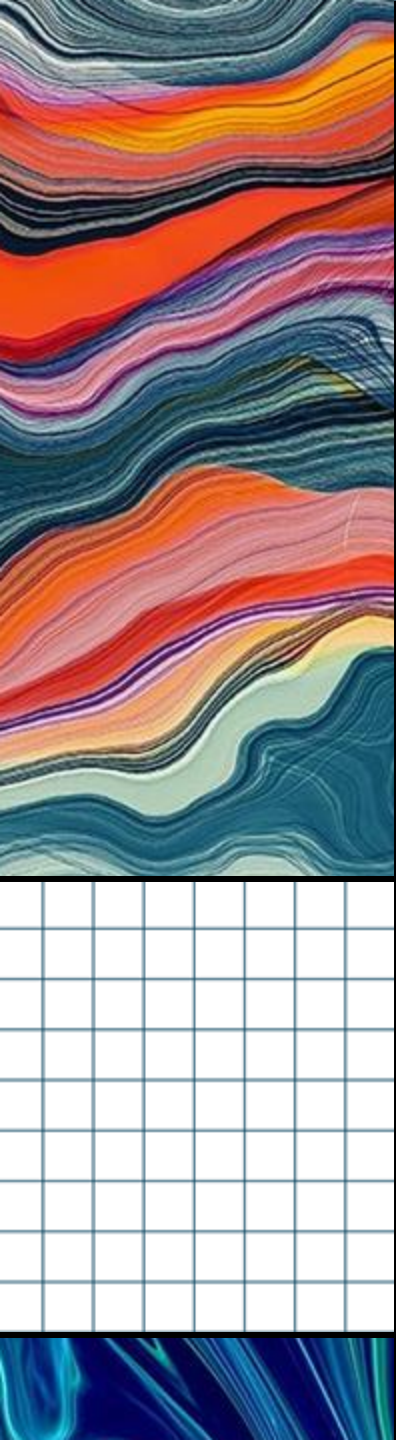




Inclusive Publishing Strategies for Journal Staff and Prospective Authors

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Kennesaw State University



How I Got Here

- IR specialist at Kennesaw State University
- Master's program in professional writing (this is the result)
 - Professional and Academic Editing
 - World Englishes
 - Publishing in the 21st Century
- Interested in editors-author relationships
- Considering prospective authors' first interactions with a journal



Research Questions

- What are journal staff doing to demystify academic publishing and open up opportunities to those new to or outside of traditional academia?
- What strategies are journals in the digital humanities using to promote inclusivity? (and how can these be applied broadly?)



Journal Selection Criteria

- Diamond Open Access (no cost to the author or reader)
- Digital Humanities
- Published 5+ issues
- Published within the last year OR within past 2 years with current call for proposals
- Journal site is available in English
- Prioritize variety in subject matter and publishing platform



Journal	Founded	Publishing Platform
<i>Journal of Electronic Publishing</i>	1995	Janeway
<i>Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy</i>	1996	Bespoke/unknown
<i>enculturation: a journal of rhetoric, writing, and culture</i>	1996	Bespoke/unknown
<i>Rhizomes: Cultural Studies in Emerging Knowledge</i>	2000	Bespoke/unknown
<i>Digital Humanities Quarterly</i>	2007	Bespoke/unknown, uses Open Journal Systems (OJS) to manage submission and review
<i>The Programming Historian</i>	2008/2012	Bespoke/unknown, hosted on GitHub
<i>Artl@s Bulletin</i>	2012	Digital Commons
<i>Journal of Data Mining and Digital Humanities</i>	2014	Episciences
<i>Parse</i>	2015	Bespoke/unknown
<i>Accesos: Journal for Artistic Research</i>	2016	Bespoke/unknown



Evaluation Criteria

“Best Practices for Online Journal Editors” (CELJ)

“Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing” (COPE)

- Reputable
- Editorial Board
- Peer Review process
- Copyright and Licensing
- Maintained to a high and consistent standard

Perspective of a prospective author

- User Experience
- Accessible Design
- Proactively inclusive language, workflows
- Challenges and frustrations



Parse - Bespoke, 2015

P A R S E

Currently –
Thu 23 Jan 2025 13:38:36

Upcoming events and open calls

Open call
Some Like it Hot

Deadline – Mon 31 Mar 2025

Conference
Some Like it Hot

Wed 12–Fri 14 Nov 2025

PARSE is an international artistic research publishing platform and biennial conference based in The Artistic Faculty made up of HSM and HDK-Valand at University of Gothenburg, Sweden. Its purpose is to bring interdisciplinary art practices and researchers from across disciplines into dialogue through shared enquiry.

About

Journal

Themes

Conferences

Talks & Conversations

Publications & Programs

Kairos - Bespoke, 1996

The screenshot shows the Kairos journal website. At the top, there is a dark blue header with a navigation bar containing links: Issues, About, Submit, Board, Staff, Awards, PraxisWiki, and Stasis. The Kairos logo, a stylized blue 'K', is on the left, followed by the text 'Kairos' and 'A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy'. The ISSN 1521-2300 is on the right. Below the header, a blue bar indicates the current issue: '29.2 Spring 2025' with a link to 'Open Issue'. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column features a 'Logging On' section with the article 'Logging On' by Michael J. Faris and Cheryl Ball. Below this is a 'Disputatio' section with the article 'Giving Voice to Generative AI Refusal' by Maggie Fernandes and Megan McIntyre. A small podcast thumbnail for 'Everyone's Writing With AI (Except Me!)' is also visible. The right column contains a search bar with the text 'ENHANCED BY Google', a 'Patreon: Support Kairos' link, and sections for 'Scholarnames' and 'Interviews', including 'Negotiating Barriers to Multimodality in Writing Program Administration: A Case Study at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville' by Holland Prior and Allie Johnston, and a link to 'Index: All Kairos Interviews'.

Issues About Submit Board Staff Awards PraxisWiki Stasis

Kairos
A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology, and Pedagogy

ISSN 1521-2300

29.2 Spring 2025 [Open Issue](#)

Logging On

[Logging On](#)

Michael J. Faris and Cheryl Ball

ENHANCED BY Google

[Patreon: Support Kairos](#)

Disputatio

[Giving Voice to Generative AI Refusal](#)
Maggie Fernandes and Megan McIntyre

Everyone's Writing With AI (Except Me!)

In their podcast *Everyone's Writing with AI (Except Me!)*, McIntyre and Fernandes respond to the emergent conversation surrounding AI in rhetoric and writing studies. This webtext includes the podcast's first episode, an interview with Dr. Michael Black, and ends with the authors' thoughts about AI and writing studies.

Scholarnames

Interviews

[Negotiating Barriers to Multimodality in Writing Program Administration: A Case Study at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville](#)
Holland Prior and Allie Johnston

[Index: All Kairos Interviews](#)

Artl@s Bulletin - Digital Commons

artlas bulletin

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The *Artl@s Bulletin* is a blind peer-reviewed, transdisciplinary journal devoted to spatial and transnational questions in the history of the arts, published by [Artl@s](#) in partnership with Purdue Scholarly Publishing Services.

The *Artl@s Bulletin*'s ambition is twofold: 1. a focus on the "transnational" as constituted by exchange between the local and the global or between the national and the international; 2. an openness to innovation in research methods, particularly the quantitative possibilities offered by digital mapping and data visualization.

See the [About the Journal](#) page for a complete coverage of the journal.

**Current Issue: Volume 13, Issue 2
(2024) Style Revisited**

Introduction

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Publication generously supported by the Imago/Visual Contagions Project, the École Normale Supérieure, the University of Geneva, and the



Takeaways

- “Dated” design often a feature not a bug
- Link maintenance and page wrangling have a big impact
- Strong UX design considers diverse user needs, platform agnostic
- Transparent editorial workflows act as educational tools
- Proactive language can go a long way
 - Accessibility
 - Diversity and Inclusion
 - Language

Handouts



Inclusivity Strategies for Journal Staff

Is your journal site accessible?

- ☐ Current Issue and Journal Mission are accessible from the main page
- ☐ Tagged headings (<h1>, <h2>, etc.)?
- ☐ Visibly distinct headings (noticeably larger than body text, etc.)
- ☐ Text color contrast ratio in compliance with accessibility standards ([WCAG](#))
- ☐ Succinct and visually distinct links (underlined, a noticeable color)
- ☐ Descriptively labeled links ("Past Issues" vs. "click here")
- ☐ Information in the footer is restated on another page if necessary

Do you describe the journal's relationship to accessibility, DEI, or language?

- ☐ Accessibility guidelines for submissions

Are the journal's editorial processes clearly described?

- ☐ Publication schedule
- ☐ Average time from submission to decision
- ☐ Primary reviewer concerns to consider prior to submission
- ☐ Style guide or Submission Template
- ☐ Feedback and revision process overview

Do you consider specific audiences?

- First time authors, graduate students
- Scholars publishing in a non-primary language
- Independent/Unaffiliated researchers
- Professionals new to academic publishing
- Librarians
- Reviewers

Journal Review Strategies for Prospective Authors

Is the journal legitimate?

- ☐ Visit [Think, Check, Submit](#), for a detailed checklist
- ☐ Journal site lists ISSN and any institutional or organizational affiliations
- ☐ No submission fee
- ☐ Information about any Article Processing Charges, fees, or waivers upon acceptance
- ☐ Information about the review process, no guarantee of acceptance or quick review
- ☐ Contact information
- ☐ Information about copyright and authors' rights

Is the journal a good fit?

- ☐ Review the "Journal Mission" and/or

Is the journal engaged in inclusive practices?

- ☐ Do they have a generally accessible website?
- ☐ Do they detail their submission and review process?
- ☐ Do they make proactive statements in support of inclusivity, diversity, language support, or accessibility?
- ☐ Do they consider accessibility in the submission process?
- ☐ Do they provide any additional tips or resources for authors? (checklists, drop-in sessions, etc.)

You've determined the journal is a good fit. What inclusive actions can you take?

- ☐ Include alt text and accessible formatting where possible within formatting



What's Next?

- An accessibility audit of the institutional repository
 - Identify and triage
 - Focus on manageable, high-impact projects
- Offering guidance for journals in the IR
 - Working with *Kennesaw Journal of Undergraduate Research*
 - Fresh eyes on each page, link
 - Considering UX for target audiences
 - Transparency Educational material about academic publishing