

Title of Session: Publishing Your Work

Moderator: Debra Sprague

Title of File: 20050125publishing

Date: January 25, 2005

Room: Hot Tub Conference Room

CherrylF joined the room.

DebraSp: Hello, Cherryl.

CherrylF: Hello, Debra. Greetings from Wisconsin

DebraSp: While we are waiting, why don't you introduce yourself and tell us what you are interested in.

CherrylF: Have you held this session in Tapped In before? I just heard about it yesterday.

DebraSp: Yes, for about a year now, once a month.

DebraSp: I guess a year and a half.

CherrylF: I attended a conference session at SITE a few years ago regarding publishing in tech journals. I need a refresher.

DebraSp: You came to the right place! I am the editor of SITE's journal. You probably met me at SITE.

CherrylF: Excellent! I'm definitely at the right place.

DebraSp: How far along are you in your Doc program?

CherrylF: I begin in 98, so it is time to write a dissertation proposal

DebraSp: Glad you are at that stage. That is when the real fun begins.

DebraSp: Do you have a research topic?

CherrylF: The critical word is "a". I'm a midcareer person who has changed directions a couple of times since beginning the program.

DebraSp: What do you want to know about publishing, Cherryl? I tend to keep these informal and try to address the participants' questions/needs. Since it appears you are the only one coming tonight, you get to set the agenda.

DebraSp laughs

CherrylF: Richard Panek (2004) in his New York Times report "101 Redefined"

CherrylF: discusses the movement to replace large-enrollment passive student

CherrylF: I'm very interested in the conversion of large enrollment passive student lectures with interactive engagement courses. I taught a big gen ed courses with lectures of 350 students and began adding technology components.

CherrylF: In regards to publishing, I would like to write a piece regarding ethics in online instruction and perhaps review a book.

DebraSp: I had a student who was interested in the same thing. He was helping a faculty member in a large lecture course try to find ways to integrate technology. He had some success, but I do not know if he ever published the results.

DebraSp: So this would be an op-ed piece as opposed to a research article?

CherrylF: I'm not sure what direction to take.

DebraSp: I am not sure how you would do a research study on ethics in online learning unless you developed a survey or did interviews to gather people's opinions.

CherrylF: I'm also wondering if I should start with something like a book review

DebraSp: A book review is a good way to start. That was one of my first publications. Also, publishing in something like Leading and Learning is a good beginning.

DebraSp: It is not research driven which tend to be more rigorous.

CherrylF: How do I identify a book?

DebraSp: Sometimes, it is identifying the journal that publishes book reviews, see what they are interested in. I did only one book review and the journal contacted me asking me to do it.

DebraSp: However, you could look at newly published books and see about reviewing one of them.

CherrylF: Does Leading and Learning publish book reviews?

DebraSp: No, I have not seen any in L&L. Education Leadership publishes book reviews, as does Education Technology.

CherrylF: The ASCD journal?

DebraSp: Yes.

CherrylF: Who publishes Education Technology?

DebraSp: It is a magazine published out of New Jersey. I will see if I can find the website.

CherrylF: I'm also drawing a blank on new books. Do you have any ideas?

DebraSp: There have been interesting books recently published on gaming if that interests you.

CherrylF: What kind of gaming?

DebraSp: Video games, online games. What people are learning from playing them, how they can be used in education.

CherrylF: This might be a good stretch for me since I really don't like video games. I'm intrigued by the fact that some students are obsessed with them.

DebraSp: Check out this website. It is for the Education Technology Magazine, also includes a list of new books. <http://www.bookstoread.com/etp/>

CherrylF: The books look interesting. Should I contact Education Technology and see if they are looking for a review?

DebraSp: I find video games intriguing. I do not play them much (very little time), but they interest me as a learning tool.

DebraSp: You can try contacting the editor. He will let you know what he is interested in publishing.

DebraSp: ET is not peer-reviewed so the editor has the final say.

CherrylF: Are there other questions I should ask the editor?

DebraSp: They probably will not publish a negative review of a book they published, might be better to see about reviewing a different book, but he will be able to give you a more accurate response than I.

DebraSp: My journal does not publish book reviews.

DebraSp: If he agrees to a book review, you should ask what the page/word limit is.

CherrylF: What types of pieces do you need for L&L?

DebraSp: I suggest taking a look at back issues of ET to get a sense of what they publish. That will help you in deciding what to do.

DebraSp: L&L is very practitioner oriented. They publish lesson ideas, thought pieces for K-12, some software reviews.

DebraSp: Your ethic issues in online might fit in L&L depending on the spin you put on it.

CherrylF: Do you mean practical things, like submitting papers to plagiarism checks?

DebraSp: That would be of interest to teachers and probably something L&L would be interested in. L&L is not peer-reviewed so you will be dealing directly with the editor.

CherrylF: What about a lesson plan for students to explore legal and ethic concerns with online gaming?

DebraSp: Yes, Cherryl. That would interest them. Keep it to an education focus though, especially when it comes to online gaming.

DebraSp: If it is online gaming for fun, with no clear education value, L&L will probably turn it down.

CherrylF: I have two ideas. One is regarding plagiarism checks and the second one would be lesson plan for students to learn the legal and ethical issues with online gaming. Perhaps this is a follow-up on Napster concerns.

DebraSp: That is a possibility. However, Napster was more focused on higher ed than on K-12. You would need to show that online gaming is prevalent among K-12 students to make it meaningful to teachers.

DebraSp: If you want to focus on college students you might look at Syllabus, a magazine that publishes for higher ed.

CherrylF: Perhaps the plagiarism idea would be the best one to pursue. I think the idea may still be new enough.

DebraSp: Yes, Nancy Willard writes a lot about that topic and you might look at some of her publications.

BJ: Nancy also leads a monthly discussion here in TI

CherrylF: In L&L, do you prefer a general statement of the problem, then focus on practical solutions?

DebraSp: You can tell her I am throwing her name around, BJ.

DebraSp winks

CherryIF: When are Nancy's discussions?

BJ: her next one is scheduled for Feb 17

CherryIF: great, thank you

DebraSp: The best way to find out the style for L&L is to read some of the article they publish. That will give you the format to use.

DebraSp: See L&L's latest issue online at http://www.iste.org/inhouse/publications/11/32/4/index.cfm?Section=LL_32_4

CherryIF: I also need to brush up on L&L. The journals are kind of running together right now.

CherryIF: I first used Tapped In in a class with Gina Amenta-Shin from Pepperdine.

DebraSp: I can understand that. I get so many I barely have time to read them.

CherryIF: I think I would like to start with Practitioner journals since I have tried many of these ideas in the classroom. For my dissertation ideas, I will probably also look at research journals.

CherryIF: I would like to learn more about the research they are doing at MIT. It looks very interesting.

DebraSp: Yes, you will want a research journal to publish your dissertation results. I encourage my students to present their findings at SITE and publish an article from the study.

CherryIF: Where are your students publishing their diss results?

DebraSp: Most, unfortunately, are only publishing in conference proceedings. However, the Journal of Technology and Teacher Education would publish such articles.

CherryIF: If I remember correctly, Tapped In will send me a transcript of this discussion. Is that correct?

BJ nods. About 10 minutes after you log out, Cherryl

DebraSp: Also the Journal of Research on Technology in Education is another place.

DebraSp: One other option is the Journal of Computing in Teacher Education.

CherrylF: Yes, I've been teaching gen ed, so I am aware of how little there is for higher ed in general. Most of the work in technology has been in teacher ed.

DebraSp: True, but AACE publishes several journals and some focus on technology in higher ed and not just teacher ed. Teacher Ed is what I am most familiar with as that is my field.

CherrylF: Debra, thank you so much for your help. I would like to send you some ideas for an article.

DebraSp: That will be fine, Cherryl. My e-mail is dspraguel@gmu.edu Just indicate that you attended one of these sessions.

CherrylF: Thank you!

BJ: Thanks, Debbie. See you next month.

DebraSp: Great. Thank you for coming to chat tonight.