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# The Academic Medical Library as Online Publisher

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**Presenter Information**

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**Keywords**

Library publishing, institutional repositories, open access, e-journals, e-books, conference proceedings

**Comments**

This poster was awarded "Most Informative in Communicating e-Science Librarianship" at the 2013 e-Science Symposium.

Also presented at the 2013 Medical Library Association Annual Meeting, Boston, Mass., May 7, 2013.

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## Background

The Library launched its institutional repository in 2006 and developed a mature collection of peer-reviewed articles, posters, and conference proceedings. Beginning in 2009, the Library sought to expand the use of the repository and partnered with two academic departments, Neurology and Psychiatry, to publish electronic journals.

In the spring of 2011 the Library began to explore the idea of publishing its own peer-reviewed, open access electronic journal. Planning and implementation considerations included: choosing a unique and appropriate name; infrastructure and hosting options; organizational and governance structure; roles and responsibilities; journal structure and content; aims and scope; editorial, peer review and other policies and procedures; and dissemination. Simultaneously the Library undertook the publishing of its first electronic book, where issues of presentation, page turning features, photo placement, and indexing became significant.

## Publishing Challenges

### Technology/Infrastructure

- Graphic design skills and experience
- Incorporating DOI maintenance tasks
- Multimedia inclusion and presentation

### Workflow/Editorial Management

- Finding peer reviewers
- Communicating with authors and copy editors
- Staffing roles and responsibilities
- Efficient workflows
- Marketing/promotion and communications

### Sustainability

- Content recruitment
- Increasing readership
- Staff capacity to support new projects
- Sharing maintenance tasks with content providers

## Repository Advantages

Utilizing the institutional repository for publishing purposes offers a number of advantages. The repository provides a tested infrastructure for ingesting and sharing of documents. The repository administrator possesses strong in-house expertise, experience with embargoes, metadata, preservation and dissemination, and most importantly, has built strong relationships and trust with faculty and researchers. The open access platform leads to wider dissemination and maximum impact, backed up by reliable usage statistics.

## Conclusions

- Academic medical libraries can successfully publish as well as host online journals, books, and conference proceedings
- Locking publications for revisions speeds up workflows
- Helpful planning guides and other resources are available
- Utilize professional copy editing services

## E-Journals

### NEUROLOGICAL BULLETIN

FEATURING ARTICLES BY TRAINEES IN NEUROLOGY & NEUROSCIENCE

**Status:** 3 live open access e-journals, 2 in development

**Established Content Partners:** Department of Psychiatry; Department of Neurology

**Unique Challenges:** Governance; Managing peer review process; DOI assignment; Indexing and abstracting service considerations; Content recruitment; Highly customized

**Achievements:** ISSNs; CrossRef membership; Inclusion in DOAJ; Positive readership patterns

### Journal of eScience Librarianship

putting the pieces together: theory and practice

### Psychiatry Information in Brief

A Center for Mental Health Services Research and Career Development and Research Office Publication

UMass Department of Psychiatry  
Massachusetts Department of Mental Health

## Conference Proceedings

**Status:** 3 open access conference proceedings

**Content Partner:** UMass Center for Clinical and Translational Science

**Unique Challenges:** Content recruitment; Determining structure and presentation

**Achievements:** Integrated multimedia; Improved workflow; Improved access to grey literature



## E-Book

**Status:** 1 open access e-book, 1 in development

**Content Partner:** Office of Medical History and Archives

**Unique Challenges:** Page turning; Photo placement; Indexing; Numerous revisions

**Achievements:** Embedded PDF with page turning features

