



Coalition for Responsible Publication Resources

The Irresponsible Commercial Landscape: A Primer of What Journal Editors Need to Know!

April 19, 2016

Presented by:

Donald Samulack

President, US Operations

Editage / Cactus Communications

The Chef, the Actor, and the Scoundrel



SOURCE: Google search images

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The Landscape

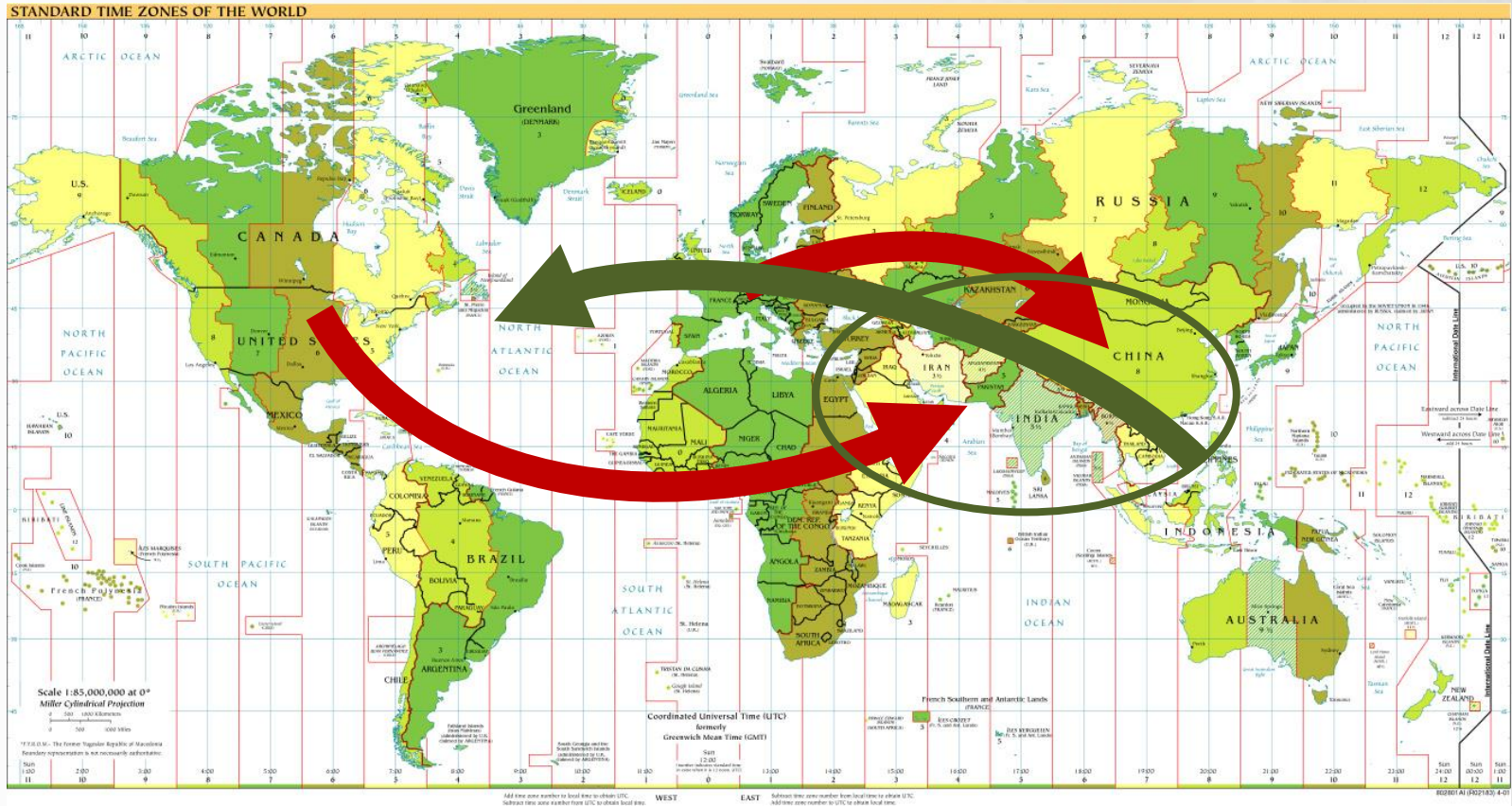


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The “Curl Effect” of Globalization

The world is now so flat that it is starting to curl!



SOURCE: Google search images

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Irresponsible Practices in Publishing

Like almost everything in Asia, if you take a few steps back, the real story is very different.



There is an element of commerce in every facet of the society. Where there is an opportunity, there is an entrepreneur; including academic services.



Things That Keep Me Awake at Night

Predatory and Irresponsible Publication Practices

- Every facet of the 'axis of publication' now has predatory and irresponsible elements of activity associated with it:
 - Editorial Board solicitation
 - Peer Reviewer solicitation/fixing
 - Manuscript solicitation
 - Peer Review promises
 - Predatory Author Services
 - Authorship for sale
 - Plagiarism / data stealing
 - Manuscripts for sale
 - Writing fraud
- In 2-years' time, an author will have a very hard time identifying what are ethical practices. We will not be able to educate fast enough as irresponsible practices become mainstream.

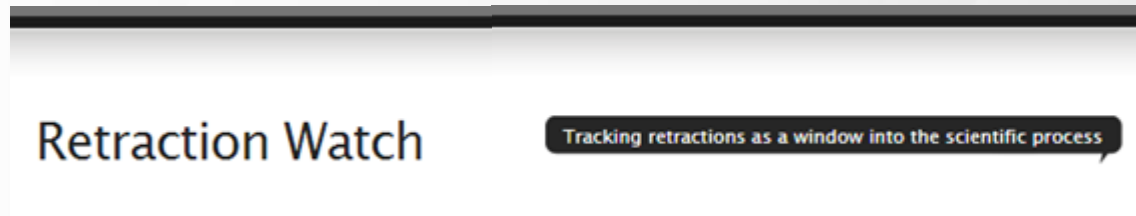


Watch THIS Space!



- Blog activities by **Jeffrey Beall**

- Various articles by **John Bohannon and others**

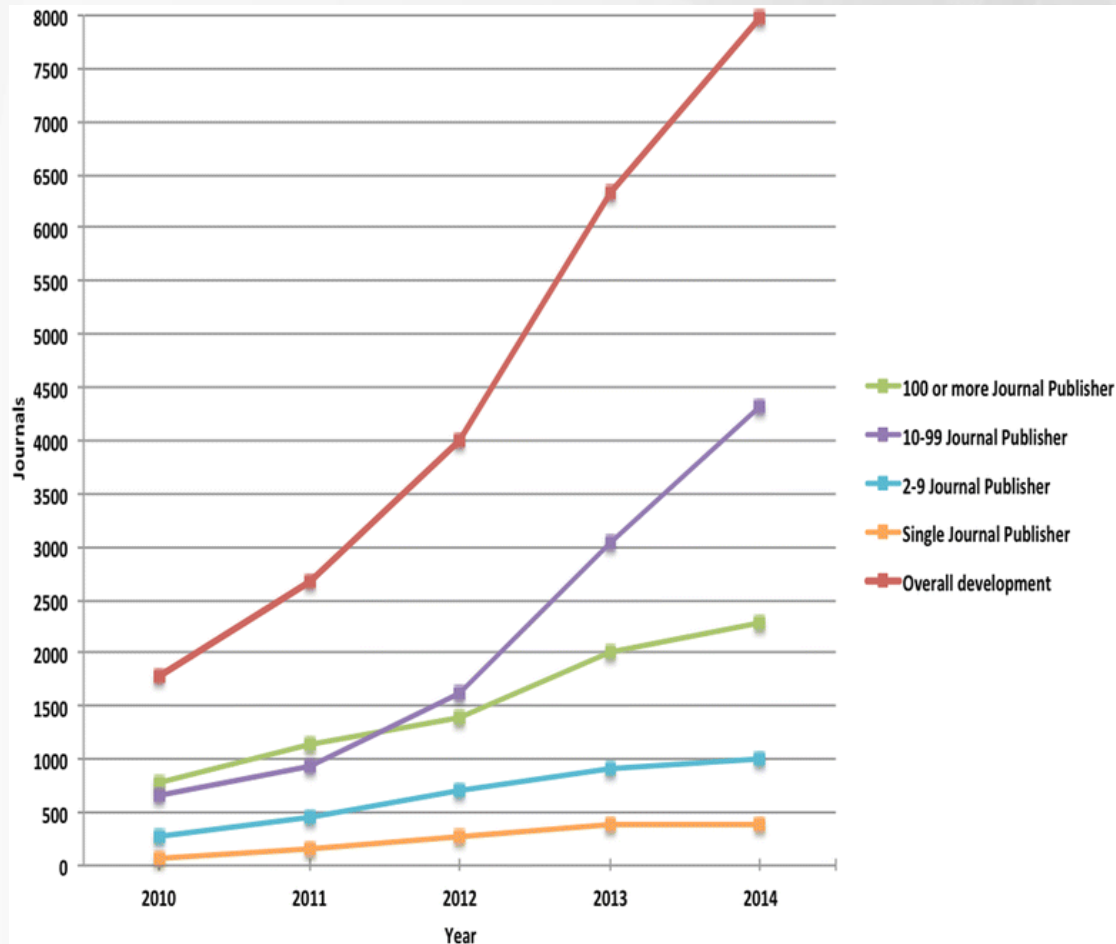


- Watchdog activities and articles by **Adam Marcus, Ivan Oransky, and staff**



Growth of Active Predatory OA Journals

(2010-2014)



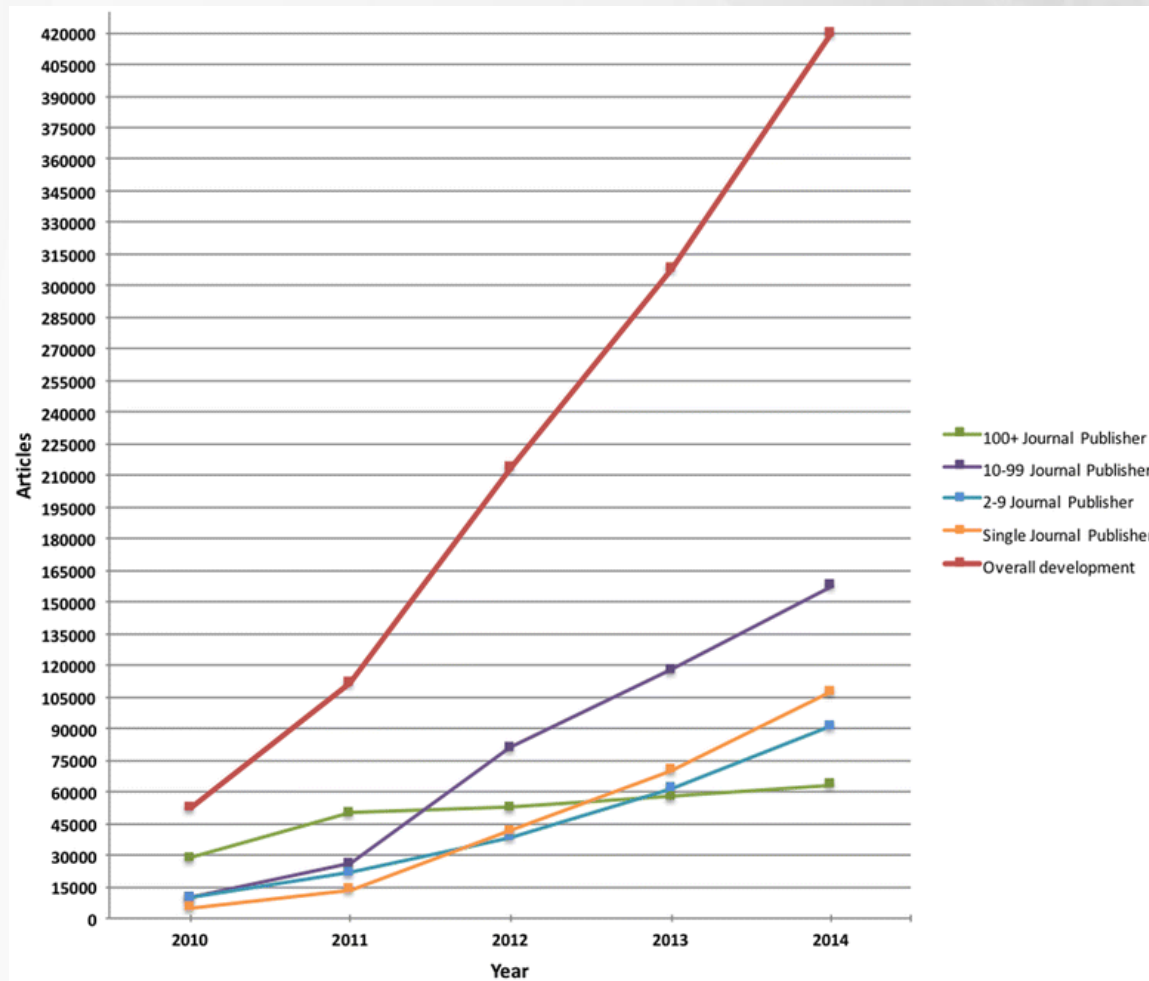
SOURCE: Shen and Björk *BMC Medicine* 2015 **13**:230 doi:10.1186/s12916-015-0469-2

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Growth of Predatory OA Articles

(2010-2014)



SOURCE: Shen and Björk *BMC Medicine* 2015 **13**:230 doi:10.1186/s12916-015-0469-2

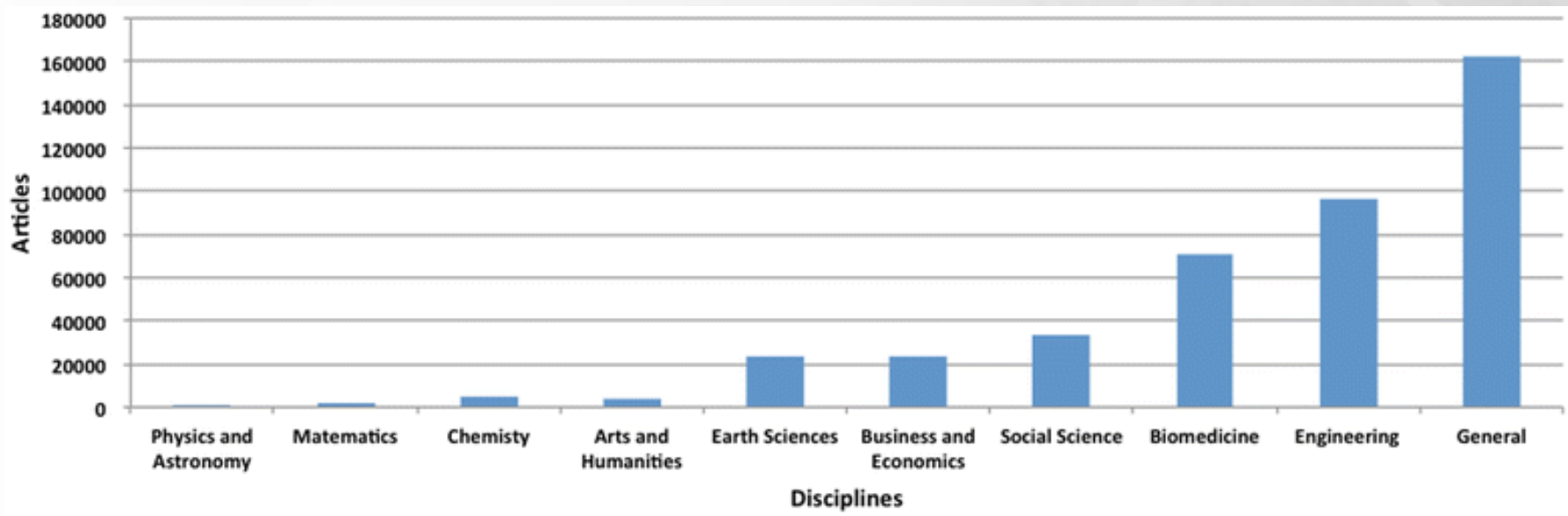


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Distribution of Predatory OA Articles

By Discipline (2014)



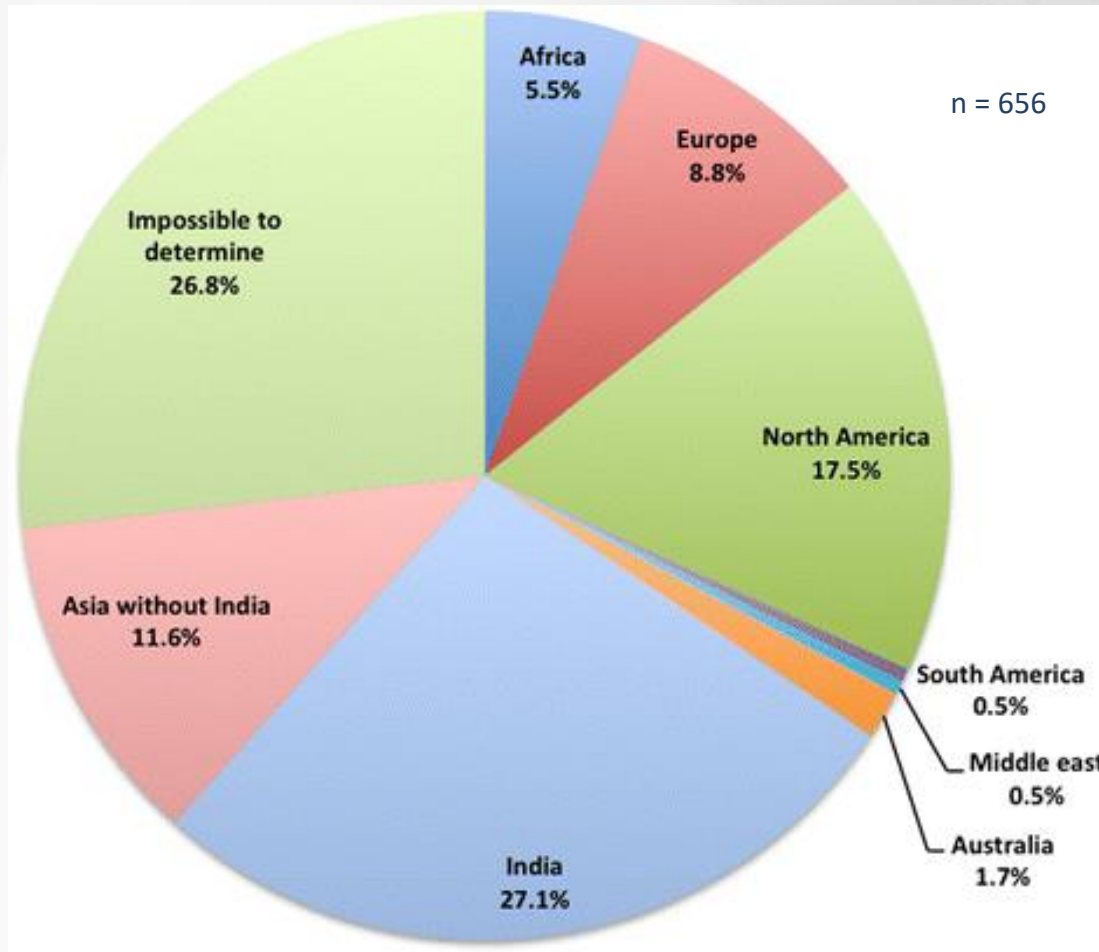
SOURCE: Shen and Björk *BMC Medicine* 2015 **13**:230 doi:10.1186/s12916-015-0469-2

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Distribution of Predatory OA Publishers

By Geographic Region

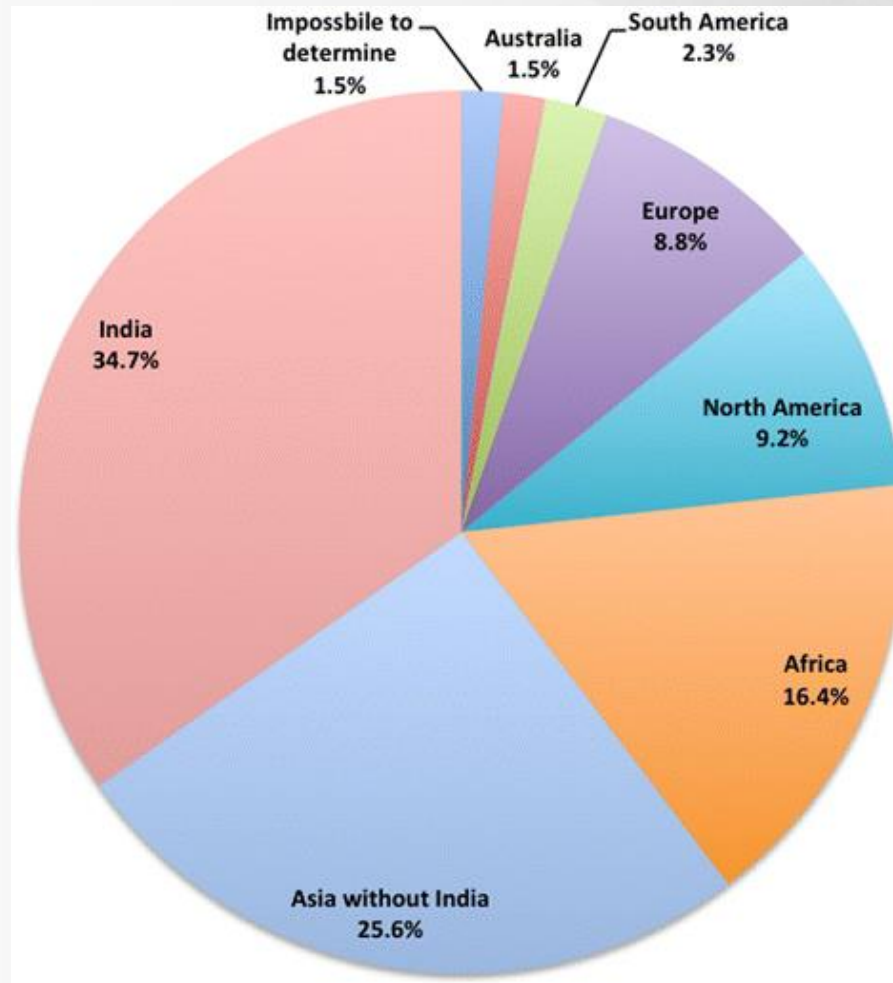


SOURCE: Shen and Björk *BMC Medicine* 2015 13:230 doi:10.1186/s12916-015-0469-2



Distribution of Corresponding Authors

By Geographic Region



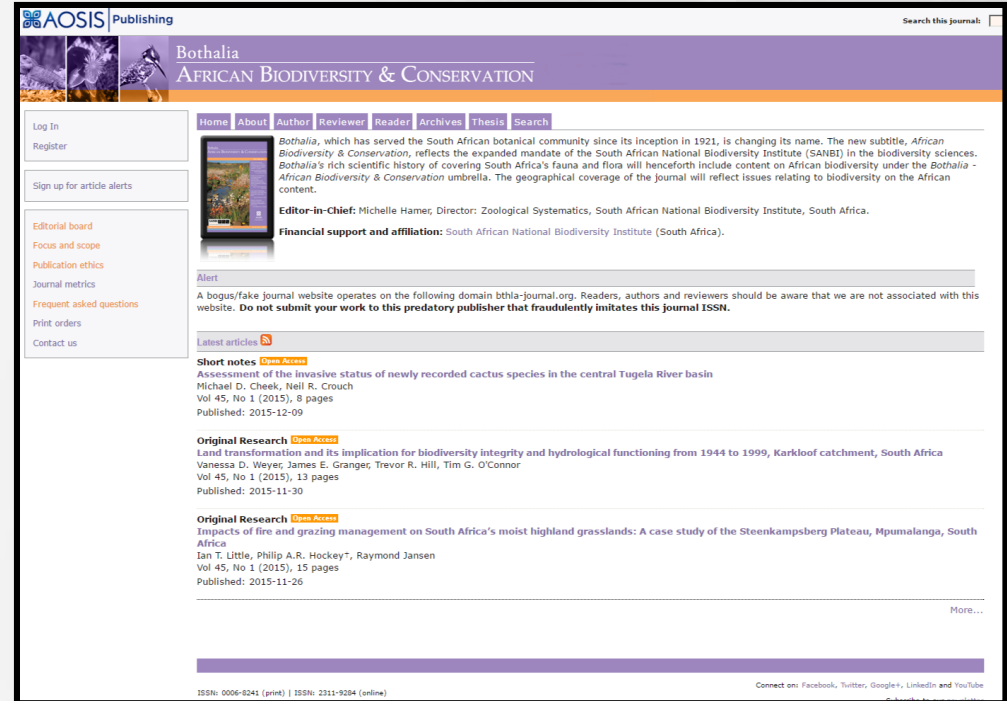
SOURCE: Shen and Björk *BMC Medicine* 2015 13:230 doi:10.1186/s12916-015-0469-2



The Publication Landscape

Hijacked and Look-alike Journals

Can you spot the hijacked journal?



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The Publication Landscape

Fake Impact Factors and Misleading Metrics

Home About Us Evaluation Policy Submit Journal Journals List

Universal Impact Factor

The Universal Impact Factor is a measure of the frequency with which the "average article" in a journal has period of time. The impact factor is used as standard dimension and the relative importance of a scientific. The Universal Impact Factor is calculated by several scientific methods. **No Evaluation Processing Fees.**



Bestowed with the eminence of the finest service provider for open access journals, CiteFactor with its announcement of a new feature launch called as the 'Real Time Impact Factor' for research paper is creating ripples amongst industry enthusiasts.



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INTERNATIONAL
SCIENTIFIC
INSTITUTE

GIF

GLOBAL IMPACT FACTOR

SCIJOURNAL.ORG

SUBMIT JOURNAL

2015 IMPACT
FACTOR



The Publication Landscape

Hijacked and Look-alike Author Services

- On December 30, 2014, Jeffrey Beal posted “Is This a Paper Mill?” on his ScholarlyOA.com blog where he brought to light some irregularities of an otherwise seemingly very sophisticated author services website
- This was my personal call-to-action on several levels:
 - It was very sophisticated
 - It clearly heavily borrowed elements from Editage, AJE, and Edanz websites; so they did their homework
 - It was clear to me that an unsuspecting author would never know the difference



JournalPublication

**GET YOUR RESEARCH PUBLISHED
IN
GLOBALLY RECOGNIZED
JOURNALS**

- ✓ World's Top Online Journals
- ✓ Authentic Research results
- ✓ Original and Validated Content
- ✓ Increased Credibility via Publications



Thank you to the experts at Journal Publication, I was able to get my journal published with ease! The consultants helped me at every step!

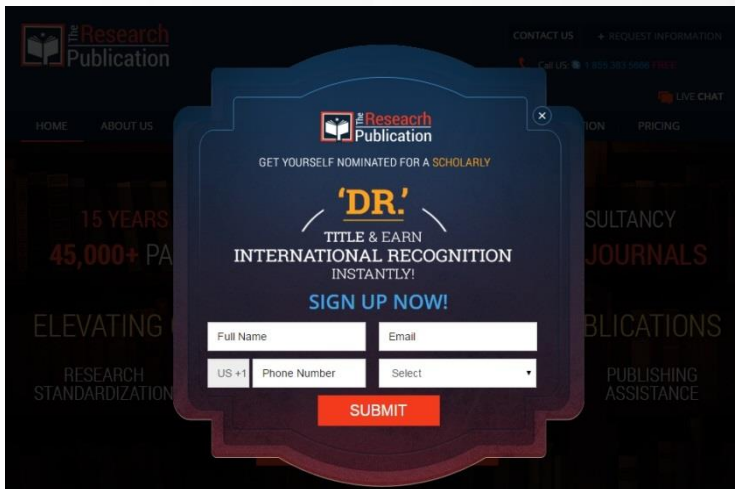
Phyllis D. Dow
Neilson Comapny



The Publication Landscape

Hijacked and Look-alike Author Services

- While Jeffrey clearly did due diligence on this site and uncovered a connection to a whole host of sites, at Editage we dug very deep and tested the degree of inappropriate behavior they were exhibiting.
- Scholarly recognition certificates



- Offer to write a thesis.

Expert 4:

Your Thesis will be written on your specified topic and provided requirements ; if you're not satisfied with the quality of our work, You can ask for free revisions or you can get all your money back-guaranteed!

Expert 4:

Prior to delivering your order, our Quality Assurance Department runs a thorough check on the order and makes sure that all your given specifications are met.

- Questionable NDA agreements (Texas jurisdiction)



Non-Disclosure Agreement

AGREEMENT FOR EXCHANGE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

This Agreement for Exchange of Confidential Information ("Agreement"), effective as of **Feb 27th 2015** ("Effective Date"), is entered into by and between **TheResearchPublication.org**, (the "Recipient" or the "Receiving Party") and **Mr. John Mathew** (the "Disclosing Party").

- Web traffic focused in Pakistan
- Payment to Dubai



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Bank Name: Habib Bank Ltd.
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SWIFT Code: HABBAEAD

Intermediary Bank Details:

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SWIFT Code: BKTRUS33
Favoring Habib Bank Limited UAE (A/C # 04438333)



The Publication Landscape

Manuscript Marketplaces

- But those who are looking to buy a manuscript, or buy their way onto a paper should not be dismayed. There are still plenty of websites to facilitate this for you.
- For example, SCIPaper.net is a manuscript “Marketplace” in China

SCI论文网
scipaper.net

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The Publication Landscape

Manuscript Marketplaces

- There are plenty of titles for sale! You can buy to own the manuscript, buy your way onto the author by-line, or solicit the writing of a manuscript customized to your specifications (journal, Impact Factor, timeline to final draft, etc.)

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Personal image

Credit Rating: Registered: 2014-05-21
Real Name: Zang Weidong
Gender: Male
Phone: 4000046001
QQ: 508100030

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ta release of classified information

Information Title	Information Category	Click
Medical titles of papers for sale	Medicine	50
Medical SCI transfer papers	Medicine	82

Reviews ta published

The user has not published reviews

SCI papers Medical The total number of information: 27, Information Sticky enable informati [Ads](#) >

Information Title	Publisher	Time	Area
SCI papers published oxidative stress, inflammation of spinal cord inju	scilunwen	2015-08-06	Chongqing
SCI1.2 points SCI tumor Gastrointestinal Surgery treatise summer pro	scilunwen	2015-07-21	Chongqing
SCI image processing machine vision cardiology visualization means a	scilunwen	2015-07-21	Tianjin
SCI recent transfer directory please pay attention to micro-chan	scilunwen	2015-07-21	Chongqing
SCI paper transfer	sci316	2015-06-02	Beijing
Sharp: Neurology	magazine field editor	2015-05-20	Shanghai
Sharp: SCI papers a liver cancer	magazine field editor	2015-05-20	in Shanghai

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(3) Summary: Oily wastewater treatment technology
(4) catalytic supercritical water oxidation technology for the newest progress in the above article intends to contribute magazine IF : 0.507,1-3 month hired for environmental, chemical, energy and other disciplines.
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What Can Be Done About It?



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Keeping on Top of Things

- Coalition for Responsible Publication Resources (CRPR)
 - www.RPRcoalition.org
 - <http://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2015/09/16/validating-author-services-providers-ga-with-donald-samulack>
 - A coordinated coalition of vetted publication resources acting responsibly
- Think. Check. Submit.
 - www.thinkchecksubmit.org
 - <http://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2015/10/01/think-check-submit-how-to-have-trust-in-your-publisher>
 - A program launched by the Open Access Scholarly Publishers' Association (OASPA); <http://oaspa.org/>
 - A “check list” to follow before you consider submitting to a journal

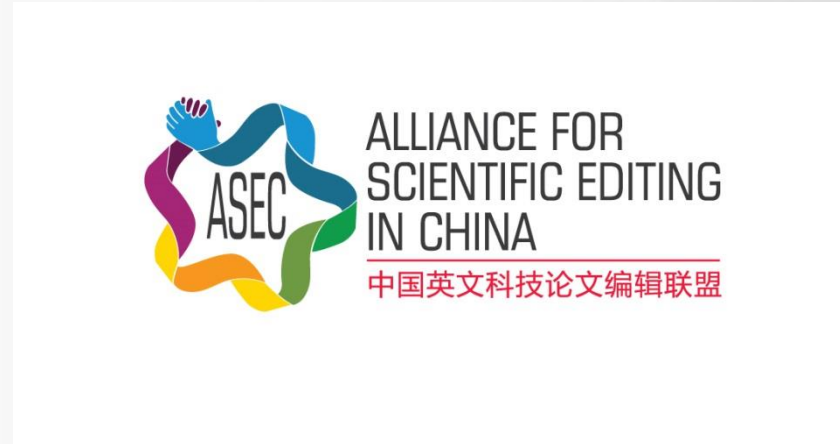


Choose the right journal for your research



Keeping on Top of Things

- Alliance for Scientific Editing in China (ASEC)



Founding Members



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Keeping on Top of Things

“5-Don’t” Policy of CAST*

- Manuscripts cannot be **written** by third-parties (i.e., anyone other than the listed authors)
- Manuscript cannot be **submitted** by third-parties (i.e., only the listed authors should submit the manuscript for publication)
- Third parties should not **modify the scientific content** of the manuscript
- Authors should not **provide false peer reviewer** information to the publisher
- Only researchers involved in the research itself or the writing of the manuscript should be included in the **author list**

* China Association of Science and Technology (CAST)
Rules of Conduct for Scientific Professionals in Publishing Articles in International Journals



Forging an Industry Coalition






Coalition for Responsible Publication Resources

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Mission of the Coalition



coalition 

SAVE  POPULARITY 

noun | co-a-li-tion | \kō-ə-'li-shən\

- : a group of people, groups, or countries who have joined together for a common purpose
- : the action or process of joining together with another or others for a common purpose

What is the “common purpose,” exactly?

The common purpose and mission of the Coalition is to help preserve the integrity of the scholarly literature by sharing industry knowledge of irresponsible, and in some cases predatory practices associated with academic publishing, and to ensure transparency, discoverability, and accountability of responsible publishing services to industry norms, guidelines, and best practices, so that academic authors can make informed decisions at point-of-service when seeking publication support and when publishing their scholarly works.



Coalition Membership

Audit of recognized and sustained best practices

RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT		Double click to select from dropdown
1. Adherence to Publication Ethics and Guidelines?		
ICMJE		Choose an item
COPE		Yes
GPP3		No
Other:		NA
Double click to select from dropdown		
2. Industry Certifications?		
ISO		Choose an item
CMPP		
BELS		
Other industry certifications:		Double click to select from dropdown

Self-report via online Audit achieves Provisional Member status



Consideration of past and current knowledge

Continued vigilance over ongoing feedback and yearly Audit assessments

Collaboration, education, and thought leadership

Development and adjustment of Audit



Coalition approval of Membership; point of payment of dues



Hyperlinked to a registered certificate and Web form on Coalition server

XYZ Company

Doing Business as: ABC, 123, XYZ International
CRPR Membership #20345632

Feedback

Email *

Comments/Feedback

Share Feedback

- ✓ Provisional Member as of Sept. 2105
- ✓ Current Audit submitted Sept. 2015
- ✓ Member since Oct. 2015
- ✓ No reported incidents on record
- ✓ 357 FTE staff
- ✓ Registered in Delaware, USA
- ✓ Headquartered in New York, NY
- ✓ Has physical offices in: San Diego, CA; Washington, DC; London, UK; Shanghai, China
- ✓ Primary business activities include: scholarly publication, education, author services
- ✓ Member of COPE
- ✓ Abides by ICMJE, GPP3 Guidelines
- ✓ Belongs to ISMTE, CSE, SSP, ISMPP
- ✓ Has CMPP medical writers on staff
- ✓ Has BELS-certified editors on staff
- ✓ Has documented internal Code of Ethics



Coalition Communication

Who is making sense of all of this non-sense?



Information flow

- Suspected predatory activity
- Industry guidelines
- News articles
- Landscape intelligence
- Government actions
- Industry initiatives
- White papers
- Identified fraud
- Irregular author activity
- Novel findings
- Known spam/scams/schemes
- University e-mail filters

Reciprocal sharing

Selective sharing

Disconnected or non-sharing

Isolated



CRPR



- Virtual community
- Removal of barriers between industries and entities
- Topic-based community discussion forums
- Notice boards
- Live industry-wide alerts
- Invited video meeting rooms
- Shared directories
 - Members
 - Suspended members
 - Known fraudsters
 - Known e-mail spam
- Shared resources
 - Company contacts
 - Organization contacts
 - University contacts
 - Government contacts
- Organized archives



Placeholder Coalition Website



 **Coalition for Responsible Publication Resources**

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This website represents a first phase in an industry-wide call-to-action to discuss, develop, ratify, and launch a coalition of stakeholders representing the publishing community (publishers, journals, academic societies, academic institutions, pharmaceutical companies, scholarly services companies, freelancers, and academic authors) under the structure of a US-based non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation called the Coalition for Responsible Publication Resources, yet to be formed.

This initiative was first formally presented by **Donald Samulack, PhD** (*President, U.S. Operations, Cactus Communications and Editage*) during a panel session titled “**Predatory Author Services: What Can be Done About it?**” that included **Hazel Newton** (*Head of Author Services, Nature Publishing Group*), **Josh Dahl** (*Head of Publishing & Associations, Thomson Reuters*), and **Jeffrey Beall** (*Scholarly Communications Librarian and Associate Professor, University of Colorado, Denver*) at the International Society of Managing and Technical Editors (ISMTE) Annual North American meeting in Baltimore, MA (USA) on Thursday, August 20, 2015. A recording of the panel presentation is hoped to be posted on this site, when

Feedback

The development of the Coalition is an active process that will take into consideration any and all feedback. Please also indicate any willingness to get involved.

Name

Title

Institution

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Photos and videos

TWEETS 52 | FOLLOWING 109 | FOLLOWERS 74

Tweets | Tweets & replies | Media

RPRcoalition @RPRcoalition · Apr 4
Looking forward to presenting a Coalition update tomorrow for first time in Asia at ISMTE2016 in Singapore.

Donald Samulack @samulack
Helen Atkins @PLOS offers "shout out" mention of CRPR @RPRcoalition during talk at #ISMTE2016 Asia meeting..

RPRcoalition @RPRcoalition · Feb 29
Coalition for Responsible Publication Resources (CRPR) + Think.Check.Submit. presented at #NFAIS16 by @samulack

TBI Communications @tbicomms
@samulack Solving for threats to responsible publication Think.Check.Submit. @tcs_campaign @RPRcoalition #NFAIS16

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predatory practices+ fraud in author services publishing and research volume + incentives to publish = #upatnight @samulack #NFAIS16

RPRcoalition @RPRcoalition · Feb 29
"5-No" China policy and publication ethics reform in response to fraud/retractions presented by @samulack #NFAIS16



The Coalition Forges

Industry Press Release – Founding Supporters



Cross-Industry Coalition Forges to Collaborate on Solutions to Protect Against Predatory Publishing and Irresponsible Author Support Practices

May 16, 2016 (EDITAGE; Philadelphia, PA, USA) – The Coalition for Responsible Publication Resources (CRPR; www.RPRcoalition.org; [@RPRcoalition](https://twitter.com/RPRcoalition)) is one step closer to its mission to help preserve the integrity of the scholarly literature by sharing industry knowledge of irresponsible and in some cases predatory practices associated with academic publishing. The Coalition is also committed to ensuring transparency, discoverability, and accountability of responsible publishing services to industry norms, guidelines, and best practices, so that academic authors can make informed decisions when seeking publication services and when publishing their scholarly works. The Coalition intends to facilitate communication and collaboration among university, academic society, publisher, scholarly journal, publication services, pharmaceutical, funder, and government stakeholders, worldwide.

- First publisher's consensus-building conference call and business meeting was held on April 19, 2016



Coalition for Responsible Publication Resources

Founding Supporters



CABELL'S
The journal whitelist.



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CRPR Website Redesign

- New, fresh look
- Statement of Mission and Structure
- Navigation to FAQs, Resources, etc.
- Identification of Founding Members, Members, and Other Contributors
- Member entry to communication tools behind the Coalition firewall
- Feedback and whistle-blowing form fields
- Infographics
- Twitter feed and other alerts
- The “Join CRPR” prompt leads to company audit form as part of application process
- Sign-up to receive Coalition news, prompts, and other benefits



The screenshot displays the CRPR website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, FAQ, Resources, Industry Initiatives, Membership, News, Videos, and About Us. A search bar and a 'Log In' button are also present. The main header features a large image of people in a meeting with the text: "A coalition of stakeholders to ensure the integrity of the scholarly literature".

Mission Statement
To help preserve the integrity of the scholarly literature by sharing industry knowledge and to ensure transparency, discoverability, and accountability of responsible scholarly services to industry norms, guidelines, and best practices, so that academic authors can make informed decisions at point-of-service when seeking publication support and when publishing their scholarly works.

Structure and Purpose
The *Coalition for Responsible Publication Resources* is an industry-wide stakeholder-organized community including publishers, journals, academic societies, academic institutions, pharmaceutical companies, scholarly services companies, freelancers, and academic authors under the structure of a US-based non-profit 501(c)(6) corporation.

CRPR Process
The Coalition for Responsible Publication Resources infographic illustrates the flow from 'Information Flow' to 'Reciprocal sharing' and 'Selective sharing', leading to 'Disconnected' and 'Isolated' states. It lists various activities such as suspected predatory activity, industry guidelines, news articles, and industry intelligence.

Join here
What are the benefits of CRPR membership? >>>

Feedback Form
name:
email:
*comments/feedback:
Add comments, or report suspicious or irregular publication activity (anonymous).
Submit

Tweets
Donald Samulack @samulack 22 Feb
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Think Check Submit @tccs_campaign 1 Dec
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Ashutosh Ghildiyal @AshutoshEdlage 1 Dec
Tweet to @RPRcoalition

Receive updates about CRPR
name: email: Sign-up

Email us @ info@RPRcoalition.org Follow us on Twitter @RPRcoalition

Questions / Open Discussion

Donald Samulack, PhD

President, U.S. Operations

Editage / Cactus Communications

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T: (267) 332-0051 ext. 104

C: (732) 357-5282



A Brief History of the Coalition

Humble Beginnings

- Industry chatter for many years regarding the growth of predatory publishing
- A blog post by Jeffrey Beall in Dec. 2014, which brought my attention to a “look-alike” author services
- Increasing journal retractions and concern over corruptive commercial practices which led to such retractions
- Vocalization by Donald Samulack of the need for a cross-industry coalition to tackle these issues on the landscape, before the paper gets submitted or accepted by the journal (Arguably, not a role that COPE plays)
- Formal call-to-action for the formation of the Coalition for Responsible Publication Resources (CRPR) at the 8th Annual North American Conference of the International Society of Managing and Technical Editors (ISMTE) in Baltimore; August 2015
- Development of a placeholder Coalition website, video recording and production of the call-to-action sessions, exposure in the Scholarly Kitchen, and overall increase in Coalition activities; including the an increase in private dialog by Coalition members
- Many follow-up presentations to drive industry awareness and to encourage the publishing community to contribute toward the development of such a Coalition



A Brief History of the Coalition

Humble Beginnings

Since the initial call-to-action in August 2015 at the ISMTE meeting, the Coalition initiative has been presented at the following conferences/meetings/forums:

- Interview on Scholarly Kitchen blog (September 16, 2015)
 - <http://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2015/09/16/validating-author-services-providers-qa-with-donald-samulack/>
- 2nd Saudi International Conference on Scientific Publishing; Riyadh, Saudi Arabia (October 11-13, 2015)
- Canadian Medical Association Lunch-n-Learn; Ottawa, Canada (November 5, 2015)
- Canadian Science Publishing Annual Editor's Meeting Dinner; Ottawa, Canada (November 5, 2015)
- Wolters Kluwer/LWW Journals Editor's Symposium; Philadelphia, USA (November 12-13, 2015)
- NFAIS 58th Annual Conference; Philadelphia, USA (February 21-23, 2016)
- ISMTE 1st Annual Asian Conference; Singapore, Singapore (April 4-5, 2016) – along with Think.Check.Submit and ASEC



A Brief History of the Coalition

Humble Beginnings

- CSE Session on predatory and irresponsible commercial practices at the 2016 CSE Annual Meeting; Denver, CO USA (May 16, 2016)
- SSP Pre-meeting Seminar on “all things predatory” at the 38th Annual Meeting; Vancouver, BC, Canada (June 1, 2016) – along with Think.Check.Submit and ASEC
- 13th EASE Conference; Strasbourg, France (June 9-13)

The Coalition is slated to be presented at the upcoming conferences/meetings:

- Korean Council of Science Editors; Seoul, South Korea (July 20-22, 2016)
- Workshop on Scientific Publishing for Clinical Microbiologists in China; organized by CMA and JCM; Beijing, China (September 16-19, 2016)

