



**MEDCOMMS NETWORKING
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14 JUNE 2017**

 **CADEX**

**A FORENSIC EXAMINATION
OF A POSSIBLY
QUESTIONABLE JOURNAL**

**JACKIE MARCHINGTON
DIRECTOR OF GLOBAL OPERATIONS,
CADEX**

DISCLOSURES

- The views and opinions expressed today:
 - are not necessarily those of my employer
 - are based on personal experience
- The subject of the forensic examination has been de-identified

POSSIBLY QUESTIONABLE?



- Predatory journals, phrase coined by Jeffrey Beall
 - (Now removed) blacklist of possible or probable predatory journals and publishers
- Questionable/deceptive – Scholarly Kitchen¹
 - Attempting to deceive authors into paying for nonexistent or shoddy editorial services
 - Publishing journals or books that are presented to the marketplace as rigorous and scholarly, but consist in fact of whatever nonsense or garbage authors may wish to submit

¹ <https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2015/05/11/should-we-retire-the-term-predatory-publishing/>

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- The DOAJ Seal highlights features related to accessibility, openness, discoverability, reuse and author rights and have *nothing to do with the scholarly quality of the papers published.*



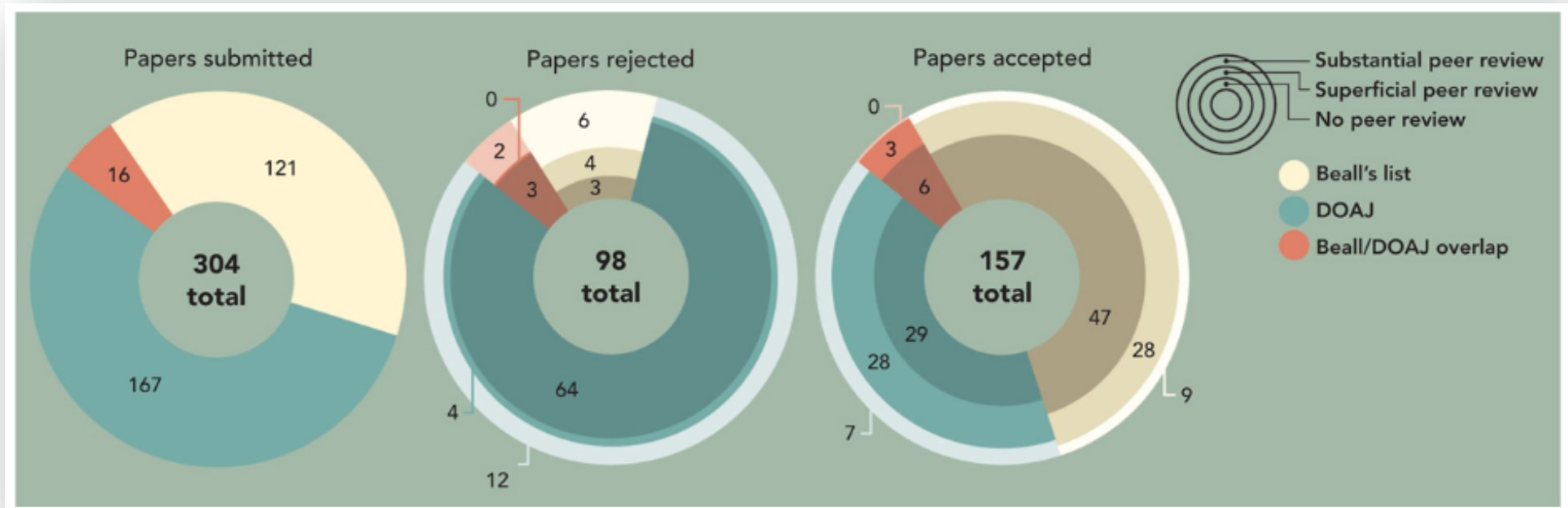
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A spoof paper concocted by *Science* reveals little or no scrutiny at many open-access journals





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- Manuscript rejected without review 4 times...
- Vendor agency had published there before
- Reported good (easy) experience

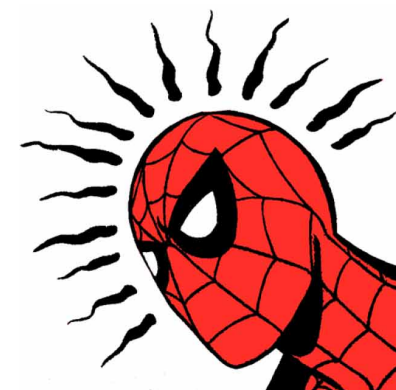
CASE STUDY: PROPOSED JOURNAL

- Manuscript rejected without review 4 times...
- Vendor agency had published there before
- Reported good (easy) experience
- Low APC compared with previous journals (\$1000 – so not suspiciously low...)
- Rapid publication times




CASE STUDY: PROPOSED JOURNAL

- Manuscript rejected without review 4 times...
- Vendor agency had published there before
- Reported good (easy) experience
- Low APC compared with previous journals (\$1000 – so not suspiciously low...)
- Rapid publication times
- Simplistic website
- Really basic submission process
- Aggressive copyright agreement





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
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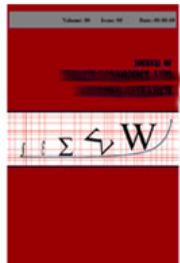
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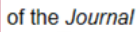
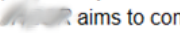
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Concurrent Estimation of the Hazard and the Time-to-Event in a Cox Model

Authors: Joshua D. Brown¹, Kelley L. Paternoster², Jeffrey C. Tibshirani^{1,3}, Volker A. Adams⁴

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Authors: Joshua D. Brown¹, Kelley L. Patemann², Jeffrey C. Talbot^{1,3}, Vol. 49, No. 3, 2015, 244-250

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Authors: Joseph

2015, 3(2), 104-123

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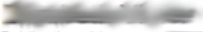
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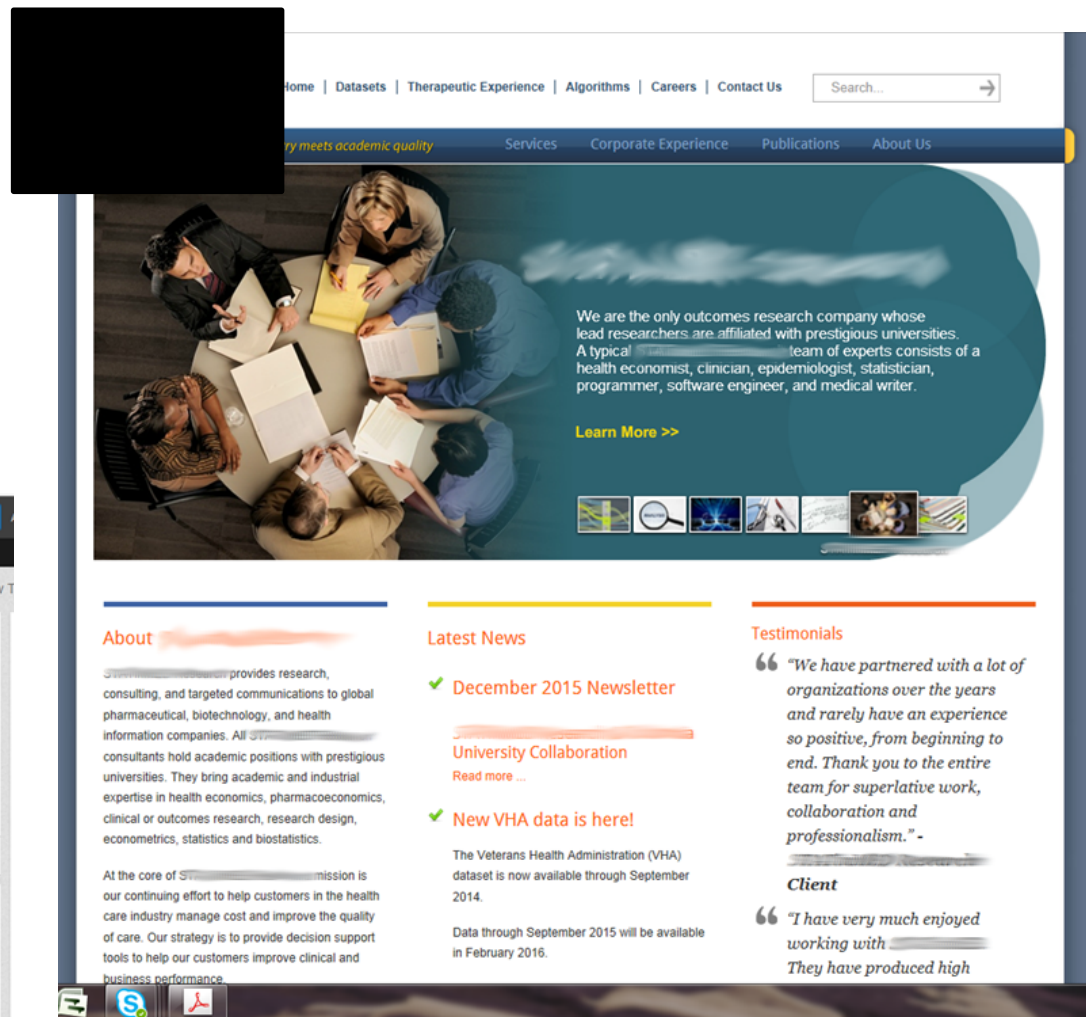
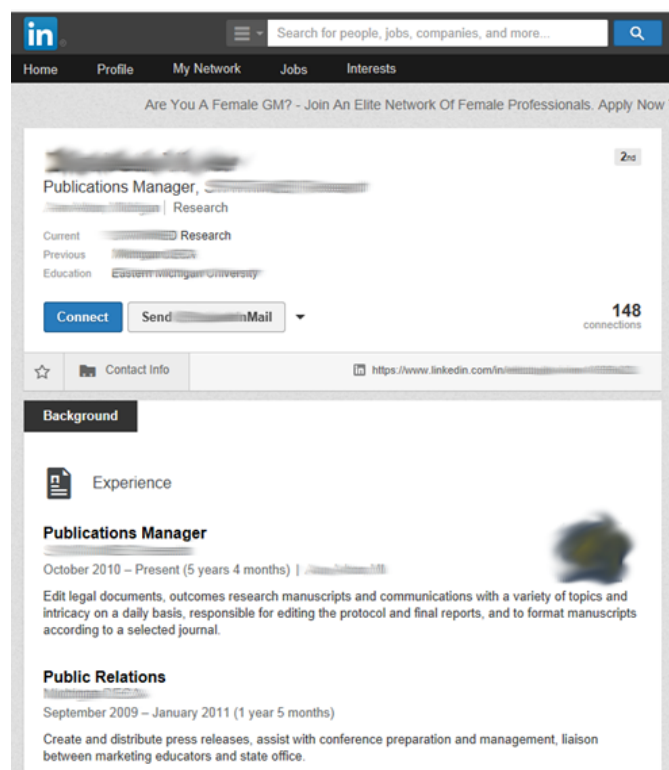
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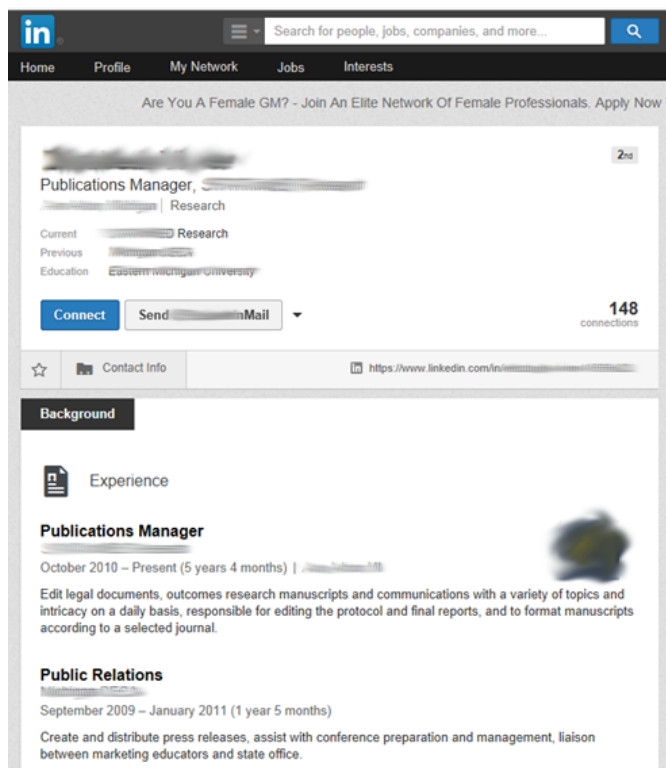
Edit legal documents, outcomes research manuscripts and communications with a variety of topics and intricacy on a daily basis, responsible for editing the protocol and final reports, and to format manuscripts according to a selected journal.

Public Relations

September 2009 – January 2011 (1 year 5 months)

Create and distribute press releases, assist with conference preparation and management, liaison between marketing educators and state office.





Vendor agency in Suite 2B at same address as publishing house (Suite 2A)
Vendor agency owned by journal editor-in-chief

SO WHOIS...?

Contact Information

Registrant Contact

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Ext:
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- Not really open access (registration required, or email requests), not CC and odd copyright transfer

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- Editorial office co-staffed by for-profit agency in same sector
- Editor-in-chief publishes in own journal without mentioning COI

OUTCOME

- Turnaround times not rapid at all
- The paper was accepted. The only peer review comment was a request to explain a common contraction
- We needed to amend the copyright transfer agreement – completely submissive to our requests
- As a non-CCC/CLA journal, we requested (and received) equivalent rights for internal use under licence
 - Either they didn't understand the questions, or they didn't care

THE MORAL OF THE STORY...
IF IT LOOKS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE
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THANK YOU

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