

Explanation of Affiliated Author Process

After consulting with Jeanne Hoover, Scholarly Communication Librarian, and Kerry Sewell, Research Librarian, in January 2018, it became apparent that there is not a single source for identifying publications by ECU affiliated authors that included all publications, author details, and relevant journal information. Further investigation indicated that, while much of the sought-after information is available, it would take several resources to create a comprehensive report with this information and would involve multiple steps.

With the assistance of Hoover and Sewell, a process to first identify ECU affiliated publications was developed utilizing PubMed, Scopus, and RefWorks. PubMed and Scopus are academic research databases to which ECU subscribes that allow users to search for publications within certain parameters. The parameters used for this purpose are “East Carolina University” and “Brody School of Medicine.” The search results for both are then imported into RefWorks, a reference management software, which consolidates the search results from both databases into a uniform file format.

After the RefWorks file is exported to an Excel document irrelevant information is removed and Journal Citation Ranking (JCR) scores and Scimago Journal & Country Rank (SJR) scores are added. These scores come from an Excel sheet that is created annually by REDE which contains the most recent available scores from the JCR and SJR databases. In addition to the scores, this sheet is augmented by the manual addition of the top 10 journals in each subject area (cancer, public health, women’s studies, etc.). The publications are then sorted by JCR score, which is the most used impact factor indicator.

Those publications in journals with the 20 highest JCR scores and those that are ranked in the top 10 of their subject area are then highlighted on the report. Departmental information for the ECU authors of these highlighted publications is added manually. Once all this information is added, the report is then passed to Dr. Mary Farwell and Dr. Kathryn Verbanac, who then review the report and choose articles based on their review.

These reports are created every two months and on average each report contains 209 publications. While PubMed focuses on biomedical and life sciences literature, Scopus includes journals, publications from health sciences, life sciences, physical sciences, social sciences and humanities. JCR score is a ratio between citations and recent citable items published. It is calculated by dividing the number of current year citations to the source items published in that journal during the previous two years. SJR score is a numeric value indicating the average number of weighted citations received during a selected year per document published in that journal during the previous three years.