Publications, reputation and research

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Publications and the humanities

• Monographs
• Journal articles
• Edited collections, often but not always arising from conferences
• Conference proceedings
• Range of other types of writing and publishing, often connected with impact and public engagement
Mixed messages about career progression

• Get lots of teaching experience
• Demonstrate impact
• Write (successful) grant applications
• Win prizes (for all of the above)
• Organise (and attend) conferences
• Be a good academic citizen
• And publish, publish, publish
Early Career Historians

We are strongly committed to improving the conditions of Early Career Historians and to this end we have been working with History Lab Plus, the network of post-doctoral historians based at the IHR. In 2012 History Lab Plus and the RHS carried out an Early Career Survey of 200 ECRs, both pre- and post-doctoral, which showed concern about working conditions, especially for temporary teaching posts.
Mixed messages about the REF

‘When your research is assessed by the REF panel, it will be read in full by an assessor, who will make a judgement based on what is read, not where it appeared. (You will be told otherwise – perhaps by managers, or scholars in other fields, where practices differ – but the truth is that all history publications submitted to the REF are read by assessors and judged on that basis alone).’

Peter Mandler, President, Royal Historical Society
Concern about signifiers of reputation

- Is it better to publish in a generalist or a specialist journal?
- Is there a hierarchy of journals that everyone else knows about?
- Are some publishers/series more prestigious than others?
- Is an open-access press/journal in some way a risk?
Peer review

• Underpins our understandings of quality, and hence is inextricably linked to reputation and to career progress.
• Stern report: despite challenges, peer review remains the ‘gold standard’.
• Persistence of belief that open access in some way conflicts with rigorous peer review
Anti-plagiarism Checking

A combination of pre-screening and open access is the best possible defence against plagiarism. All articles submitted to Open Library of Humanities journals are automatically screened for plagiarism by the CrossCheck system from CrossRef. This system compares incoming articles to a large database of academic content, and alerts editors to any possible issues.

Rigorous Peer Review

Open Library of Humanities ensures that all research output, in both journals and books, is thoroughly peer review by external reviewers, and offer the option of open peer review if required. Publications of a
Experiments with measuring reputation

• Emerging digital technologies are facilitating experimentation with systems for measuring reputation
• The majority remain closely linked to publication, or to roles on the publishing process
• Some are beginning to recognise levels of social/academic engagement
April 30, 2014

Preserving Your Research Data

By James Baker

Reviewed by Jane Winters, Sharon Howard, William J. Turkel and Adam Crymble
Recommended for Beginning Users

Background

In his 2003 essay 'Scarcity or Abundance' Roy Rosenzweig sought to alert historians to what he called 'the fragility of evidence in the digital era' (Rosenzweig, 736). And whilst his concerns were focused on sources available on the open web, they can easily be...
What if your research doesn’t ‘fit’?

‘Publishing IDR was highlighted as more challenging, particularly in what are regarded within disciplines as the ‘top-tier’ academic journals. A majority of strategic leaders, major funders, and researchers in Social Science, Arts & Humanities, and Engineering identify publishing as a challenge in IDR.’

Landscape Review of Interdisciplinary Research in the UK
(Technopolis, Sept. 2016)
Thank you!

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