10250: How to Improve Your Chances of Publishing in a Top-Tiered Journal

Primary Sponsor: OB Division
Other Potential Sponsors: HR, OMT, ODC, IM

Abstract

The purpose of this PDW is to provide inexperienced researchers with opportunities for research collaboration and to increase the likelihood that a paper that is submitted to the top-tiered journal of choice will be published.

The workshop will be divided into two parts. Part 1 will give participants the opportunity to discuss an underdeveloped research idea with an experienced academic with a view to exploring the topic together and publishing their findings. Part 2 of the workshop is for inexperienced academics who have a paper that is nearly ready for submission, and who would like advice on how to improve their article from someone who has recently published in their journal of choice. The following journals will be represented in this part: Academy of Management Review, Academy of Management Learning & Education, Academy of Management Perspectives, Journal of Applied Psychology, Administrative Science Quarterly, California Management Review, Journal of Management Studies, British Journal of Management, Human Resource Management, International Journal of Management Reviews, Journal of Management, Leadership Quarterly, Management Science, Organizational Behavior & Human Decision Making, Organization Studies, and the Journal of Management Education.
Overview of the Workshop

Purpose

The purpose of the PDW “How to Increase Your Chances of Publishing in a Top-Tiered Journal” is to provide inexperienced researchers with opportunities for research collaboration and to increase the likelihood that a paper submitted to the top-tiered journal of choice will be published.

Who would be interested in this workshop

There seems to be something almost mystical about publishing in a top-tier journal. Stories abound regarding the small number of submissions that are accepted and the unsuitability of much that editors receive on a regular basis. It is the intention of this workshop to help inexperienced scholars to develop embryonic research ideas into mature studies and to polish existing studies so that they are more likely to meet the specific standards of the journal to which they are submitted.

This workshop will be of interest to any academic in the Academy who has yet to publish in a top-tiered journal. Such an accomplishment can enhance one’s academic reputation, job prospects, and self-esteem. In particular, we think that the sponsoring OB Division, as well as others such as Human Resources, Organization Management & Theory, Organizational Development & Change, and International Management would also be interested in this workshop.

Procedure

The workshop is open to all members of the Academy subject to the following conditions:

1. Part 1 of the workshop is for those who have:
   a. Been employed in higher education for less than 7 years, and
   b. Have not had a publication in a top-tiered journal.

2. Part 2 of the workshop is for those who have:
   a. Been employed in higher education for less than 7 years,
   b. Have a paper that is nearly ready for submission, and who would like to see it published in a specific top-tiered journal, and
   c. Have not had a publication in a top-tiered journal.

All attendees must pre-register for the PDW. For Part 2 only, attendees will be required to specify their choice of 3 journals in order of preference. This is to prevent any one experienced academic from being overloaded.
Part 1 (70 minutes)

Each collaborative appointment will last for 15 minutes. Attendees will have five minutes to explain their research idea to an experienced academic who will then have ten minutes to make suggestions on how to develop the idea and/or structure the study. This session is expected to last for 70 minutes: 10 minutes for introductory comments and 60 minutes for the collaborative appointments. Each experienced researcher will not be expected to have more than 4 appointments during this session. The maximum number of attendees for this part is 88.

Part 2 (60 minutes)

Each collaborative appointment will last for 20 minutes. Attendees for this part must send their papers to their assigned experienced researcher in advance of the PDW who, during his or her appointment, will have up to 20 minutes to make suggestions for improvement specific to the author(s)’ journal of choice. Each experienced researcher will not be expected to have more than 3 appointments during this session. The maximum number of attendees for this part is 66.

Part 3 (20 minutes)

This part will consist of an open discussion between the chair, facilitator, experienced and inexperienced researchers on the success of the workshop and discuss suggestions for how to improve it at subsequent conferences.

How the participants were selected

All participants were selected on the basis that they either had had an article published recently in the journal for which they agreed to provide advice or had acted as reviewers for their respective journal. Editors and associate editors were avoided deliberately in order to obviate any ethical misunderstandings. For example, there might be those who had had papers rejected from the top-tier journals quite recently for all sorts of legitimate reasons. Of them, those who did not attend the workshop would not have the benefit of collaborating or receiving "coaching" from the editors of these journals. So, it would be possible for them to think that the assistance that editors provided was unethical because, in effect, they were pre-reviewing a paper and making suggestions to increase the likelihood that it would be published. In other words, the pre-review and coaching, in the eyes of some, might be perceived as a shortcut around or bias in the peer review process.

Journals & Participants

The following 22 experienced academics have agreed to participate in this workshop. Their names are listed under the journals for which they will be available to provide advice.
• Academy of Management Review
  o Roger Mayer (University of Akron)

• Academy of Management Learning & Education
  o Michael Reynolds (Lancaster University Management School)
  o Cynthia Fukami (University of Denver)
  o Christina Fong (University of Washington)

• Academy of Management Perspectives
  o Loriann Roberson (Columbia University)
  o Jone Pearce (University of California, Irvine)
  o Hugh O’Neill (University of North Carolina)

• Journal of Applied Psychology
  o Joyce E. Bono (University of Minnesota)
  o Marie S. Mitchell (University of Nebraska)

• Administrative Science Quarterly
  o Stéphane Côté (University of Toronto)
  o Elizabeth George (Australian Graduate School of Management)

• California Management Review
  o Andy Neely (Cranfield School of Management)

• Journal of Management Studies
  o David Hannah (Simon Fraser)

• British Journal of Management
  o Veronique Ambrosini (Cranfield)

• Human Resource Management
  o Joan Brett (Arizona State University)

• International Journal of Management Reviews
  o David A Buchanan (Cranfield) david.buchanan@cranfield.ac.uk

• Journal of Management
  o Wendy Boswell (Texas A & M) wboswell@tamu.edu

• Leadership Quarterly
  o Sam Hunter (Penn State) samhunter@psu.edu

• Management Science
  o Anita Tucker (Harvard)
• Organizational Behavior & Human Decision Making
  o Peter Bamberger (Israel Institute of Technology)

• Organization Studies
  o Stephen J Frenkel (New South Wales)

• Journal of Management Education
  o Jane Schmidt-Wilk (Maharishi University of Management)

**Organizer declaration:** I have received signed statements from all intended participants agreeing to participate for the entire workshop and, to my knowledge, none of them is in violation of the Rule of Three + Three.