

Library Publishing Coalition: Publishing Ethics Module

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Agenda



- 01 Ethics in publishing
- 02 Library Publishing Coalition
- 03 Using the Ethics Module as an administrator
- 04 Using the Ethics Module as a student journal staffer
- 05 Q&A - the Ethics Module will be published soon/summer 2026!

Speakers



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Ethics: The Backbone of Publishing

Ethics are a **communal framework** for **good practice** that **establishes trust** between publishers, researchers, and the reading public.

Ethics are a set of **professional principles** intended to **guide moral behavior** within a community.

Consensus vs. Morality

While morality is an individual sense of right and wrong, **publishing ethics represent a professional consensus.**

The Utility of Policy

Ethics policies **define** bad behavior and **provide a framework** for **reporting** and **responding** to misconduct.

Library Publishing Coalition (LPC)

The Library Publishing Coalition (LPC) is an **independent, community-led membership association** of academic and research libraries and library consortia **engaged in scholarly publishing**.

LPC **facilitates collaboration** across the library publishing community and **actively engages** with aligned organizations, publishers, and service providers to **strengthen and expand library-based publishing**.

<https://librarypublishing.org/>



Library Publishing Curriculum

LPC is the steward of the Library Publishing Curriculum, a suite of **synchronous and asynchronous professional development offerings** for librarians that are open and free under a Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license for anyone to offer or adapt.

This dynamic, extensible curriculum is **intended to empower** librarians to **meet local demands** to **launch** and/or **enhance scholarly publishing activities**.

<https://librarypublishing.org/resources/library-publishing-curriculum/>



Library Publishing Curriculum

1. [Attracting, Selecting, and Disseminating Content for your Library Publishing Program](#)
1. [Building and Measuring Impact for your Library Publishing Program](#)
1. [Sustainability of your Library Publishing Program](#)
1. [Policies for Library Publishing](#)



Library Publishing Curriculum

And now, **Publishing Ethics!**

Other upcoming new and revised modules:

- Preservation
- DEI
- Accessibility
- Rights & Rights Management



Why an ethics module?

- To **highlight, define** and **explain** the most common and/or important areas where misconduct may occur
- To **provide** straightforward, actionable **advice** to library publishers (but anyone can use the module!)

Publishing Ethics Module: Topics

- Peer Review
- Allegations of Misconduct
- Post-publication review (including retractions)
- Conflicts of Interest
- AI usage (heavily-informed by the recent [Open Library of Humanities \(OLH\) Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) Policy](#))
- Authorship and Contributorship
- Research ethics
- Plagiarism
- Working with Student Publications

Using the module as an administrator

Read it - perhaps with a buddy.

Maybe you don't need another new project. Just read it.

Using the module as an administrator

Some of us like projects. If you do want a new project, consider:

- How the module might support what you are already doing. For example, what policy develop would support [application to the Directory of Open Access Journals \(DOAJ\)](#)?
- If parts of the module intersect with conversations you have already been having. Could you facilitate a conversation or develop model policy language to address an emerging need?
- What your users want. People care a lot about AI these days. How can the module help you address these wants?
- If the module can slot into any existing training or onboarding processes for journal staffers, including student journal staffers. For example, could you require new staffers to complete one or more sections?

Using the module as an administrator

Remember that the module doesn't exist in a vacuum. Other resources that you can tap into include:

- [Journals Editorial Workbook](#) by Michelle Wilson
- [Starting a journal](#) from the University of Toronto Libraries
- [Committee on Publication Ethics](#)
 - More detailed and technical information about publishing ethics, including case studies
- [Library Publishing Coalition](#)
 - If you are a library publisher and not yet a member

Using the module as a student journal staffer

- Use the module to start a conversation with your journal's supervisor and/or publisher
- Policy work is best done in collaboration and is never “one size fits all”
- **Keep in mind: What questions can't we answer on our own?**

Using the module as a student journal staffer

Before starting:

- Audit your existing policies
- Consider specific events or situations that occurred during the last publishing cycle that might have been impacted by policy review
- Look for examples from professional or other student publications in the same disciplinary area
- Research and review relevant policies that intersect with the operations of your journal

Using the module as a student journal staffer

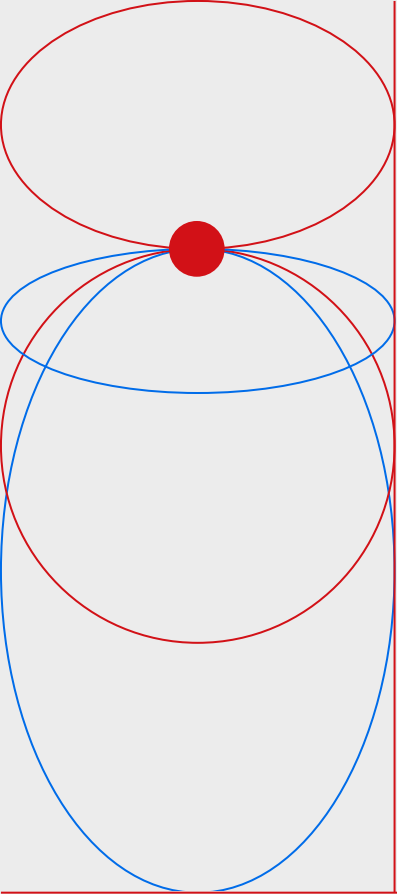
While drafting:

- Use the worksheets and questions in the module to guide your discussion
- Remember that Policy reflects values and workflows
- Avoid adopting policy language wholesale without considering how you would enact those policies

Using the module as a student journal staffer

To adopt new policies:

- Communicate changes to relevant staff and, if necessary, authors and other community members
- Keep records of policy-related discussions and the dates when new policies were adopted



Thank you

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AI disclosure: Gemini 3 Thinking was used to write the text
for slides 4-6.

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