

Should OA Journals be Sealed?: Case of Journals in Thai-Journal Citation Index

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Abstract:

There are 88 journals on the lists of Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) Seal of Approval in 2017 which is awarded to journals that fulfills a set of criteria related to accessibility, openness, discoverability, reuse and author rights to identify the highest level of openness. The Seal does not guarantee the scholarly quality of the material published in the journal.

The criteria to prepare for applying the DOAJ Seal, the journal must have an archival and preservation arrangement with an external party, provide permanent identifiers in the published content such as DOIs, provide article level metadata to DOAJ, embed machine-readable licensing information in article level metadata, allow reuse and remixing of content, have a deposit policy registered in a deposit policy directory and allow the author to hold the copyright without restriction.

If journals in Thai-Journal Citation Index would like to be awarded DOAJ Seal, this articles identify the preparation guidelines.

Keywords: Open Access Journal, DOAJ Seal of Approval

Introduction

Open Access (OA) Journals become more popular in Thai society due to the policy of Thai Citation Index and the development of Thai Journal Online (ThaiJo) database. (<https://www.tci-thaijo.org/>) Nowadays there are more than 700 journals within this database, not all of them are OA Journals. Open Access is the new concept in modern scholarly communication and it is one of the key components in the library and information profession such as foundational knowledge, collections development, and research & contributions to the profession. Open Access in collections development comprised of the scholarly publishing cycle, collections management, digital curation, digital preservation, management and the preservation of collections, and records management.

From a study of research data services in Thai research universities (Wipawin 2016), data numbers found a collections of thesis and, research reports and articles which are provided by the libraries and research centers of the universities. Three organizations at the national level provide research data services are such as 1) The Thai Library Integrated System (ThaiLIS); run by the Department of University's Affairs and Thai Library Integrated System Project, the research database is called Thai Digital Collection (TDC), 2) The Thai National Research Repository (TNRR) which is developed by the National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) and Thailand Research Organizations Network (TRON) that include members from various organizations such as National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA), The Thailand Research Fund (TRF), National Science Technology and Innovation Policy Office (STI), Health Systems Research Institute (HSRI) and Agriculture Research Development Agency (ARDA), and 3) Thai Journals Online (ThaiJO), hosted by Thai-Journal Citation Index Centre : TCI at King Mongkut University of Technology, Thonburi, which is the e-Journal system in Thailand.

The need to develop the journal quality is shown by the survey of Wongkaew and others (2015) that online submission and citation need to be applied by users, as shown :

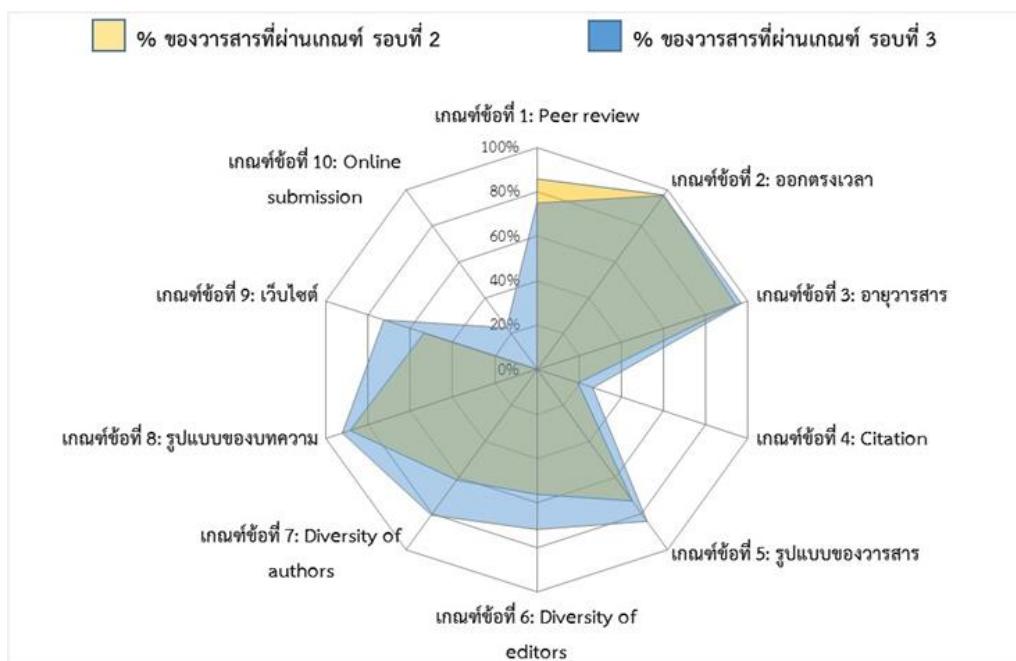


Figure 1 : Criteria to evaluate journal quality.(Wongkaew and others 2015)

Quality is a simple word which means different things to different people. Journal quality can be defined by peer review process, the Journal Impact Factor and other standards. Data Seal of Approval was the certification for sustainable and trusted data repositories which gives researchers the assurance that their data will be stored in a reliable manner and can be reused. The Data Seal of Approval involves 16 guidelines for applying and verifying quality aspect concerning the creation, storage, use and reuse of digital data. The merge between Data Seal of Approval and World Data System were replaced by CoreTrustSeal certification in 2016.

Since 2014, DOAJ Seal has been awarded to a journal that shows the highest level of openness to fulfills a set of criteria in accessibility, openness, discoverability, reuse and author rights. The Seal does not guarantee the scholarly quality of the material published in the journal.

Objective :

To study the preparation guidelines for DOAJ Seal of journals in Thai-Journal Citation Index.

Method :

A qualitative research method was applied by selecting 38 journals in Thai-Journal Citation Index and Scopus database to analyse if they meet seven Seal criteria.

Findings :

From the selected 38 journals in table 1, there is no such journal that meet 7 Seal criteria but three journals such as Agricultural and Natural Resources Journal, Kasetsart Journal of Social Science, and Asian Biomedicine meet 6 Seal criteria. From 7 Seal criteria, there are :-

3 journals have an archival and preservation arrangement in place with an external party such as CLOCKSS, LOCKSS, Portico because of using publishing platform o Elsevier and DeGruyter.

10 journals provide permanent identifiers in the published content such as DOIs from CrossRef and DataCite.

38 journals provide article level metadata to DOAJ because of using Open Journal System to export data by DOAJ export plugin.

11 journals embed machine-readable CC licensing information in article level metadata;

1 journal (which is Maejo International Journal of Science and Technology) allows reuse and remixing of content in accordance with a CC BY, CC BY-SA or CC BY-NC license because most Thai journals are from the universities and the government agencies which copyright refers to the funding agencies.

3 journals have a deposit policy registered in a deposit policy directory such as SHERPA/RoMEO because most journals lack the policy in the institutional level.

3 journals allow the author to hold the copyright without restriction, there is a need to work on the copyright of authors.

Table 1 : Journals in Thai-Journal Citation Index and Scopus database.

1	Title	OA	1.archive and preser	2.Identifier DO	3.metadata to DOAJ	4.CC machine-r	5. reuse and remix	6. registered in a di	7. author to hol
2	Journal of the Medical Association of Thailand	no	no	no	yes: OJS	no	no	no	no
	Southeast Asian Journal of Tropical Medicine and Public Health				yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
3	Asian Pacific Journal of Allergy and Immunology	no	no	no	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
5	Asia-Pacific population journal	no	no	no	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
6	Geotechnical Engineering	no	no	no	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
7	International Agricultural Engineering Journal	no	no	no	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
8	International Energy Journal	no	no	no	yes: OJS	no	no	no	no
9	Agriculture and Natural Resources	yes	yes: CLOCKSS, PORTICO	yes	yes: Elsevier B.V.	yes	no: CC BY-NC-ND	yes: DANS	no
10	Kasetsart Journal of Social Sciences	yes	yes: CLOCKSS, PORTICO	yes	yes: Elsevier B.V.	yes	no: CC BY-NC-ND	yes: DANS	no
11	ScienceAsia	yes	no	yes	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
12	Songklanakarin Journal of Science and Technology	yes	no	no	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
13	Asian Biomedicine	yes	yes: PORTICO	yes	yes: DeGruyter	yes	no: CC BY-NC-ND	yes: digizeitschriften	yes
14	Buffalo Bulletin	yes	no	no	yes: OJS	no	no	no	no
15	Chiang Mai Journal of Science	yes	no	no	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
16	Thai Journal of Veterinary Medicine	yes	no	no	yes: OJS	yes	no: CC BY-NC-ND	no	no
17	International Journal of Geoinformatics	no	no	no	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
18	Chiang Mai University Journal of Natural Sciences	yes	no	yes	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
19	EnvironmentAsia	yes	no	yes, DataCite	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
20	Maejo International Journal of Science and Technology	yes	no	no	yes: by manual entry	no	yes: CC BY-NC	no	no
21	The Thai Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences	yes	no	no	yes: OJS	no	no	no	no
22	Engineering Journal	yes	no	yes	yes: OJS	no	no	no	no
23	Phuket Marine Biological Center Research Bulletin	no	no	no	no	no	no	no	no
24	Thai Journal of Mathematics	yes	no	no	yes: OJS	no	no	no	yes
	ECTI Transactions on Electrical Eng., Electronics, and Communications	yes	no	no	yes: OJS	no	no	no	no
26	Thai Journal of Agricultural Science	yes	no	no	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
27	Walailak Journal of Science and Technology	yes	no	no	yes: OJS	no	no	no	no
28	Thai Forest Bulletin	yes	no	yes	yes: OJS	yes	no: CC BY-NC-ND	no	no
29	Thailand Statistician	yes	no	no	yes: OJS	yes	no: CC BY-NC-ND	no	no
30	Tropical Natural History	yes	no	no	yes: OJS	yes	no: CC BY-NC-ND	no	no
31	Environment and Natural Resources Journal	yes	no	no	yes: OJS	yes	no	no	no
32	Journal of Metals, Materials and Minerals	yes	no	yes, DataCite	yes: OJS	no	no	no	yes
33	GMSARN International Journal	yes	no	no	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
34	Journal of Population and Social Studies	yes	no	no	yes: OJS	yes	no: CC BY-NC-ND	no	no
35	Pharmaceutical Sciences Asia	yes	no	yes	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
36	Engineering and Applied Science Research	yes	no	no	yes: OJS	yes	no: CC BY-NC-ND	no	no
37	Suranaree Journal of Science and Technology	yes	no	no	yes: by manual entry	no	no	no	no
38	ABAC Journal	yes	no	no	yes: OJS	no	no	no	no
39	International Journal of Behavioral Science	yes	no	no	yes: OJS	yes	no: CC BY-NC-ND	no	no

Summary

The preparation guidelines for DOAJ Seal of journals in Thai-Journal Citation Index are setting up the policy in copyright, publication ethics, and archiving. The developing process to meet 7 Seal criteria which needs to set up the committee from Journal editors to design the work plan to upgrade to the higher level of openness. Key issues to recommend are setting up the national data archive for journals, research data and research output and designing the national deposit directory by working on the policy and electronic journals copyright for open access and long term use which are related to the study of Wipawin (2016) found that Thai universities (ie. 18 out of 30 institutions) have adopted an open-system institutional repository in their universities, but are still ingenuous of such organizational policies, risk and safety management of data. Lastly, the principles of quality assurance standards of research data in institutional repositories are best set up to manage research data in digital repositories in order to meet standard qualifications in terms of organization, digital repository and technical infrastructure.

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