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Learned Publishing is the journal of ALPSP published in collaboration with SSP

The journal is renowned for giving authoritative information about scholarly publishing. Read by publishers, librarians, academics and others working in publishing around the world, Learned Publishing has a fully international authorship. Articles on all aspects of publishing are included – from authorship, reviewing, technology, marketing and discoverability to new initiatives, readership, data, internationalisation – and more.

Occasional special issues are produced in addition to a themed issue in January each year. These include Peer Review in January 2016, University Press Redux in October 2016, Discoverability in January 2017 and Accessibility in January 2018. The theme for January 2019 will be: Question Everything: the future of scholarly publishing.

- Quarterly publication, in print and online
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Article from January 2018

Why accessibility is hard and how to make it easier: Lessons from Publishers

Bill Kasdorf

Learned Publishing 2018; 31: 11 -18. doi: 10.1002/leap.1146

Abstract

The requirements for providing publications in an accessible form have recently become much clearer and easier to comply with. They are based on standard web accessibility guidelines that are commonly used globally, and the format for interchange is EPUB, a format many publishers already produce in their normal production process. Nevertheless, accessibility still proves difficult to accomplish for most publishers. This article refers to informal interviews and the author’s own experiences to examine the issues that are challenging to publishers and their suppliers, assessing the level of effort required to address them, discussing the factors that make them difficult, and suggesting strategies for reducing the effort required. The article concludes that the best solution is to build accessibility into the publication workflow upfront as this can dramatically reduce the cost and effort required to make publications accessible.
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- If you have a new product or initiative, or want to review recent publishing developments, then an **Industry Update** would be a great way to inform other publishers.

- If you have strong opinions and perspectives on developments, trends and changes in the industry, we would welcome your thoughts – considered **Opinion Pieces** are well read.

The journal is targeted at scholarly publishers and is read worldwide. Being freely available to all ALPSP and SSP members means your article can reach 1000s of people working in scholarly and professional publishing (we also offer optional OA).

All articles are peer reviewed, giving you valuable feedback to help improve the article for publication, and – if accepted – your article will be published ahead of issue via Early View.

**Pre-submission enquiries**

We welcome enquiries about future research projects, ideas for articles or thematic issues.

Contact Pippa Smart, Editor-in-Chief: **editor@alpsp.org**

US Editor, Lettie Conrad: **us-editor@alpsp.org**

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Themed issues and Special issues

The January issue
The first issue of the year is a themed issue to allow more in-depth consideration of an area of scholarly publishing. We invite authors, and also call for papers on the topic which is set the previous year.

January 2019: Question everything – the future of scholarly publishing
For scholarly and professional publishing, there are certain “truths” we hold as self-evident – but global cultural & technological forces in today’s information economy are bringing us to question the status quo. Are we operating under assumptions that are evidence-based and borne out in the research literature? Or, have we accepted age-old maxims without putting them to the test? As Learned Publishing turns 30, we are planning a special issue that looks into the future of publishing through the window of evidence rather than tradition and assumption.

Previous issues
January 2018: Accessibility
Articles included:
- Towards universal accessibility: The UK policy landscape and supporting technology
- Beyond the mandates: The far-reaching benefits of multimedia accessibility
- The ScienceDirect accessibility journey: A case study
- Do you have a broken link in your accessibility chain?

January 2017: Discoverability
January 2016: Peer Review

Special issues
We publish occasional special issues. Our next one planned for 2018 is:

Special issue on the University Press Redux
Following the 2018 University Press Conference, this online-only issue will collect new research, case studies and opinions from key leaders in the field of university press publishing.
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