Scholarly Journal Publishing in the Global South - Africa

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Presented on 3 August 2017
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Applying scientific thinking in the service of society
Agenda

• African continent
• African scholarly journal landscape
• African approach to scholarly journal publishing
• The way forward
About the African Continent

http://agronomy.unl.edu/research/OFRA/AfricaMap-ChristieKrause_500x550.jpg
Connectivity on the African Continent
# Data Prices Are Too Expensive For Most. You Should Care.

# dataMUSTfall, please.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Cost per 1GB (USD) of mobile data in Q2 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>0.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>2.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>2.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>3.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>4.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>5.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>5.27</td>
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</table>

# DataMustFall
African Scholarly Journal Landscape (1)

- Journals in print
- Downloaders rather than uploaders
- Low awareness of benefits of Open Access
- Low awareness of publishing software such as OJS
- More awareness required regarding journal management, importance of DOIs, ORCIDs, best practice
- Authors publish in international journals – “quality costs money” view …
African Scholarly Journal Landscape (2)

- Commercial publishers publishing African journals
- Researchers awarded for WHERE they publish and not for WHAT they publish
  - Rather award article performance than journal performance
- Unhealthy reliance on Journal Impact Factor (JIF)
- Web page but no workflow
The extent of South African authored articles in predatory journals

We present a first estimate of the extent of predatory publishing amongst South African academics. This estimate is based on an analysis of all South African authored papers that qualified for subsidy over the period 2005 to 2014. The analysis shows that 4246 South African papers were published in 48 journals which we re-classified (refining Beall’s classification) as either being probably or possibly predatory. A breakdown of these papers by year shows that the greatest increase in predatory publishing has occurred since 2011. Results are also presented of the distribution of these papers by individual university and scientific field. We conclude with some suggestions about predatory publishing and its pervasive consequence for our trust in science and how this should be addressed by the major stakeholders in the South African higher education system.

Table 4: Classification of ‘predatory’ papers by South African university (2005–2014)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Predatory – strong evidence</th>
<th>Share of total papers</th>
<th>Predatory – weak evidence</th>
<th>Share of total papers</th>
<th>Total ‘predatory’</th>
<th>Share of total papers</th>
<th>Total number of papers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3015</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
<td>1057</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
<td>4072</td>
<td>3.4%</td>
<td>119755</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$4,047,492.971
# African Scholarly Journal Landscape

## Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Journals</th>
<th>DOAJ 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>599</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>396 (53% OA)</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
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</table>

## Not identified:
- Questionable journals
- New journals to be launched
- New DOAJ applications
Possible Role of African Academies of Science (1)

• Audit national journal publishing landscape - registry
• Promote development of indigenous system of African research
• Publish & host science-focused journals
• Skills development & capacity building: OSS, OJS, OMP, OCS, ODS, scientific writing, data analysis etc.
• Monitor scholarly journal quality & provide guidance on new trends, best practice - leadership
• Develop partnerships & collaborate with stakeholders
Possible Role of African Academies of Science (2)

- Recommend registering in directories/indexes
- Marketing journals & articles, protecting online identity
- Monitoring and evaluation of journals, articles – Peer-review Panels (ASSAf) & Reports
- Workshops, webinars, mailing list, A-Z Wiki covering topics
- And many more
### Registry of SA Journals

<table>
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<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
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<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
<th>F</th>
<th>G</th>
<th>H</th>
<th>I</th>
<th>J</th>
<th>K</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acta Academica: Critical views on Society, Culture and Politics</td>
<td>SCImago</td>
<td>SCImago</td>
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<td>Scopus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acta Classica</td>
<td>SCImago</td>
<td>SCImago</td>
<td>SCImago</td>
<td>Scopus</td>
<td>Scopus</td>
<td>Scopus</td>
<td>WoS</td>
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<td>Acta Commercii</td>
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<td>Acta Criminologica</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acta Germanica: German Studies in Africa</td>
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<td>Acta Juridica</td>
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<tr>
<td>Acta Structilia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adler Museum Bulletin</td>
<td>SCImago</td>
<td>SCImago</td>
<td></td>
<td>Scopus</td>
<td>Scopus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administratio Publica</td>
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Open Access Week 2016 Series of Webinars

http://journals.assaf.org.za/blog/

Using OJS to manage & publish your online Open Access journal

Presented by
Ina Smith DOAJ Ambassador ina@doaj.org
Introduction to the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)

Presented by

Tom Olijhoek  DOAJ Editor-in-Chief  tom@doaj.org
Ina Smith  DOAJ Ambassador  ina@doaj.org

Friday 12 August 2016
General Criteria for Publishing High Quality Open Access Journals - Checklist

Susan Veldsman

Applying scientific thinking in the service of society
Monitoring & evaluating the usage of your Open Access journal
ASSAf Journal Evaluation Instrument

- Analysed criteria for inclusion in:
  - SA Dept. of Higher Education & Training
  - Web of Science (Thomson Reuters)
  - Scopus (Elsevier)
  - Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
  - SciELO
  - Norwegian Registry for Scientific Journals, Series and Publishers
  - International Bibliography of Social Sciences (ProQuest IBSS)
# Journal Evaluation Instrument


## List of recommended criteria for OA journal publishing - all journals most welcome to use as a checklist

Please note: ASSAf Work in Progress (based on criteria from the following: DOAJ, WoS, IBSS, Scopus, Norwegian List, DHET List, SciELO SA)

### About the Journal

- Journal title & alternative titles
- Web presence (incl. web address)
- Online journal management system (OAI-PMH compliant) for record-keeping
- Key journal abbreviation registered internationally
- Discipline/s
- Title owner and mailing address
- Publisher
- Journal description
- Journal history
- Focus & Scope
- Print ISSN/Online ISSN
- Publication frequency/scheduling - no interruptions
- Journal sections
- Journal format – online and/or print
- Open access/subscription access

### Journal articles - technical

- File format: pdf, xml, epub

- About the Journal
- Articles – Technical
- Articles – Content
- Financial Sustainability
- Visibility & Impact
- Guidelines
- Policies & Statements
- Roles & Responsibilities
SciELO SA

http://www.scielo.org.za/

SciELO South Africa

Scientific Electronic Library Online

SciELO.org
journals evaluation

Português
Español

help
about this site
SciELO team

serial browsing
alphabetical list
subject list
search form

article browsing
author index
subject index
search form

reports
site usage
Publishing statistics
journal citation
co-authors

SciELO The Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO) SA is South Africa’s premier open-access (free to access and free to publish) searchable full-text journal database in service of the South African research community. The database covers a selected collection of peer-reviewed South African scholarly journals and forms an integral part of the SciELO Brazil project. SciELO SA is managed by the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf), funded by the South African Department of Science and Technology and endorsed by the South African Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET).

about this site SciELO SA focuses on strengthening the scholarly journal evaluation and accreditation systems in South Africa.
South African Journal of Science

http://www.sajs.co.za/
Great features!

- Publication flexibility
- iThenticate Plugin
- Creative Commons License
- Author Agreement (Submission Requirements)
- ORCIDs
- Crossref DOIs
- Reference Linking
- Portico
- DOAJ
- PKP School
- Dataverse/ODS – Data the next gold...
Africa = 457 journals using OJS
https://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs/ojs-usage/ojs-map/
Universities & societies publishing their own
Ubuntu and the law in South Africa
Y Mokgoro

Abstract

The new constitutional dispensation, like the idea of freedom in South Africa, is also not free of scepticism. Many a time when crime and criminal activity are rife, sceptics would lament the absence of ubuntu in society and attribute this absence to what they view as the permissiveness which is said to have been brought about by the Constitution with its entrenched Bill of Rights.

Firstly, I would like to take this opportunity and (attempt to) demonstrate the irony that the absence of the values of ubuntu in society that people often lament about and attribute to the existence of the Constitution with its demands for respect for human rights when crime becomes rife, are the very same values that the Constitution in general and the Bill of Rights in particular aim to insulate in our society.

Secondly, against the background of the call for an African renaissance that has now become topical globally, I would like to demonstrate the potential that traditional African values of ubuntu have for influencing the development of a new South African law and jurisprudence.

The concept ubuntu, like many African concepts, is not easily definable. In an attempt to define it, the concept has generally been described as a worldview of African societies and a determining factor in the formation of perceptions which influence social conduct. It has also been described as a philosophy of life.

Much as South Africa is a multicultural society, indigenous law has not featured in the mainstream of South African jurisprudence. Without a doubt, some aspects or values of ubuntu are universally inherent to South Africa's multi cultures.

The values of ubuntu are therefore an integral part of that value system which had been established by the Interim Constitution.

The founding values of the democracy established by this new Constitution arguably coincide with some key values of ubuntu(isim). Ubuntu(isim), which is central to age-old African custom and tradition however, abounds with values and ideas which have the potential of shaping not only current indigenous law institutions but also South African jurisprudence as a whole.
PELJ: Potchefstroom electronic law journal: PER: Potchefstroomse elektroniese regsblad 1727-3781
North-West University (Potchefstroom Campus): Faculty of Law
Verified email at nwu.ac.za - Homepage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Cited by</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ubuntu and the law in South Africa</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>1998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Y Makgoro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Potchefstroom Electronic Law Journal/Potchefstroomse Elektroniese Regsblad 1 (1)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ubuntu: an African equity</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>2011</td>
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<td>TW Bennett</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PER: Potchefstroomse Elektroniese Regsblad 14 (4), 29-61</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Public participation, good environmental governance and fulfilment of environmental rights</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>2008</td>
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<td>A Du Plessis</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PER: Potchefstroomse Elektroniese Regsblad 11 (2), 170-201</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traditional leadership and independent Bantustans of South Africa: some milestones of transformative constitutionalism beyond Apartheid</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>2009</td>
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<td>SF Khunou</td>
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<tr>
<td>PER: Potchefstroomse Elektroniese Regsblad 12 (4), 81-122</td>
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</tr>
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</table>
The Way Forward (1)

- African research to be made available on a global scale for all to benefit
- African researchers uploaders – not only downloaders
- Work on self-confidence regarding research produced (Lars Bjomshauge) & publishing
- Take ownership, responsibility, lifelong self-learning
- Support & develop local publishing channels; government support
- Transparency – policies clear
The Way Forward (2)

- OA Policies – align with BOAI & register with SHERPA RoMEO
- Quantity more important than quantity – we need less journals
- Peer-review system
- Open source software & philosophy
- Register all high quality OA journals in DOAJ
- Leadership – editors not experts in publishing
- Expand the community, expertise, network
- Also OMP, OCS, ODS, Harvester
The Way Forward (3)

http://africanopenscience.org.za/

African Open Science Platform

Upcoming Scholarly Publishing Workshop November 2017:
Thank you!