

Re: Predatory?

Rebecca Shapiro <rebecca.alice.shapiro@gmail.com>

Sun 3/28/2021 10:39 AM

To: Monica Berger <MBerger@citytech.cuny.edu>;

Hi Monica, I can't believe time flies! It turns out that the editor may just be a jerk. My colleague, who is from the South, is much more polite while still being as direct and was able to sort out the problem. But we have definitely learned some things about inter-cultural manners and attitudes.

Thank you so much for investigating for me, your work is invaluable.

Best, Rebecca

Rebecca Shapiro &*

On Mon, Mar 15, 2021 at 1:46 PM Monica Berger <MBerger@citytech.cuny.edu> wrote:

Hi Rebecaa: One thing (now I'm on my laptop instead of my ipad) ... the university behind the journal is a for-profit owned by Bertelsmann Publishing geared to international students. I never heard of it.

They index in Index Copernicus which is widely considered to be an index for predatory journals. But beyond that, I didn't see anything concerning. They don't charge article processing charges which presumably all predatory journals do (although I suspect there are some that don't). The editorial board is heavily non-American. I suspect that the unprofessionalism might be linked to the editor in chief and his contacts.

In general, it's not bad to google "name of journal" reputation before submitting. Even with major corporate publishers. I couldn't find anything useful here but usually complaints show up if there is a problem.

A European initiative QOAM is also helpful. It allows authors to share information about their experience with open access journals. This journal has not been rated yet. I think QOAM is meant for authors after publication. In general, it's hard to find out much about the journal that is external.

best, Monica

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From: Monica Berger
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 12:02:13 PM
To: Rebecca Shapiro
Subject: Re: Predatory?

That's terrible. Small scholar-led publishers can be quirky but this sounds beyond weird. Either you get a desk rejection off the bat or one after the first major revision but most reviewers and editors just keep working with the author until they are satisfied. I just reviewed an article that went through at least three rounds of revision but I would never reject it after everyone's time investment since the author had an interesting and valuable premise.

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From: Rebecca Shapiro <rebecca.alice.shapiro@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 11:43:18 AM
To: Monica Berger <MBerger@citytech.cuny.edu>
Subject: Re: Predatory?

Thank you for your fast response. The situation is that two colleagues and I submitted a paper three years ago and it was rejected after multiple requests for revisions. That in itself is not unexpected but despite our attempts at vetting the journal, the editor and process turned out to be exceedingly bizarre and more than suspect.

Best, Rebecca

Rebecca Shapiro &*

On Mon, Mar 15, 2021 at 12:16 PM Monica Berger <MBerger@citytech.cuny.edu> wrote:

It is included in DOAJ but that chiefly means that it is trustworthy (not predatory). You should read/scan a couple of articles to assess the scholarship. This is a scholar-led journal based at a university that appeals to an international authorship and possibly readership.

Can do a deeper dive if needed.

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From: Rebecca Shapiro <rebecca.alice.shapiro@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, March 15, 2021 10:54:37 AM

To: Monica Berger <MBerger@citytech.cuny.edu>

Subject: Predatory?

Hi Monica,

Can you find out if this is one of the predatory fake journals? I've had a couple of interesting interactions.

<http://ijci.wcci-international.org/index.php/IJCI/about/contact>

Thank you,

Rebecca

Rebecca Shapiro &*