

Publishing in Non-Library Journals for Promoting Scientific Information Literacy

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Information Literacy (IL)

Association of College and
Research Libraries (ACRL)
has defined IL as:



What is Information Literacy?

*“a set of skills needed to find, retrieve,
analyze, and use information.”*

American Library Association, “Introduction to Information Literacy,”
(2012). Online. Available:
<http://www.ala.org/acrl/issues/infolit/overview/intro>

Librarians Provide IL

- Workshops
- Classes
- Librarian in the laboratory
- Communicating via technology
- Consultations
- Online Tutorials



Editorial Statement

In 1989, Moffett stated:

“What we write is seen by almost nobody, but other librarians. For all our meetings, conferences, and preconferences, for all our committees and task forces, our journals and yearbooks, are we any better understood by our clients in whose behalf we labor?”



William A. Moffett, "Guest Editorial:" Talking to Ourselves,"
College & Research Libraries 50, no. 6 (1989): 609-610.

Editorial Statement

In 1990, Kornegay stated:

“The ideas which we present in our journals are often interesting to other librarians, but consider how useful and effective much of our writing could be if it were read by another academic audience - the college teaching faculty.”



Becky Kornegay, "Library Literature in Non-Library Publications," *College & Research Libraries News* 51, no. 11 (1990): 1033-1034.

Publishing in Non-Library Journals

- Importance
- Visibility
- Ideas
- Communication (Outreach)



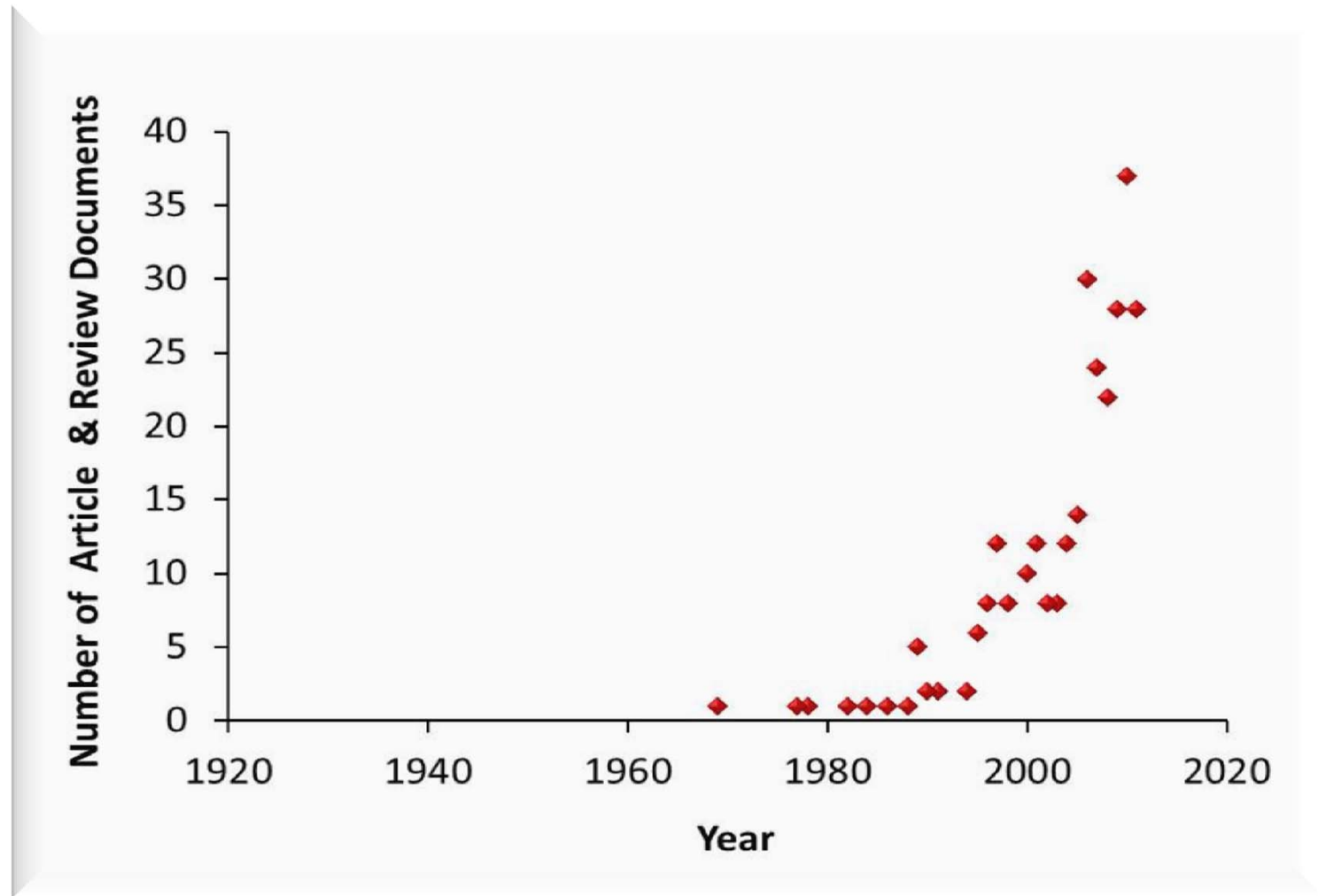
History Background

- Kenney, 1983, 1994 (Social Sciences and Humanities)
- Weimer, 1993 (included Sciences)
- Still, 1998 (Pedagogical Journals)
- Stevens, 2007 (Pedagogical Journals)

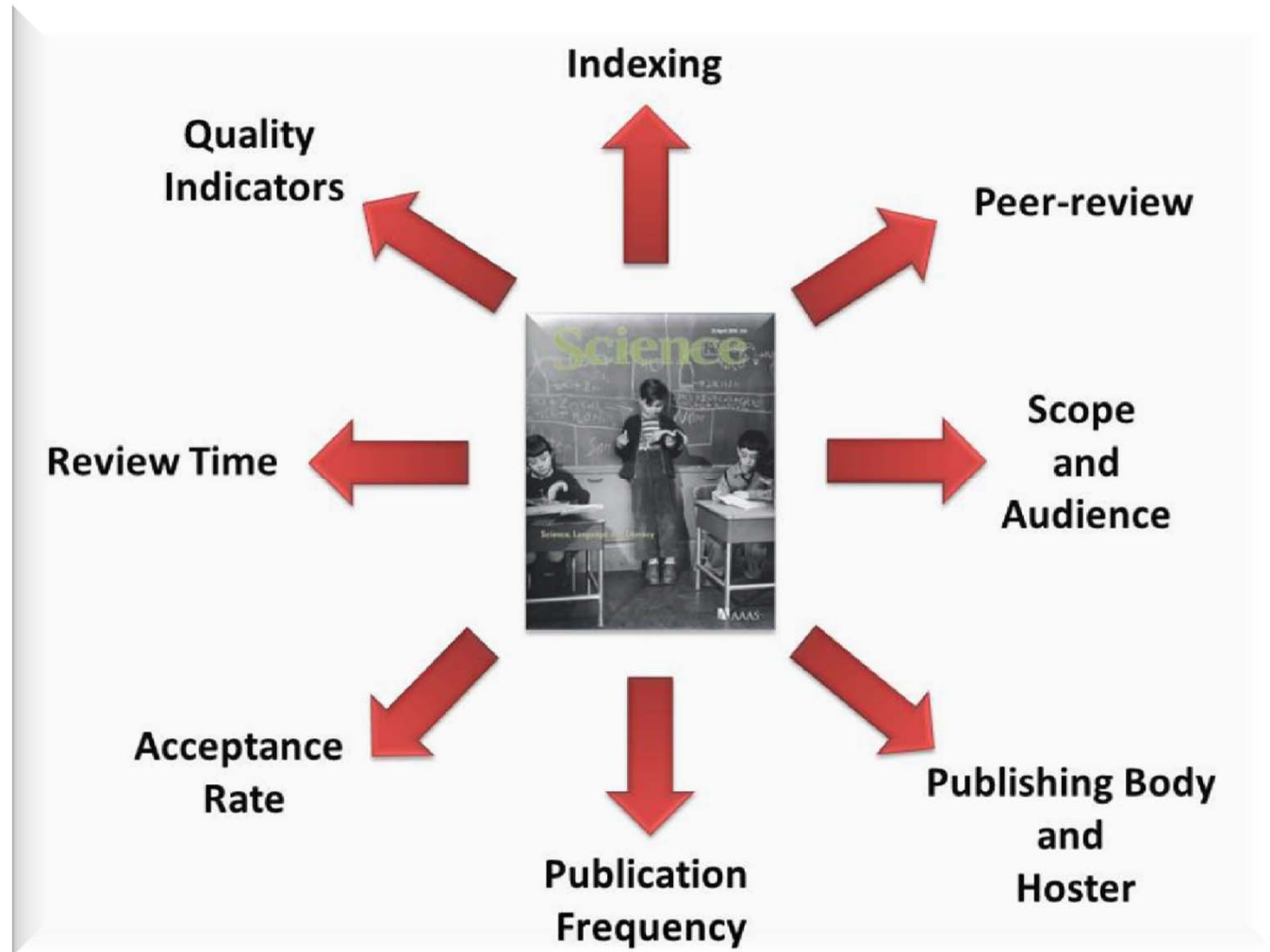
Content contained little information about libraries and that few articles were actually written by librarians!



Information Literacy Publications from SciFinder Scholar



Journal Selection Criteria



Methodology

1. Selected databases:
 - *Web of Science* (**8000 journals**)
 - *Proquest Educational Journals* (**1020 journals**)
 - *ERIC from EBSCOhost* (**1108 journals**)
2. Looked at the Scope and Audience
3. Editors were emailed (twice)
for journal's acceptance rates and review times



Results Data

- 84 Journals identified
- 70 responses (83%)
- 62 Positive responses (74%)
- 8 Negative responses (10%). Questioned librarian to journal suitability?

“...is NOT a particularly good place for academic librarians to submit articles”

“...highly unlikely that an academic librarian would submit a manuscript to a journal written for, by, and about...”

“...this is not a journal suitable for librarians to publish”



Sample Table of Non-Library Journals in the Sciences for Librarians to Publish

Science Subject Areas (12):

E.g., Biology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, etc.,



Subject	Journal	Publisher	Hosted	Start Year of Print Journal	Publication Frequency	Review Time	Acceptance Rate	Impact Factor (2010)	EF (AF) (2010)	SJR Score & h-index SJR (2011)	Indexed
Biology	Advances in Physiology Education	American Physiological Society	American Physiological Society	1989	4/yr	1 month	47%	Yes	Yes	Yes	ERIC PEJ WoS
	American Biology Teacher (The)	University of California Press	National Association of Biology Teachers	1938	9/yr	3-6 months	40%	Yes	Yes	No	ERIC PEJ WoS
	BioScience	University of California Press	American Institute of Biological Sciences	1951	12/yr	3 months	45%	Yes	Yes	Yes	ERIC PEJ WoS
	Journal of Biological Education	Routledge	Society of Biology	1966	4/yr	4 months	30%	Yes	Yes	Yes	ERIC WoS

Journal Results



- All Peer-reviewed
- Acceptance Rate (7 - 75%)
- Review Time (2 weeks - 18 months)
- Start Time (1880 to 2003)
- Publication Frequency (1/week - 18/year)
- Quality Indicators - varied
- Indexing - at least in one database

Conclusions

- One way librarians can outreach to the science disciplines is by publishing in journals read by the scientific community.
- Future work will focus on identifying non-library journals in other disciplines.



Citations

1. Christy R. Stevens, "Beyond Preaching to the Choir: Information Literacy, Faculty Outreach, and Disciplinary Journals," *Journal of Academic Librarianship* 33, no. 2 (2007): 254-267.
2. Julie Still, "The Role and Image of the Library and Librarians in Discipline-Specific Pedagogical Journals," *The Journal of Academic Librarianship* 24, no. 3 (1998): 225-231.
3. Maryellen Weimer, "The Disciplinary Journals on Pedagogy," *Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning* 25, no. 6 (1993): 44-51.
4. 1. D. J. Kenney, "Publishing BI Articles in Discipline Journals: Social Sciences'," *Research Strategies* 2, no. 3 (1984): 128-135; Donald J. Kenney, "Publishing BI Articles in Discipline Journals: Humanities," *Research Strategies* 1, (1983): 64.





Thank You

