



"How to Publish": The Journal of Health Policy and Economics' first seminar

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On May 4th, 2021, the [Journal of Health Policy and Economics \(JOHPEC\)](#) held its first seminar, "How to Publish", coordinated and chaired by Amir Mohsenpour, an Assistant Editor of the JOHPEC.

The Seminar welcomed LSE guest speakers Dr. Edgar Whitley (Department of Management), Lucy Lambe (LSE Library, Houghton Street Press), and Hannah Boroudjou (LSE Library) for a 90 minute-seminar discussing the publishing cycle of academic papers in journals and [the resources offered to LSE students and alumni to aid them throughout the publication process](#). The guest speaker presentations were then followed by an overview of the JOHPEC publishing cycle presented by Amir, with information on how prospective authors could prepare their article for submission to the JOHPEC.

Lucy started off the seminar by conceptualising publishing as a key tool in academia that allows the exchange of insights with a large audience worldwide, supporting the transfer and translation of evidence to other settings or countries.

Additionally, the results of publications enable other researchers and practitioners to read, critically appraise and give feedback to one's work, facilitating the overall advancement of knowledge in their discipline. This is especially important as a young researcher, as having a list of publications adds to their CV and improves their career prospects.

Finally, Lucy introduced the audience to key criteria that one should evaluate when deciding on a journal. This included the journal's readership, its rigour in peer-review and manuscript selection as well as the journal's reach, indexation in scientific databases and the articles' accessibility (e.g., by open access publication – giving everyone free access to the article).

Next, Hannah presented the importance of publishing concrete research data. Besides supporting the preservation of one's data in the long-term, and enabling replication studies to validate research findings, an increasing number of funders require such forms of data sharing. Data publication serves an ever more important role in ensuring a high quality, collaborative and open research environment while living up to modern ideas and responsibilities of publicly funded research.

In order to meet the different needs of researchers and their datasets, three levels of access are usually distinguished: "open", for data which are available to all and contain non-sensitive, fully anonymised data; "safeguarded", which translates to data published as part of larger

repositories and thus available to all registered users; and finally, “controlled” accessibility for highly sensitive data which are only available on reasonable request through an application.

Last but not least, Edgar presented and discussed the behind-the-scenes of journals upon the submission of a manuscript. Firstly, the editors and review managers ensure the suitability of a manuscript for the journal’s scope of research as well as screen for questions of formatting and fundamental technical flaws. If this process does not lead to a so-called “desk rejection”, the manuscript is forwarded to appropriate researchers for the peer-review.

Peer-review serves an essential role in the publishing cycle. Every submission undergoes a review by fellow researchers knowledgeable in the manuscript’s research topic. This ensures quality publications of scientific validity and of high value to the journal’s readers. To achieve a smooth peer-review process and a successful collaboration with the editors, it is essential for authors to adhere to a journal’s guidelines for submission and ensure timely communication and responses to editors.

With consent from all speakers and attendees, the seminar was recorded. The full recording can be found [here](#) (Password: 7NVbmBp%).

The JOHPEC would like to thank its guest speakers for helping make its first seminar a successful one, as well as the 79 registrants who expressed interest in the seminar, and the 44 attendees who tuned in on the day from around the world.

The JOHPEC accepts and reviews health-related manuscripts in the form of research articles, method articles, literature reviews, policy briefs and commentaries year-round. For more information about author submission guidelines, please click [here](#).

We’re always looking to improve our events and expand the publishing knowledge of our prospective authors. If you have suggestions for future events, please fill in this form: <https://forms.office.com/r/nN87zubviQ>.

About the guest speakers:

[Dr. Edgar Whitley](#) is an Associate Professor (Reader) of Information Systems. He has a BSc (Econ) and PhD in Information Systems, both from the LSE. He is the co-editor of Information Technology and People, Senior Editor for the Journal of Information Technology and the AIS Transactions of Replication Research and an Associate Editor for the Journal of the AIS.

[Lucy Lambe](#) is the Scholarly Communications Officer at the LSE Library. She provides publishing support to research students and academics. This includes finding the right place to publish books and journal articles, queries around intellectual property, sharing their work online and using scholarly social networks (“[Where Should I publish? Choosing and Evaluating Journal for Publication](#)”) She is currently working on a project to implement a publishing platform for open access journals based at LSE.

[Hannah Boroudjou](#) is the Research Data Librarian. She joined LSE library in 2018 as part of the subscriptions team and has previously worked for City, University of London and in public libraries. She is also the Co-Founder and Co-Chair of EARLL, the professional network for Early career Librarians in Academic and Research Libraries in London. Hannah can offer help with data related enquiries including data management plans, data archiving, requests for secure data, and special data access agreements.