3-27-2015

Scholarly Communication as a Tool for Social Justice and Diversity

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Scholarly Communication as a Tool for Social Justice and Diversity

Abstract
Countless studies and personal narratives have demonstrated that cultural, racial, and gender bias influence important aspects of academia, including traditional book and journal publishing. Scholarly communications and LIS publishing can challenge the traditional modes of publishing both in format and in content. Panelists discussed their work in this area, addressing topics like race, culture, sexuality, and gender in formats like print books, online journals, and institutional repositories.

Disciplines
Library and Information Science | Scholarly Communication

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Scholarly Communication as a Tool for Social Justice and Diversity

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Harrison Inefuku, Digital Repository Coordinator, Iowa State University
What Happens Before? A Field Experiment Exploring How Values Shape Bias on the Path

Katherine L. Rowe
University of Pennsylvania

Modupe Akinlabi
Columbia University - CoAS

Dolly Chakravarty
New York University (NYU) - Leonard N. Stern School of Business; New York City;

December 2018


U.S. and Them
The Geography of Academic Research

Jishnu Das
Quy-Toan Do
Karen Shaines
Sowmya Srinivasan

The World Bank
Development Research Group
Poverty and Inequality Team &
Human Development and Public Services Team
December 2009

Tips for Finding a Great Mentor: Be White and Be Male
By Kay Waldman

According to Katty Kay and Claire Shipman’s new book, The Confidence Code, the latest scourge for gender equality is women’s crippling lack of self-assurance. Pushback to the book has centered on the idea that female insecurity is a perceptive response to a society that undervalues half its members. Start paying us
Publishing’s Holding Pattern: 2014 Salary Survey

While digital has disrupted much of the industry, some characteristics of the workforce remain the same

By Jim Milliot | Sep 19, 2014

Employees at publishing houses worked a little bit longer each week and made a little more money in 2013 than they did in 2012. Those were just two of the findings of PW’s annual salary survey, which was conducted this summer and which, for the first time, featured a number of questions on racial diversity in the industry. While it’s no surprise that the publishing sector is overwhelmingly white, the lack of diversity is a bit eye-opening. Of the 650 respondents who identified their race, 89% described themselves as white/Caucasian, with 3% selecting Asian and another 3% indicating Hispanic. Only 1% said they are African-American.

The annual survey was sent to nearly 7,500 PW subscribers who work at publishing houses, and a total of about 800 responded. Sixty-one percent of respondents, including 60% of those who identified as white, said that there is little diversity in publishing, while 28% were ambivalent. Only 11% said they think diversity is not an issue.

Racial Makeup of Publishers

- White/Caucasian: 89%
- Asian: 3%
- Hispanic: 3%
- Mixed race: 3%
- Black/African-American: 1%
- Other: 1%

Publishers’ Views on Industry Diversity

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement: (5=strongly agree; 1=strongly disagree) The publishing industry suffers from a lack of racial diversity?

- 5: 28%  
- 4: 33%  
- 3: 28%  
- 2: 7%  
- 1: 14%
From ALA Demographics Studies
September 2014

87.10%
4.30%
3.70%
3.50%
1.10%
0.30%

White  Black or African American  Other  Asian  American Indian or Alaska Native  Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

2.8% of respondents report having a disability.

http://www.ala.org/research/sites/ala.org.research/files/content/initiatives/membershipsurveys/September2014ALADemographics.pdf
Scholarly communication is systemically flawed.

HOW DO WE SOLVE THE PROBLEM?
How can our small scholarly journal that we all care about a lot survive?
Why aren't you publishing TSQ as a free, open-source journal?

Some people have asked us why we don't self-publish, or produce a cheaper online-only journal. There are a couple of reasons for this. One important consideration, however pretentious it might sound, is prestige and respectability. Because our goal is to change the way the world thinks about transgender issues, we are marshaling all of our intellectual and cultural “capital” to create an authoritative, peer-reviewed publication venue with an elite university press, with an editorial board filled with accomplished and well-credentialed scholars, so that we have the most credible and persuasive voice possible in the marketplace of ideas. We think this is especially important given the newness of transgender studies as a field, and the stigma often attached to transgender lives. We are determined to produce a journal that demands to be taken seriously. Duke gives transgender studies a lot of credibility.

Why do you have to raise so much money?

It takes a lot of money to launch a new journal, and Duke University Press is taking a big risk in agreeing to publish TSQ. They estimate that it will require somewhere between $100,000 and $200,000 in outlays before the journal becomes profitable, in about Year 5 of publication. To offset that risk, our contract with Duke asks us partner with them to raise at least $100,000 to underwrite the cost of launching TSQ. This is an increasingly common practice among academic publishers, which often operate at a loss in order to support the mission of publishing non-commercial contemporary scholarship.
Occupy Wall Street (OWS) and the Occupy movement across the United States. The commune-like camp sites and use of the people’s microphone, the provocative refusal to accommodations, the percolation of working groups and collective explosion of revolutionary ferment, and condemnation of corporate inequalities that structure our “city” teach-ins, the campaigns, and—all these elements of Occupy—might happen in our protestors opposed in vigorous defense. At Brooklyn College in the fall of 2011, At Brooklyn College, one of us teaches; students brought their campus by leading a series of general assemblies in the central quad and in the lobby of the building. These assemblies, groups, and events, designed to share and spread, led to radicalization. They were often short-lived, and a few numbers, they created spaces where students, staff, community members—could show their knowledge to an emergent understanding and to other solutions. They were small, but they were significant and significant in size. They were significant in how they gathered, how they listened, how they spoke. They were significant in how they learned to be together.
Leonard inserting his first title.
Leonard, after we learned how to format pull quotes.

Teaching Across Borders

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Richard Ohmann
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"It's Not Personal, It's Business: or Teaching Structural Explanation" (at an HBCU)
Greg Meyerson
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The *Journal of Critical Thought and Praxis* is a peer-reviewed online journal that provides a space for emerging scholars, educators, and activists to engage in critical and progressive interdisciplinary scholarship and dialogue that supports awareness of social justice issues and challenges individuals to move towards advocacy and concrete engagement with social justice movements. JCTP is also committed to providing all authors with developmental feedback that helps clarify, sharpen, and communicate ideas and arguments in a manner accessible to a broad social justice community.
Journal of Critical Thought and Praxis

http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/jctp/

Thank you!

Cameron Beatty, Andres Lopez, Gabrielle Roesch-McNally, Danica Schieber, Cristobal Salinas, Jr.
Now you’ve seen some examples, let’s do some work.

BUT FIRST, ANY QUESTIONS?
Scholarly Communication Action Plan

• Mission
  How does this tie into the organizational mission and/or the mission of stakeholders?

• Goals/Objectives
  • Specific
  • Measurable
  • Attainable
  • Relevant
  • Time-bound

• Barriers
## Scholarly Communication Action Plan

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QUESTIONS?