Introduction
Supporting research is one of the core missions of the PCOM Library, and “publish or perish” is still a central concern for faculty even with the fundamental transformation underway in the scholarly publishing industry. The PCOM Library wants to help you understand how these changes impact your research work. Here are some resources and ideas that can assist faculty, staff, and students with communicating your research and expanding its audience.

Managing Your Intellectual Property
Managing your own copyright as an author is crucial to retaining important rights to copy, reuse, and post your scholarship online. Publisher agreements as well as some Open Access licenses often require authors to give up all or many of their intellectual property rights. Ask your library liaison about your rights as author, and to identify journals which allow you to retain ownership or which publish articles under open access licenses. Deposit it in an online repository such as the Digital Commons.

Open Access Publishing
Open Access is a publications funding model that does not charge readers or their institutions for access. Users have the right to “read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles.” Publication fees are paid by the author or institution. PCOM is a member institution at BioMed Central.

Beware of predatory publishers. These journals exploit the open access models of publishing. They are known to accept articles quickly with little or no peer review or quality control, notify academics of article fees only after papers are accepted. Deposit it in an online repository such as the Digital Commons.

PCOM Librarians can help you identify open access journals in your field that are peer-reviewed and well-regarded.

Digital Commons
An institutional repository (IR) that showcases the college’s community-engaged scholarly and creative works, encompassing student theses and dissertations, faculty research, histories, outreach programs and events. Almost ½ million articles have been downloaded since the Digital Commons was launched. Utilizing the IR provides electronic preservation and persistent access worldwide, and communicates PCOM’s identity as a center of research excellence to prospective students, candidates for faculty positions, and funding agencies.

Key Resources
PCOM Library Liaisons can research copyright and author rights concerns on your behalf.

SHERPA/RoMEO is a site to find a summary of permissions that are normally given as part of different publishers’ copyright transfer agreements.

Author Rights (PDF) is a SPARC brochure on author rights and the use of the author’s addendum.

Scholar’s Copyright Addendum Engine will help you generate a PDF form that you can attach to a journal publisher’s copyright agreement to ensure that you retain certain rights.

Columbia Copyright Advisory Office is a well organized site that covers a wide range of copyright issues, including publication agreements.

Stanford Copyright and Fair Use Guide covers all things copyright.

Crash Course in Copyright Tutorial on copyright created by Georgia Harper, University of Texas System.

Directory of Open Access Journals is a list of open access journals that must meet strict criteria to qualify for listing. (Membership in the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association means that the publisher is bound by a code of conduct based on standard publishing practices and transparency).

Selected Works Faculty Authors
- Individual web pages for authors, using content archived in the Digital Commons.
- Managed and updated by library staff in collaboration with faculty.
- Flexible design, allows for informal and ephemeral content as well as published articles and book citations.
- Non-commercial alternative to Research Gate/Academia.edu- locally controlled
- Integrates with institutional website, departmental pages, and other PCOM-branded online assets.

Taking Action: Steps for Authors
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References