institute, United States



speaker



Cherry-Ann M. Smart

CEO, Information Smart Consulting, Jamaica



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>
- Included in Scopus and Web of Science indexes and impact metrics
- **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 reviewer's perspective*

- Who am I?
- The review process
- First impressions
- Sense making
- Best practices
- Pitfalls and pet peeves



Pleased to meet you

- Debbie Rabina, Professor of Library and Information Science at Pratt Institute, NYC.
- Teach, research and review in the areas of information policy and law, government information, literacy, scholarly communication, digitization, critical theory, social science research methods.
- Contact: [Website](#) [email](#)



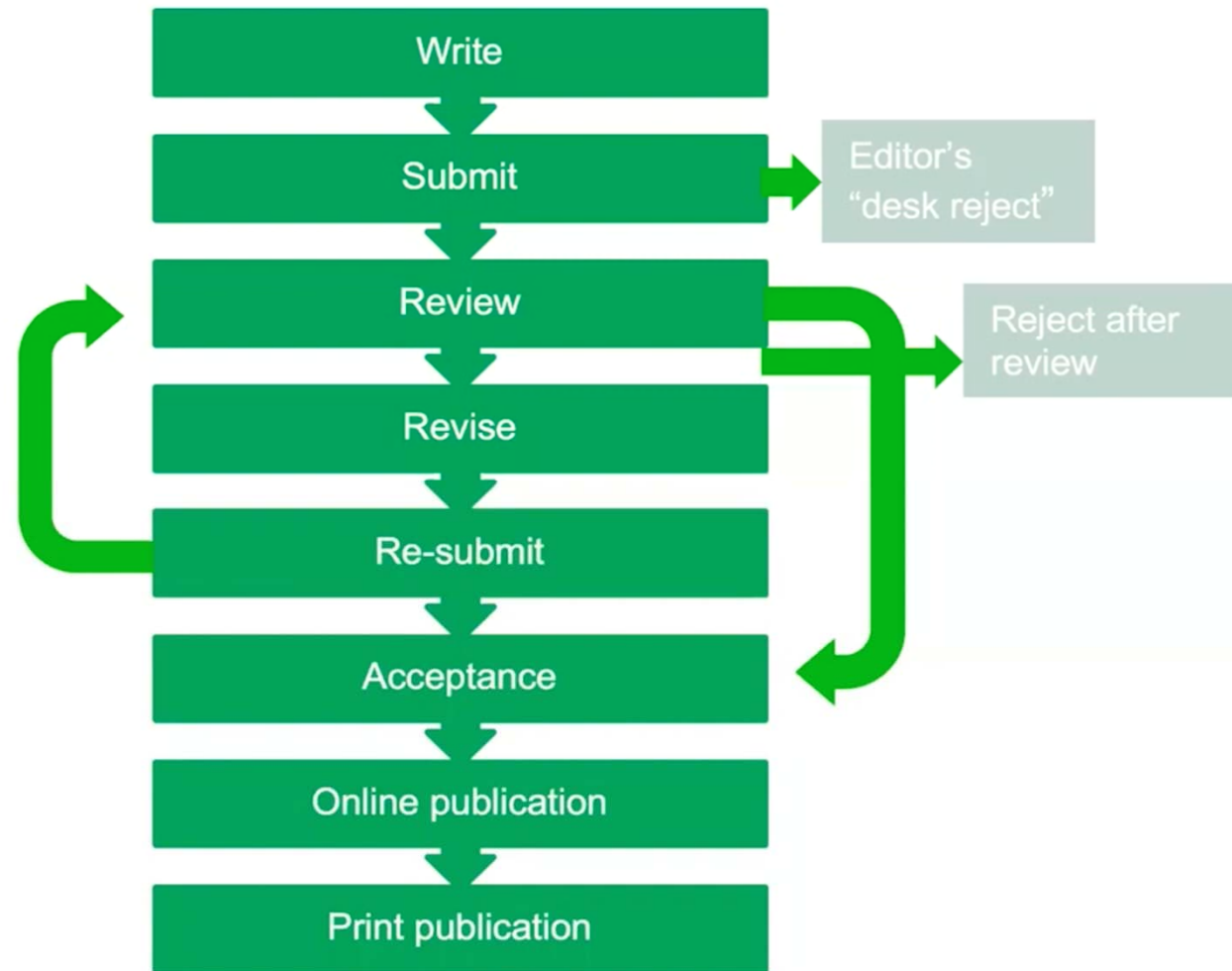
The Review Process

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



First impressions

- **First off is the Title & Abstract:** are they an accurate reflection of one another? Often the title is more broad/general while the content is very specific to a location/situation (bordering on case study)
- **My open tabs:** Manuscript, review form*, Google, Pratt library website.
- **A skim of the PDF sidebar provide information about layout:** text, bibliography, tables, appendices

*

1. Is the submission a significant contribution in terms of the knowledge or information conveyed?

Consider: Advancement of knowledge / Level of scholarship / Is the submission an original contribution? / New information or data

2. Is the submission sound in terms of methodology, findings and structure?

Consider: Theoretical soundness / Acceptable research design / Appropriate methodology and analysis



Sense making: Art + Documentation

- Going back and asking all the hard questions
- Is this of interest?
- Is it well written?
- Are the research methods appropriate? *Underused:* anthropological methods, critical research methods. *Overused:* Extensive descriptive statistics, often on a small sample.



Sense making: Art + Documentation

- Going back and asking all the hard questions
- Is this of interest?
- Is it well written?
- Are the research methods appropriate? *Underused:* anthropological methods, critical research methods. *Overused:* Extensive descriptive statistics, often on a small sample.



Best practices – checklist

- Read before you write (read the submission guidelines multiples times before submitting)
- Ethics (plagiarism*; informed consent; conflict of interest; external funding; copyrights and permissions)
- COPE - Promoting integrity in scholarly research and its publication <https://publicationethics.org/>

**Including unintentional omissions that often occur in the literature review*



Pitfalls and pet peeves

- Nothing new: The findings largely confirm earlier studies
- *Methods, not Methodology*: [Gorman, G.](#) (2011), "Method (or methodology) in their madness? How researchers confuse "method" and "methodology"", *Online Information Review*, Vol. 35 No. 1. <https://doi.org/10.1108/oir.2011.26435aaa.002>
- Statistical overkill
- Models – it takes a lot to develop a model, often following years of research. A diagram does not a model make.
- Use of passive voice and third person



Revised manuscripts

- List each reviewer's comments separately, explain how you revised the manuscript, or respectfully disagree

Rejoinder

Comment	Rejoinder
<p>1. The attempt to provide a legal history of illegal downloading in a location neutral way is overall executed well but since many readers are more grounded in a <u>geographic environments</u>, it takes a lot to wrap the mind around examples of case law and legislation from Australia, the EU, the US</p>	<p>Given the wide readership of the journal, the authors have drawn on literature, legislation and high-profile legal cases from different nations whose experiences with illegal downloading – and responses to it – appear similar. In addition to engaging wide readership, this approach verifies that the issue of focus has international currency.</p>
<p>2. The definition of attribution theory (p. 5 and p. 29) are both rather brief and require more detail. <u>Since</u> First Monday in general deals more with law and policy and less with social psychology, it's fair to assume that many readers will need an explanation earlier. I suggest including it in the Abstract</p>	<p>The Abstract has been revised accordingly and now reads as follows:</p> <p><i>Drawing on psychological literature, this paper offers an innovative approach to address illegal downloading. Attribution theory aims to aid understanding of the causes of human behaviour and highlights the important role of perception. It suggests that illegal downloading might be moderated by increasing opportunities for engagement between the owners and users of intellectual property.</i></p>
<p>3. <u>“the</u> premise for this paper – the creeping criminalization of illegal downloading” seems to be less in the news. We certainly have indications that book publishers are not using such tactics against illegal downloading of books. This brings to mind two questions:</p>	<p>The authors appreciate the reviewer's constructive questions. In reply:</p>
<p>a. <u>have</u> the past 2-3 seen a decline in such end-user lawsuits?</p>	<p>a. To demonstrate the currency of the issue of focus, the opening vignette has been replaced with an excerpt pertaining to recent efforts to address illegal downloading, which is dated 2010.</p>

THE NON-TRADITIONAL AUTHOR

IFLA WEBINAR SERIES **JULY 8, 2021**

CHERRY-ANN SMART, PH.D.



Short Bio

- Independent researcher, Author, Reviewer, Research consultant, Editor, Entrepreneur – Information Smart Consulting (iSc)
- **Research interests:** transformative/emancipatory research, international students, cultural products, government information, stakeholder relationships, scholarly publishing.



The Non-Traditional Perspective

- What should I write about?
- Why should I write about it?
- How do I address that pesky ethical review process?
- Is IFLA journal the appropriate publishing outlet for me?



Topics of Interest

IFLA Journal is an international journal publishing peer reviewed articles on library and information services and the **social, political and economic issues that impact access to information through libraries**. The Journal publishes research, case studies and essays that reflect the broad spectrum of the profession internationally.

IFLA Journal is the official journal of IFLA, and has an international readership consisting of **academic institutions, professional organizations, and IFLA members** who all receive a free subscription to the journal.[Aims and Scope extract from SAGE]



Writing for Publication

- What should I write about?
- Why should I write about it?
- What are the benefits?



Satisfying Ethical Requirements

- Opportunity to partner with institutional librarians (University or Hospital)
- Opportunity to expand research design – quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods, and under-used techniques.
- Option to conduct low-risk research, e.g., published biographies, newspaper accounts, etc. **OR** do literature, systematic, or integrative reviews, **OR** conceptual or theoretical analyses.



Is IFLA Journal Appropriate?

- Opportunity to share research output
- Opportunity to educate and inform
- Opportunity to identify and resolve problems from within



THANK YOU!

cherian_29@yahoo.com
cherryann.smart@connect.qut.edu.au

