Open Access Community Investment Program Investment
Criteria for Open Access Investments

Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication (JLSC)
https://iastatedigitalpress.com/jlsc/

September 1, 2021

Pilot participants will be asked to summarize their request for investment in an “elevator pitch,” and provide responses to or describe how they satisfy the following criteria:

“Elevator Pitch” — Please provide no more than 300 words summarizing how much money you are seeking, for what period of time, the levels/tiers of potential investment, and why you are recommending that stakeholders invest in your journal, resource, or project.

Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication (JLSC) is a peer-reviewed open access journal with no article processing charges. JLSC is particularly interested in the intersection of librarianship and publishing and the resulting role of libraries in both content dissemination and content creation. Related areas of interest include new methods for the dissemination of information and information exchange; the theory and practice of the organization, use and curation of information; and issues related to the review, credentialing, reputation, and impact of scholarly work. This particular focus sets JLSC apart in the field. Related OA journals without author processing charges, such as Insights: the UKSG Journal and LIBER Quarterly are broader in scope and tied with regional associations, whereas the Journal of Electronic Publishing has a somewhat different focus.

Pacific University Libraries published JLSC from its inception in 2012 through mid-2021. In July 2021, JLSC became a publication of the Iowa State University (ISU) Digital Press. JLSC typically publishes between 25 and 30 full length articles and 5 to 10 shorter reviews and editorials per year.

JLSC is indexed by: EBSCO (Library & Information Science Source and Academic Search Premier), Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), and Google Scholar. The journal is available for harvesting via OAI-PMH.

All the editorial support for JLSC is provided by volunteer editors with support from an active editorial board. In the past, Pacific University fully supported JLSC along with a single sponsorship from Oregon State University Library. The ISU Digital Press has committed to fully fund JLSC for fiscal 2021/22 and to provide up to half of the funding for fiscal 2022/23.
JLSC seeks contributions to cover its annual costs and to develop an operating reserve equivalent to one year of its cost. This is $18,000 per year or $90,000 for the five year term of this fundraising cycle.

Resource Overview

1. Description and mission of resource

Heeding Benjamin Franklin’s prescient proposal for “promoting useful knowledge,” the Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication (JLSC) seeks to share useful innovations, both in thought and in practice, with the aim of encouraging scholarly exchange and the subsequent benefits that are borne of scrutiny, experimentation, and debate. As modes of scholarly communication, the technologies and economics of publishing, and the roles of libraries evolve, it is our hope that the work shared in this journal will inform practices that strengthen librarianship and that increase access to the “common Stock of Knowledge.” JLSC is particularly interested in the intersection of librarianship and publishing, and the resulting roles for libraries in both content dissemination and content creation. Related areas of interest include: new methods for the creation, dissemination and exchange of information; the theory and practice of the organization, use and curation of information; and issues related to the review, credentialing, reputation and impact of scholarly work. See: Focus and Scope Statement, https://iastatedigitalpress.com/jlsc/site/about/

Mission information should also be provided society/publisher level. In support of Iowa State University’s land-grant mission to spread knowledge beyond campus walls, the Iowa State University Digital Press aims to:

- Facilitate broad dissemination of knowledge through Open Access publishing and promotion;
- Provide increased opportunities for Iowa State University faculty, students, and staff to share their research;
- Publish quality scholarship in alignment with the university’s curricular and research strengths; and
- Diversify the voices, identities, and perspectives represented in the published record.

The Digital Press hosts and publishes journals, conference proceedings, books, and textbooks in disciplines represented in Iowa State University’s curricular and research programs. Materials published through the press are open access upon publication.

Indicate whether mission supports scholarly researchers and/or the public interest

Scholarly researchers and practitioners, particularly those working in academic libraries.
2. Publishing history
   Continuously published since volume 1, issue 1, published May 15, 2012.

3. Peer review process
   JLSC uses a double anonymous review process for peer-reviewed submissions
   (research, practice, theory, and literature review articles), meaning the authors' and
   reviewers' identities are not revealed to each other during review. Manuscripts within the
   scope will be sent to at least two reviewers. See Peer Review Process at: https://iastatedigitalpress.com/jlsc/site/editorial-policies/.
   JLSC continues to explore open peer review options.

4. Snapshot of resource and society/publisher finances and governance.
   Information provided both at journal and society/publisher level

   Indicate any non-profit status
   The journal itself is not a formal legal entity. The ISU Digital Press is a unit of the
   IUS Library. ISU is the land-grant university of the State of Iowa.

5. Current business model of resource
   JLSC has been a fully open access journal with no fees for authors since its
   founding in 2012. Up until June 2021, JLSC was funded by the Pacific University
   Library with a single sponsorship from Oregon State University. Beginning in July
   2021 Iowa State University Digital Press is providing support for one year and
   half of the funding for a second year. The remaining support will need to come
   from contributions from libraries or individuals.

   If subscription, indicate distribution/sales volume
   N/A

6. Summary of pilot funding request. Include total dollar value sought per year, term
   for which sought, and minimum investment accepted
   JLSC seeks contributions to cover its annual costs. Nearly all of the costs go to
   copy editing, layout, and accessibility checking. These are estimated at $405 per
   article and $100 per review. In addition, journal hosting is $500 per year. If JLSC
   publishes 30 articles and 10 reviews this is an annual cost of $13,550.

   In addition, over the next five years JLSC wishes to create a reserve fund equal
to one year’s operating expenses to make it possible to cover unexpected
expenses or to expand the journal as opportunities arise. This requires raising
$2,710 per year.

   Lyrasis fees for participating in the Open Access Community Investment program
are estimated to be $1,740 per year. This will cover marketing, outreach,
invoicing, and contract management.
The annual goal for JLSC is $18,000 and the five year goal is $90,000.

7. Reasons for seeking funding for transition to OA or continued support for OA publication

In order to maintain JLSC as a OA publication with no charges to authors, and the financial constraints that result from the change in publisher, JLSC needs to seek a broader network of support. We also believe that broad community support would strengthen the reputation of the journal in the field if we highlight its inclusive organization and the support of multiple libraries. Given the nature of the journal, we find it an excellent example to showcase a non-profit approach to OA without article processing fees, supported by library and individual contributions.

Impact

8. Disciplinary impact. Point, if possible, to an annual report with stats showing impact; data from other institutions who have adopted it.

N/A

9. Diversity, equity, and inclusion impact. Inclusion of diverse voices; promotion of publishing opportunities for underrepresented scholars, societies, or groups.


The diversification of the voices, identities, and perspectives represented in the published record is a core aspect of the ISU Digital Press's mission. The press's diversity policy is: The Iowa State University Digital Press is committed to increasing the diversity of voices that are represented in the scholarly record. We welcome journals, conferences, and edited volumes that seek to publish submissions from students, emerging scholars, authors from underrepresented groups, in languages other than English, and voices from outside academia. We strongly encourage journal editors and conference organizers to build editorial boards and peer reviewer pools that are inclusive of a diversity of identities, geographies, perspectives, and lived experiences appropriate to the scope of the journal or conference.

10. Indicators of faculty impact or student success. Include usage statistics.

JLSC is not indexed by Web of Science nor Scopus and so does not have an impact factor.

Lens.org documents that (after removing duplicates) 145 of the 234 articles published by JLSC since 2012 were cited 796 times. Thus 62% of the articles have been cited on average 4.5 times. The most cited article was cited 82 times.
11. Indication of improved access to unique content or services not otherwise available.

**JLSC** publishes original articles, reviews, and case studies that analyze or describe the strategies, partnerships, and impact of library-led digital projects, online publishing, and scholarly communication initiatives. **JLSC** is one of the few LIS journals which explicitly takes a global view on these topics and is a strong voice on open access issues and attention to diversity and inclusion in LIS.

**Organization & Governance**

12. Whether investment carries governance input. Statement on editorial independence or whether investors have a say in governance or article selection/journal direction.

A contract between the editors and the publisher empowers the editors with the final say on the content of the journal.

Sponsorship/investment does not give particular governance rights or a say in editorial decisions, but **JLSC** is committed to provide transparency, both in the financial structure of the journal and publication costs, and the editorial processes. Sponsors can therefore at any time request information of this sort.

13. Commitment to advancing social justice and diversity. Include if applicable:

Resource respects cultural heritage through advocacy of data sovereignty or use of TK Labels; resource has commitment to diversity in mission statement; commitment to diversity in the board or development of journal, etc.

**See:** JLSC Editors & Editorial Board. (2020). A Commitment to Anti-racism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion from JLSC. Journal of Librarianship and Scholarly Communication, 8(General Issue), eP2398, September 18, 2020, https://doi.org/10.7710/2162-3309.2398.

14. Author rights retention & licensing

Articles in **JLSC** are published under a CC BY license. See Copyright Policy at: [https://iastatedigitalpress.com/jlsc/submissions/](https://iastatedigitalpress.com/jlsc/submissions/)

15. Compliance with relevant technical standards. Include if relevant: LOCKSS preservation or some other form of industry-standard preservation, FAIR data, meets interoperability standards (discovery layer, OAI-PMH), meets user
experience standards (ADA accessibility), reference to metadata and discovery standards

JLSC is preserved using Portico and, as part of the migration to the ISU Digital Press, the journal will also be archived in CLOCKSS. The journal is available for harvesting via OAI-PMH.

16. Commitment to innovation and research & development

Transitioning to ISU Digital Press and the decision to move to the publishing software Janeway was partially driven by the desire for an innovative publication process, making the most of the possibilities of digital forms of scholarly communication. JLSC is committed, together with ISU Digital Press and the developers of Janeway, to continue on this path of research & development in scholarly publishing.

17. Demonstration of operational and financial stability, or a plan for such

JLSC has successfully and continuously operated since 2012. It has a strong and active board. It has successfully transitioned its editorial team and recently migrated to a new publisher. This demonstrates the strength of JLSC as an organization.

The financial plan that is proposed is modest. It will likely require contributions from 35 to 45 organizations. In the spring of 2021, JLSC conducted a quick feasibility study asking libraries about their willingness to support JLSC. Of the 26 respondents, seven indicated a willingness to support JLSC and fourteen asked to be contacted when JLSC began its fundraising campaign. We believe this represents a strong level of support in the library community for JLSC.