

MARCH 2025

OFFICE OF
ACADEMIC
SCHOLARSHIP

RESEARCH ABSTRACT



News & Notes

OAS Website Update

The Office of Academic Scholarship recently published an update to its [website](#), offering users greater ease of use and reference. Resources related to the Institutional Review Board (IRB), OAS-supported programs, Doctoral Studies resources, and additional info remain available in a more accessible format. Faculty, staff, and students are invited to make use of the resources available here for their research and their work.

Scholarship Showcase 2025

The Scholarship Showcase, a conference hosted by the Doctoral Student Association (DSA) and the OAS, was held March 7-8. The hybrid conference hosted keynote speaker [Dr. David Staley](#), digital historian, podcast host, and higher education innovator known for his pioneering work on digital history and academic research.

On Friday and Saturday, in-person and remote participants shared their scholarly efforts, discussed new research possibilities, and enjoyed the opportunity to collaborate and share with one another.

The agenda and materials from the conference, including .ppts, videos, and posters, can be accessed on FUSE [here](#).



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Publications

Dr. Alisa Blazek

"The Valemee Visual System Helps Reduce Risk for Chronic Illness by Promoting Physical Fitness, Self-Efficacy and Independence in Adults With Intellectual Disabilities."

Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disabilities.

Marc Jaffy

"Let's Get Digital: Retrospective Digitization of ETDs for an Institutional Repository." *Journal of Graduate Librarianship.*

Dr. Isidoro Talavera

"The Intersection Between Religion and Political Decision-Making." *NEWSROOM: Faith and Governance: The Role of Religion in Political Choices.*

Presentations

Dr. Evan Chaloupka

"Disability, Childhood, and Narrative Temporality in American Postwar Writing." Modern Language Association Conference, New Orleans, January 2025.

Dr. Joseph Paul

"Academia - continue to be 'globally savvy' for our students' success!" ACBSP Conference, Las Vegas, June 2025.

Dr. Jacqueline Ruffner

"Opportunity in Action: Neurodiversity in a STEM Career." Pac Rim 2025.

Share Your News!

Do you have a published article, presentation, or other newsworthy scholarly accomplishment to share? Email oas@franklin.edu with the details (please include relevant links).

The Benefits of Research Collaboration

Kelly Renner, Ph.D., LPC

Program Chair, Psychology & Social Services, Director, Prison Education System

As is common practice in higher education, there is an entire section of my curriculum vitae (CV) devoted to scholarly publications. While I am listed as an author on each of the publications, the majority include additional co-authors. Many studies were based off of my ideas, but ultimately it took a "village" (i.e., 3-5 other experts) to get from the hypothesis to the published article. In our individualistic society we have been primed to think we have to work alone to accomplish our goals. However, in my experience, collaboration has been a prominent key to my research success.

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The Benefits of Research Collaboration

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While I was working on my doctorate degree, I made friends with other students in my major, outside of class. These friends ultimately became professional colleagues. We no longer live in the same state, nor stay up-to-date with details of each other's personal lives, but we do stay in contact when it comes to research opportunities. We have video calls or email chains to brainstorm new research ideas and discuss projects that stalled out; these communications are frequently the catalysts to collaboration on scholarly publications. Further, these friend-colleagues have introduced me to other professional colleagues in the field, which have led to additional research collaborations, as well as invitations to write book chapters and to serve as a guest reviewer for academic journals. A co-author I met collaborating on a publication with one of my friend-colleagues even expressed interest in teaching as an adjunct faculty at Franklin University and is now one of the most engaged adjunct faculty in the program.

Beyond college friends that became professional colleagues, I have also found it invaluable developing rapport with my Franklin University colleagues. Working with people in vastly different fields with diverse expertise and perspectives has been instrumental in my research success. For example, I received feedback on a book chapter requesting I add infographics. I was uncertain how to make a visually appealing infographic on my own, so I reached out to my colleague in Interactive Media Design. His support and skills elevated the chapter by providing interesting visual components for the reader that clearly summarized the information.

Additionally, a small group of Franklin University faculty developed a community of practice as a way for us to stay motivated to continue our scholarly work (Gardner et al., 2020). While collaborating with colleagues can include structured tasks with measurable outcomes, other equally helpful times, are more casual. This working group led to creative brainstorming sessions, increased accountability, camaraderie, and publications. I have found that it is helpful to have these colleagues that are not in the same field to provide a new perspective, bring new sets of skills to our collaborations, and ensure I am adequately and clearly explaining my research, in which I am so deeply entrenched.

It is easier than ever to maintain and grow your professional network locally, nationally, and internationally with so many communication options. The next time you feel stuck in some aspect of your research, data analysis, or academic writing, reach out to a friend, a colleague, or a friend-colleague for support. You are not on an island with your research endeavors; there is a whole "village" eager to collaborate with you.

The Benefits of Publishing in An Open Access Journal

Marc Jaffy, JD, MLIS

Scholarly Communications and Affordable Learning Librarian

Interested in publishing in an Open Access journal or want to learn more about Open Access (OA)? Here's some information to help you understand OA and how publishing your work in an OA journal can benefit you and other researchers.

What is open access?

An open access article is available for free – users are not charged to access the article, which makes it easier for other researchers to access, and interact with, your work. Generally, open access articles are published under some form of a Creative Commons license.

Why should I publish my article in an Open Access publication?

There are a number of advantages to publishing in an OA publication, including:

- Greater reach. Because the publication makes your article available for free, anyone can access it. Access is not limited to those who can afford it, or who belong to an institution which subscribes to the journal.
- You retain control over your article. Generally, traditional publishing involves transferring your copyright to the publisher, which then owns (and has control over the use of) your writing. An OA license gives the publisher the right to make your work available under certain terms specified in the license, but otherwise you retain control over your work.
- You can make your work available. Because you retain control over your article, you can make it available. You can post a copy in FUSE (Franklin University's institutional repository). You can post a copy in Canvas. You can email it to interested researchers / students. These are things that may be prohibited by publishing in a traditional journal.

What is a Creative Commons license?

A Creative Commons license (or CC license) grants others permission to use your work under certain terms specified in the license. There are a variety of types of CC license which place different limitations on how others can use your works.

The advantage of a CC license is that it provides a standardized way to grant others permission to use a work. As the [Creative Commons website](#) indicates, CC licenses provide "a simple, standardized way to give your permission to share and use your creative work— on conditions of your choice."

As it relates to OA articles, the use of CC licenses permits a journal to make its content (your article) available without the restrictions of traditional copyright law and provides a standardized way for readers of the journal to know the terms of using the journals contents. For more information, see [the library's publishing/Creative Commons guide](#).

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The Benefits of Publishing in An Open Access Journal

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What is an Open Access journal?

There are two types of OA journals. Some journals are entirely open access – everything the journal publishes is available for free and published under an open license. Others are what is called a “hybrid” journal.

Hybrid journals publish a mix of content. Some of the articles are freely available, and published under an open license, and some of the articles are published under the traditional, restricted model where users need to either pay for access to the article or belong to an institution which has a subscription to the journal.

Note that just because a journal is open access – either fully or hybrid – does not mean it is of lesser quality. OA journals may be peer reviewed. To make sure that an OA journal (or any journal) is one you want to publish in, review the [Think Check Submit journals checklist](#).

What about / what are APCs?

Sometimes, open access journals will require authors to pay an “Article Processing Charge” or APC. The idea behind the APC is that publishing journals does require money and, since the end user isn’t being charged for the article, the journal will charge the author up-front.

Do I have to pay an APC to publish an OA article?

No. Not all open journals require an APC. You will be able to tell if a journal requires an APC to publish OA when you look at the journal’s author submission information. Additionally, you may be able to avoid an APC for many journals which do charge them because of the Franklin University Library’s membership in the OhioLINK consortium. OhioLINK has negotiated deals with several major publishers (Wiley, Cambridge University Press, IOP Publishing, Elsevier, and Springer Nature) which permit corresponding authors affiliated with an OhioLINK institution (such as Franklin University) to publish articles in journals from those publishers without paying an APC. If you are interested in publishing an OA article in a journal from one of these publishers, see the library’s guide to [Open Access Publishing Through OhioLINK](#).

What if I have other questions about OA publishing?

If you have other questions about publishing an article in an OA journal, [contact the library](#).