

**Researchers ensure appropriate authorship and citation!**  
(cf. ECoC 2017, p.5)

## Description and background

This learning unit:

*Introduces researchers to rules of publication*

*Enables an understanding of authorship*

*Challenges researchers to learn how rules of publication can differ in disciplines*

*Emphasises the importance of proper publication in research*

## Role Model

## Keywords

*Academic Writing; Author Sequence; Self-plagiarism; Publication Rules*

*This unit has been prepared for interdisciplinary learning groups.*

## Learning Objectives

- 1** *Explain the rule of author sequences from your discipline*
- 2** *Compare different rules of author sequences between disciplines*
- 3** *Accept different publication rules*
- 4** *Acknowledge the purpose of publication in research*

## Learning Stages

- 1** *Introduce the topic*
- 2** *Motivate by introducing an interesting story*
- 3** *Use author sequence rules*
- 4** *Engage in storytelling*
- 5** *Reflect on the purpose of publication*

## “Quote about Publication and Dissemination”



## 1 Introduce the topic:

*Homework (before the unit starts) or reading session*

Read the paragraph on publication and dissemination in “The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity”.

Discuss the meanings of any unknown words.

## 2 Motivate by introducing an interesting story:

Read or recall together Hannah’s story and briefly flesh out what happened in the meeting. Now imagine the following:

Hannah sits calmly in her chair, reading a research paper that was released two months ago. In it, the authors explain „interdisciplinarity“ comprehensively. The paper shows how different researchers define this field. By adding the latest findings from an Australian researcher, this paper has opened a new way of thinking and already gotten some remarkable attention.

These combined findings will set the groundwork for completely new insights, Hannah muses. Her finger brushes the list of authors at the top of the paper. These names represent a new start in the era of interdisciplinarity. All four of them contributed something important to this new way of thinking.

## 3 Use author sequence rules:

Form groups of 3 to 4 students from different disciplines. Explain to the rest of the group what kind of rules exist in your discipline on author sequence. Take turns! Discuss the different forms.



**Misconduct in publication can appear in the following forms:**

- \* „Manipulating authorship or denigrating the role of other researchers in publications
- \* Re-publishing substantive parts of one’s own earlier publications, including translations, without duly acknowledging or citing the original (‘self-plagiarism’)
- \* Citing selectively to enhance own findings or to please editors, reviewers or colleagues.
- \* Withholding research results.
- \* Allowing funders/sponsors to jeopardise independence in the research process or reporting of results so as to introduce or promulgate bias.
- \* Expanding unnecessarily the bibliography of a study.“ (ECoC, 2017, p.8)
- \* Etc.

## 4 Engage in storytelling:

Imagine you are a group of researchers in an interdisciplinary project. You just got cutting edge results from your first three work packages. You are celebrating and decide to communicate these findings and publish your work.

Please write a short story starting with this sentence: „Everybody could see from far away that the group was a celebrating, motley bunch of researchers.“

Include 3 of the following topics in your story:

- responsibility for the content
- sequence of authorship
- disclosure of conflicts of interest
- significant contribution
- acknowledgement of the important work and intellectual contributions of others
- timely, open, transparent and accurate communication
- consideration and validation of non-significant results

Read your stories aloud!

Discuss some of the publications rules from your stories. Are you unsure about some of the rules? Clarify together in your class how to proceed with research publishing.

## 5 Reflect on the purpose of publication:

Discuss the following questions together as a class, and copy bullet point answers into your notebook:

What were your three most important publication rules discussed during this session?

Why does publication in research matter?

Why do we need rules in research publication?

European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity:

