CICASP Seminar in Science Communication: Summary & Outline

SUMMARY
CICASP Seminar in Science Communication #104
Publish or perish: a walk through the publication process #2
Wednesday, May 22nd, 2019

In the second workshop of this block, the topic was review process, which is critical for a scientific paper to get published. Participants discussed the reviewing process from the perspectives of the editor, reviewer, and author, respectively. The reviewing criteria may vary with different kinds of journals. Some require the study to have **novelty and impact**, while others only require **scientific soundness**. We talked about the responsibilities of the **handling editor**. Participants were introduced to the guide for the handling editors of a journal. We also talked about the roles of the **reviewer**. Participants were introduced to tips of reviewing a paper professionally, and questions and criteria for reviewers from two journals. Being a reviewer can be recognized and have benefits in some ways, although it is a non-profit job in most cases. We talked about rules of writing responses to reviewers. Students shared their "horror" stories in dealing with editors and reviewers, and we also discussed the peer-review system in general. The "horror" stories revealed that problems can happen in the peer-review system, but it is well-recognized and there hasn't been a matured alternative system so far. However, there is some endeavor in improving the system, "Peerage of Science" (https://www.peerageofscience.org/), where researchers can review the posted manuscripts freely and the authors can use these reviews in submitting to certain journals, thus facilitating the publishing process.

OUTLINE
CICASP Seminar in Science Communication #105
Publish or perish: a walk through the publication process #3
5 PM-, Wednesday, May 29th, 2019 (PRI Large Conference Room)

For all graduate students in the doctoral program, one thing is certain: you must publish at least one paper in an international scientific journal. It can be challenging to navigate the world of publishing, so this block of workshops is aimed at helping you familiarize with the process and provide useful tips of the trade to bring you confidence - if not immediate success - in your efforts.

The next workshop in the series (Wednesday, May 29th) will focus on writing the **cover letter**. We will have an overview of the function of cover letter and how to write a good cover letter. Students will work in groups to practice choosing the right journal and developing proper strategies to write a cover letter based on the abstracts that will be distributed to them. Different strategies will be used depending on whether the study is written for more

general groups of readers or specialists in a certain field, whether the study focuses on methodology or empirical research, and whether it is a fundamental or applied study.

*This workshop will not be videocast to WRC, but WRC students are welcome to attend it at PRI. Note that a condensed version of this workshop will be given at WRC on Friday, June 14, from 12:30~14:30 on the 3rd fl, WRC building.

**Students who would like to discuss their cover letters, are welcome to send them to us by the noon of May 29th, Wednesday. Both cover letters used in the past or to be submitted are welcome. We will discuss them and help you improve the cover letters.

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Schedule of CICASP workshops [Spring 2019]

April Block (17, 24) - *Grant Writing Masterclass*
- JSPS fellowship applications, general grant writing concepts and tips, communication skills

May Block (15, 22, 29) - *Publish or Perish: a walk through the publication process*
- exploring journals and publishing options, submitting a paper, creating a cover letter, dealing with editors, reviewers and online submission systems, etc...

June Block (5, 12(?), 19; July 3) - *Presenting Effectively for dummies*
- basic concepts in presenting effectively, contrasting good and 'bad' talks, practice for upcoming conferences

July Block (7, 17, 31) - *Visual Storytelling: a picture is worth (at least) a 250 word abstract*
- practice developing (multimedia) visual aids for science communication to variable audiences, develop resources for upcoming events (e.g. CICASP 10th Anniversary, 12th International PWS Symposium (September 2019), etc.

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