

ARTICLE PUBLICATION IN REPUTABLE INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS: DIFFICULTIES, STRATEGIES, AND SUPPORT SYSTEMS

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ABSTRACT

Abstract

Publication in reputable international journals is an obligation that must be fulfilled by UNY doctoral students as a graduation requirement. Since it is a relatively new implementation of regulations, quite a number of students encounter various obstacles in their efforts to fulfill the publication requirement. This study aims to: 1) identify the difficulties faced by students/alumni in publishing articles in reputable international journals; 2) explain the strategies used by them, especially those who have succeeded in getting appropriate publications; and 3) formulate development of a support system that can be provided by the institution to support students.

This mixed-methods study combines a survey and interviews to obtain complementary data. The survey was responded by 194 students/alumni and the interviews involved 12 participants, all of whom had published in reputable international journals. Survey data were analyzed based on statistical descriptions by using the SPSS 25 and interview data were analyzed based on qualitative description using the model developed by Miles, Huberman, and Saldana (2014). Data triangulation was carried out by involving all four researchers.

Difficulties of students/alumni in publishing in reputable international journals can be classified into psychological barriers such as lack of confidence and hopelessness; academic barriers such as low English proficiency and difficulties in converting academic writings or research results into manuscripts for journal articles; and the difficulty of time and funds for publication. Academic barriers, time problems, and funds can affect the psychological aspect. To overcome the existing difficulties, students apply internal and external strategies. Most of the survey respondents implemented the internal strategies, such as selecting topics and areas of study, revising manuscripts and submitting them to other journals, and reading many articles in the target journals. In contrast to the interview participants, more respondents experienced difficulty in time for preparing their manuscripts. In addition to the internal strategies, the interview participants also applied the external strategies: asking questions to, asking for help from, or collaborating with lecturers or colleagues. They also often attended various workshops and coaching clinics. Regarding the support system for the preparation and publication process (such as workshops, coaching clinics, availability of accessible rules and guidebooks, and language services) and the system for attaining publication certificates, the survey and interview participants stated that the system was good and needed to be maintained. However, there are several proposals to improve and add a new support system. For example, socialization of activities needs to be carried out more broadly and as early as possible, leveling of activities should be done and be based on the semester or year of the student force, and policies have to be implemented consistently. It is also proposed that institutions consider publication preparing activities as mandatory extracurricular activities with a weight of 0 credits. These proposals will be very useful because most of them lead to external strategies, which so far have not been carried out by many students/alumni as indicated by the survey data.

Kata Kunci: *Keywords: international journal, reputable, publication difficulties, publication strategy, support system*