

# Pennsylvania Libraries: Research & Practice

**Editorial** 

## PalRaP Earns the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) Seal of Approval

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See Pennsylvania Libraries: Research & Practice (PaLRaP) as listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals https://doaj.org/toc/2324-7878

### The Directory of Open Access Journals

We are pleased to announce that Pennsylvania Libraries: Research & Practice (PaLRaP) is now included in the Directory of Open Access Journals, also known as DOAJ (doaj.org). This online directory is the largest and most well-known source for identifying quality, peer-reviewed open access journals and the articles published within them.

DOAJ was started in 2003 at Lund University in Sweden with just a few hundred titles. Since then the directory has grown to include well over 10,000 peer-reviewed open access journals. In order to include only journals that meet certain standards of quality DOAJ recently revised and upgraded their application criteria in 2014 to make the process even more rigorous. This was a further attempt to weed out any so called predatory or questionable publishers. All journals added to the directory before 2014 were required to reapply and be evaluated under the new more stringent criteria to remain in the database.

## The DOAJ Seal of Approval

In addition to being included in DOAJ, PaLRaP also received the DOAJ Seal of Approval. While all of the journals in the directory have been evaluated and deemed to be of substantial quality "the [DOAJ] Seal is an extra mark of approval that is awarded to journals" for adhering to "outstanding best practice". As of April 2016 only 289 or 2.5% of the 11,607 journals in DOAJ have been awarded this special designation.

"Journals that are awarded the Seal have answered 'Yes' to 7 questions that DOAJ has chosen specifically as indicators of an extra high and clear commitment to open access best practices, of extra high levels of commitment to publishing technologies, and the most 'open' form of open access."

(DOAJ, 2015, doajournals.wordpress.com/2015/11/03/indexed-in-doaj-versus-the-doaj-seal)

"To receive the Seal, the journal must comply with the following 7 conditions:

- use DOIs as permanent identifiers;
- provides DOAJ with article metadata;
- deposits content with a long term digital preservation or archiving program;
- embeds machine-readable CC licensing information in articles;
- allows generous reuse and mixing of content, in accordance with a CC BY, CC BY-SA or CC BY-NC license;
- has a deposit policy registered with a deposit policy registry;
- allows the author to hold the copyright without restrictions."
   (DOAJ, 2016, <u>doaj.org/publishers</u>)

We wish to extend our sincere appreciation to the University of Pittsburgh publishing team for helping PaLRaP to achieve this status.



PaLRaP in DOAJ