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CDL Staff Presentations

Title

Measure What Matters: A Workshop on Developing Rubrics for Journal Evaluation and Growth

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Journal

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Measure What Matters

**A Workshop on Developing Rubrics for Journal
Evaluation and Growth**

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University of California
CDL
California Digital Library

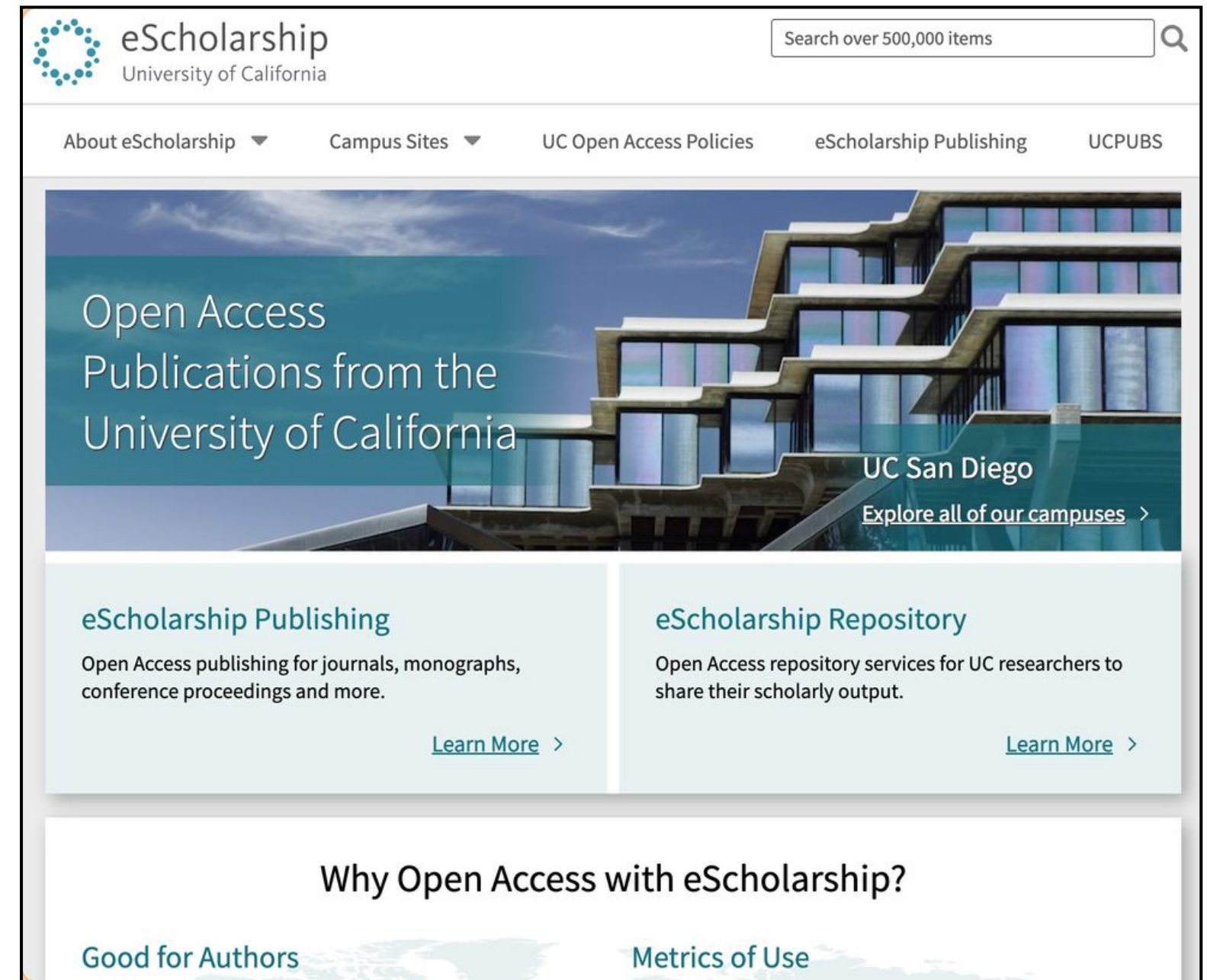
Overview

- Background on eScholarship
- Rubric Development / Look at Rubrics
- The rubrics we developed (walkthrough)
- Implementing the rubrics
- Outcomes / what's next
- Transition to breakout / workshop
- Share back / Discussion

Background

eScholarship

- Who we are
- Our evolution as a publisher
- What we were trying to accomplish



Rubric Development

- Had previously re-vamped acquisitions process
- Started with indexer requirements checklists
- Evaluated DOAJ requirements
- Explored other Rubrics
- What we did intentionally
- What we intentionally did not do

Sources Consulted

- UC Press interview
- JPPS framework
- DOAJ criteria
- COPE guidelines
- (OJC Requirements)
- Our own values and expectations

Three Rubrics: Overview and Mapping

Acquisition

- Evaluates new eScholarship journal proposals
- Helps determine whether a proposed journal demonstrates sufficient scholarly value, organizational readiness, and sustainability to move forward
- During the earliest stage of engagement with prospective journals

Assessment

- Evaluates active eScholarship journals against standards + program expectations
- Serves as a quality assurance tool to help journals maintain strong publishing practices + long-term sustainability and discoverability
- Used after a journal has launched + entered regular operation

Accountability

- Evaluates eScholarship's performance as a publisher and service provider
- Serves as a mechanism for organizational reflection + continuous improvement
- Complements journal-level evaluations by examining systems, resources, and practices as part of the scholcomm ecosystem

1. Acquisition: New Journal Proposals

Potential Green Light	More inclined to accept	Eligible for consideration	Less inclined to accept	Potentially Disqualified
Already included in multiple reputable indexes	Meet all or most of the criteria below.	Meet all or most of the criteria below.	Reasonable expectation they'd meet 'Eligible' criteria within the first 2 years of publishing	Does not (and likely will not) meet baseline criteria; less than 5-6 research articles is an automatic disqualification
--	Team can readily express the value proposition of the project in a clear, concise and compelling manner.	Team has developed a lot of solid reasoning for why the project is important, but may not yet have distilled this information into a message that all stakeholders can easily understand.	Team is in the idea formation stage and may not have thought through all of the reasons that others should think the project is important.	--
--	Humanities, Social Science, interdisciplinary	Not HSS, but an under-resourced field of importance.	STEM, practitioner-focused	Limited scholarly value.
--	Few or no viable alternative titles in the space. Project is of particular relevance to UC, California, and /or active fields of study at the campus.	Competing titles exist, but the project brings a unique perspective or still has a strong value proposition that supports the mission of UC.	Many successful and similar titles exist. Even if the project represents a new perspective, it may be drowned out by the sheer volume of other similar titles. Project doesn't relate strongly to strategic areas of focus for the campus or UC more broadly.	Journal adds nothing to the existing scholarly landscape that isn't covered by other titles and may have no particular relationship to UC initiatives.
--	Team has done research to identify their primary audience. The audience is anticipated to be broad and / or strong, or small but especially important for a group otherwise underrepresented in the literature.	Team has a sense of there being a strong audience but no data to confirm their estimate.	Team doesn't yet have an understanding of the scope of their expected audience and/or the audience is a small niche already served by other viable publications.	--
Membership includes members affiliated with a strategically valuable division, department or campus partner(s)	Membership includes several career academics who are well established in their field and have a strong UC connection.	Membership includes career academics who are highly motivated to ensure the success of the publication, including multiple active UC affiliates.	Membership has at least 1 active Board member with a UC affiliation and / or the project has an otherwise significant connection to a UC division or department.	Completely non-academic team and / or no UC affiliation.

2. Assessment: Active Journals

eScholarship Journal Information	Baseline	Baseline Requirement	Elevated	Elevated Requirement
Basic Journal Details				
Immediate open access of all content	Required	All content immediately available open access	N/A	
ISSN	Required	ISSN assigned (provisional for new journals)	N/A	
About and Aims & Scope	Required	Descriptive of audience and content	N/A	
Policies (page)	Required	Must adhere to eScholarship template	N/A	
Contact information	Required	Journal email address + editor contact	N/A	
Creative Commons license	Recommended	DOAJ requirement	Required	Required, or compelling rationale for alternate
Average submission-to-publication timeline (weeks)	Recommended	DOAJ requirement	Required	Must be publicly available at article level
Publishing history	Required	10+ research articles published <i>and/or</i> 1 year actively publishing; 5+ articles published per year (DOAJ requirement)	Required	10+ research articles published per year (DOAJ); 2 years actively publishing (eScholarship)
Publisher information	Required	Present on website	N/A	
Listed Editorial Staff and Board Member Information				
List of staff and board members	Required	Present on website, regularly updated (DOAJ requirement)	Required	Includes accessible archive of past staff and board lists (eScholarship); Web of Science requirement
Editors + board members ORCIDs	Recommended		Recommended	
Institutional affiliations	Recommended		Required	
National affiliations	Recommended		Recommended	
Balanced gender and identity representation	Recommended		Required	Reported to eScholarship
Documentation for staff and board responsibilities	Recommended		Required	Fulfills COPE recommendations for editorial roles and responsibilities
Listed Author Information				
Contact details	Not Required		Recommended	
Institutional affiliation	Required		N/A	
National affiliation	Recommended		Recommended	
Bio	Not Required		Recommended	
ORCIDs	Recommended		Required	
RORs	Recommended		Required	

3. Accountability: Publisher Evaluation

Item	Full Description	Categories	Source	How it's measured	Current status	Optimal/stretch	Notes
Advocate for increased UC investment in eScholarship	We will encourage UC to invest more significantly in eScholarship's library-based, non-profit publishing program, empowering UC's academic community to ensure the open publication and dissemination of its research within a values-driven (rather than profit-driven) scholarly communication environment.	Advocacy Funding	eScholarship Strategy document (#1 in Resourcing section)	1) Evidence of advocacy. 2) Stability & growth of resourcing of the program.	Advocating w/in CDL & CoUL; OSC Joint SCLG Diamond OA working group+report that discusses this, with eScholarship in particular.	TBD	
Support industry initiatives to improve the Scholarly Communications space	Support industry initiatives to drive positive change within scholarly research and publishing	Advocacy	(Scholarly Publisher section) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Scholarly Communication (OSC)	1. Evidence of participation in or support for schol comm initiatives; 2) Impact/outcomes of initiatives we support	1. We've adopted the C4DISC principles, one of the three suggested initiatives to support (other membership); 2. Providing consultation to help journal editors evaluate the feasibility of "flipping" their journals to open access, either within the institutional setting or beyond. (from our strategy document) Also reflected by #3 of our value proposition statements 3. OJC founding participant; 4) Governance participation (OASPA, DOAJ, Crossref, SPARC); 5) Engagement with Janeway; 6) NGLP, Gates Grant.	Developing a method for identifying which initiatives to support or initiate	
Engage in workforce diversification efforts and supporting underrepresented staff.	Take steps to diversify the scholarly communication workforce and support underrepresented workers. "We will develop resources to help stakeholders throughout the scholarly communication landscape become better informed about issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion so they feel empowered to effect change toward these ends."	Advocacy Equity	(Scholarly Publisher section) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Scholarly Communication (OSC) and the eScholarship Strategy document FOREST Framework "E" Section	Evidence of efforts to increase staff diversity and establishing of programs and practices to support underrepresented staff	DEIA required training; our own hiring practices	"Regularly evaluate how stakeholders with diverse lived experiences sense their belonging, and make changes and decisions based on this knowledge" (From FOREST Framework "E" section"	FOREST Framework "E" section has good actionable activities for achieving and assessing efforts to meet this item.
Address publishing needs not likely addressed by commercial or large publishers.	Providing diamond open access publishing services that focus on areas that are likely poorly served by the commercial open access publishing landscape, such as small, niche disciplines; emerging scholars and fields; the humanities and social sciences; geographically specific and indigenous-based fields, and campus-based publishing programs.	Advocacy Equity	eScholarship Strategy document (Value proposition #1.a)	The characteristics of the journals that we are publishing.	Journal proposal process; eScholarship Liaison ongoing engagement & awareness	TBD	
Use, support, and promote open infrastructure, both technical (i.e. platforms) and social (i.e. licensing).	We will seek to advance the larger scholarly communication domain by supporting open, community-based repository and publishing infrastructure, as well as open licensing, that is aligned with these best practices and is extensible enough to respond to new developments and expectations on the part of scholars and libraries.	Advocacy Operational pr... Technical prac...	eScholarship Strategy document (Program development #2) FOREST Framework "S" Section (Sharing of Knowledge) and "O" Section (Openness)	The types of technical and social infrastructure used to provide our publishing services, expressed as a percentage or a characterization of the most significant components.	On Janeway and deeply supporting the development and stability of that platform; investigating moving to a community solution for the repository; educating and ensuring journals use CC licenses, using Crossref DOIs; using open indexes, like OpenAlex.	TBD	From the FOREST Framework Openness section: O1 Favor open technology, standards, and protocols O2 Strive to make tools, services, and code interoperable O3 Encourage use/reuse of content and/or code O4 Provide users with agency and control over content and code
Ensure journals are able to collect research(er) funding information	Ensure researchers can easily and accurately supply funding information via the publishing platform and that the information is machine actionable and human visible.	Funding Operational pr...	NISO OA Business Practices 3.17	System ability to capture funding information; presence of funding information; display of funding information	Free-text, dependent on journal submission guidelines.	Implement Janeway workflow; implement ROR; educate journal editors; develop eScholarship display of information.	Ideas: turn on this step in Janeway; put it in the metadata tab; need to educate the journal editors; need to go in submission guidelines. What is our policy about this? Do we want to require journals to do this? How would we audit/enforce?

Implementation

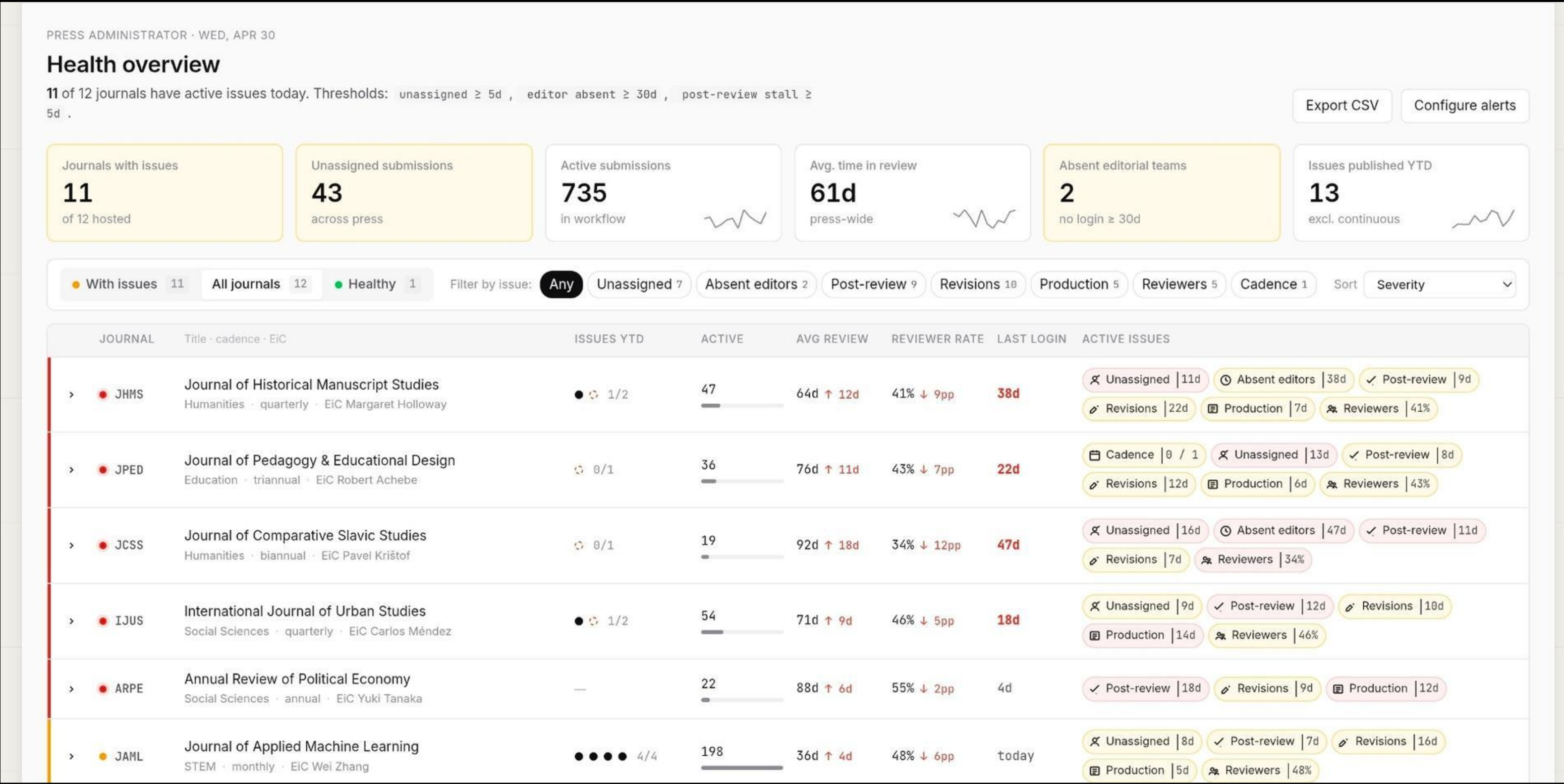
- **Implementing the rubrics**

- Time consuming but informative and valuable
- Emerging patterns

- **Outcomes / what's next**

- Identify resource needs
- Develop trainings & materials
- Target platform development

From Rubrics to a Metrics Dashboard



Breakout Groups



Report Back & Discussion

