

Letters from Editor's Desk



We are at a paradigm shift in the evolution of scholarly publishing. The goals of scholarly publishing have always been to share new knowledge while staking originality claims of the knowledge creator. Today, new models of scholarly publishing are emerging. In a globally connected electronic environment it is no longer easy to control access and distribution of publications. New models of open access, instantaneous annotation and commentary, multimedia components, and data archives that accompany published results bring a renaissance in knowledge production as well as substantial challenges to the entire publishing enterprise.

In the midst of these changes the Journal of Information Science Theory and Practice (JISTaP) arrives as a bridge between peer-reviewed journals and the emergent online amalgam of bits from authors, reviewers, readers, and annotators. Establishing and sustaining quality and reputation in a new journal will require attention to the global research community, to electronic technologies that allow perfect copies and instant mass distribution and multimedia forms of expressions, and to new models for including supplementary materials and storing the papers, data, and ancillary objects associated with the scholarly process. It will require efficient work flows and attention to new models of access and delivery.

This is truly an auspicious time for an innovative publishing enterprise and JISTaP is driven by several principles that will guide it in serving as a scholarly bridge and meeting these challenges. These principles include:

- Peer review. We are in an age where relevance as the key element of selection is giving way to credibility and quality control. JISTaP is committed to insuring that contributions are critically examined by scholars who are actively engaged in the area of research or practice discussed in the paper.
- Broad view of information science. JISTaP welcomes both theoretical and applied work from scholars working across the full range of information and library science. It encourages diverse points of views and methodologies and active debate and commentary. This is especially important in a rapidly evolving field.
- Global perspective. JISTaP aims to attract the brightest talent and best thinking from Asia and the entire world. JISTaP is an English language journal, however it aims to manage name authority in novel ways and to represent global experi-

ence, expression, and thought from multiple cultural perspectives.

- Open to change. JISTaP recognizes that scholarly publishing is in transition and is committed to trying new publication practices as long as they are in concert with the principles above. We welcome ideas from the information science community.

JISTaP has been launched as a paper-based journal with electronic access and will depend on an editorial board of distinguished scholars for peer review. We recognize that static text is not enough today and expect that authors will increasingly want to provide active figures and tables (e.g., spreadsheet rather than a snapshot), multimedia (e.g., user interface prototypes that show dynamics of interaction; animations or videos of workflows), and provide underlying research data. We welcome suggestions for ways to encourage and manage these developments over the coming years. We are committed to providing extensive metadata to support findability and understanding. One innovation is the use of QR codes for each article to encode author information that will help uniquely identify authors and their institutions. We will add multilingual abstracts for articles and plan to incorporate annotations and social media that makes articles and the journal living documents that drive research and practice in the information field. We welcome your participation, suggestions, and patience as we build this bridge across the interdisciplinary field and march from the limitation of paper-based publishing to the emerging hybrid of paper+electronic knowledge dissemination and preservation.

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