HELPING FLEDGLING JOURNALS LEAVE THE NEST: SOLICITING ARTICLES
Where a Journal Starts

- The mind of an academic
- The promotion of a tool
- The professional service of librarians
The Mind of an Academic

- A desire to launch a journal but with no idea of where to start
- An area of specialization that is new, or a field that has yet to attract traditional publishers
- A need to publish material that a traditional journal is unable to support
The promotion of a tool

- Give presentations about the IR to anyone and everyone who will listen
- Show them more than just a bibliography
- Always include information and examples of the journal management capabilities
Changing Systems Through Empirical Study and Innovative Practices

Articles

- **Client Satisfaction Survey for HIV/AIDS Dental Care Services: An Example from Rural Texas**
- **Parental Perceptions of Independence and Efficacy of Their Children with Visual Impairments**
- **The Development of School Psychology Assessment Centers as a Training, Service Delivery, and Research Site**
- **Supporting Systems Change: A Participatory Decision-Making Positive Behavioral Intervention and Support Program Development**
- **The Impact of Length of Stay on Adjudicated Youth: Language Use, Focusing on Linguistic Analysis of Verbal Samples**
The Professional Service of Librarians

- Familiarity with various avenues of scholarly communication across multiple disciplines
- In depth knowledge of the publishing platform, providing informed advice, and hands on experience of how each process on the platform works
- Librarians must offer more than a platform and the siren song of OA
Task Definition

- Collaboration

- When filling out a form is more than just filling out a form

- Consensus
Services of Traditional Publishers

- If libraries want to be taken seriously as publishers they need to provide services commensurate to those of traditional publishers
The Work of the Editors Begins

- # 9 “Solicitation of materials”

- Soliciting articles should start as early as possible

- Multiple methods should be exploited and should go beyond list-serves and emails
From the Editors

- Sent questionnaires to all the editors of our new OA journals

- Found out how they tried to solicit articles, and how well it worked
Journal of Geospatial Applications in Natural Resources

- Posted flyers with all accredited forestry programs in the country
- Posted flyers at national and regional conferences.
Manuscript Solicitation Notice

The Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture, in conjunction with Stephen F. Austin State University, publishes the *Journal of Geospatial Applications in Natural Resources* with The Center for Digital Scholarship via bepress. The focus of the journal is to publish via a rapid double-blind peer-review process articles that apply geospatial technology to quantify, qualify, map, monitor, and manage natural resources.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit manuscripts ready for the peer-review process for the premier issue scheduled in early 2016. We are confident that this exciting new opportunity will allow natural resource professionals an outlet for their applied geospatial research within a natural resource context.

Specific information regarding the *Journal of Geospatial Applications in Natural Resources* Author Guidelines, Author Template Guide, and its Aims and Scope please email: unger@sfasu.edu

Daniel R. Unger, Professor of Spatial Science

Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Geospatial Applications in Natural Resources
Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture
Stephen F. Austin State University
P.O. Box 6109 SFA
Nacogdoches, TX 75962-6109
Phone: 936-468-2234
FAX: 936-468-2489
E-mail: unger@sfasu.edu
Another Editor

- List-serves of forestry, natural resource management, and spatial science related list serves
- Direct requests through email
- Facebook
- My faculty web page
Other Journals Took Different Routes
The journal has a board of 22 editors.

The Executive Editor works with board members who can serve as editors or reviewers.

Dr. Robbie Steward set up a three-step process for selecting editors to prepare them to solicit articles.
Cast a Broad Net When Recruiting Editors

- Wanted to recruit both National and International scholars as editors
- Wanted all disciplines in Human Services represented
Cultivated Editors With Certain Characteristics

- Editors who demonstrate a commitment to take on the expected workload
- Editors who demonstrate through training their willingness to work in a positive way with scholars even if their submission was rejected
- Editors that understood and desired to achieve a high level of competitiveness and impact envisioned by Dr. Steward
Solicit Articles Through Newly Created Social Network

- Solicit articles from editorial board
- Additionally editors where to solicit articles from their own campus
- Finally editors contacted colleagues and prior students from other campuses
MLET

- Is published for the Professors of Middle Level Education in Texas a regional affiliate association
- Distributed flyers at several discipline related conferences
- Talked with and solicited articles from presenters at the association’s regional and national conferences
What Else Did They Have to Say

- It was difficult to recruit enough reviewers.
- If they had gone out and beat the bushes for articles they could have doubled their submissions.
- They needed to work harder to get all of the editors involved in soliciting articles.
- They appreciated the library's support and leadership and wanted to know they could solicit more submissions.
Some Best Practices

- Start early, content is almost always the hold up
- Take advantage of targeted professional organizations
- Use or even create social networks
- Use individual relationships with colleagues you already know
- Approach speakers at related conferences
- Still use emails and listservs
Some Additional Tricks to Try

- Search databases for articles that you wish had been in your journal and contact the author.
- Use Google Scholar to find these articles and contact authors that cited the article or that wrote related articles.
R Philip Reynolds
Scholarly Communications Librarian
Ralph W. Steen Library
Stephen F. Austin State University
preynolds@sfasu.edu

THANK YOU