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Lisa Romano

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Enhanced Transfer Alerting Service

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Enhanced Transfer Alerting Service
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Journals can sometimes transfer among publishers leaving users without access to current and back content, and with a disruption of services. The National Information Standards Organization (NISO) Transfer Code of Practice is a voluntary standard for journal publishers to ensure best practices when journals transfer to new publishers. The code is governed by a group of librarians, publishers, and other intermediaries.

The Enhanced Transfer Alerting Service (ETAS) is a searchable database of information regarding transferred journals. Included are the new publisher, the details of the transfer, and where back content can be found. The ETAS home page includes a list of the most recently transferred journals, with the most recent posted journal first. Clicking on the title of the journal displays the transfer details: receiving publisher, transferring publisher, journal information, specific transfer details, and perpetual access. Some of the transfer records lack transfer details, such as contact information. Also, it is unclear if these records are being updated with any changes, as information could change. The transfer details page would benefit from an updated date field.

To search for a specific transferred journal, click the “Search transfers link” near the top of the page. Options to search include multi-field (keywords), International Standard Serial Number (ISSN), or effective transfer dates. The site allows for the use of standard Boolean operators (and, or, phrase, and not) and wildcards. The results can be sorted by relevance (default), title A–Z, effective transfer date newest–oldest, and effective transfer date oldest–newest. At the bottom of the page, there are some sample search examples. The multi-field option acts as keyword search and maybe should be labeled as such.

After performing a search, the results show the title, Uniform Resource Locator (URL), print and online ISSNs, receiving and transferring publisher, effective transfer date, and date posted to the site for the resulting transferred journals. This list can be exported to a comma separated values (.csv) file. Additionally, a link to start a new search is available from this page. The results page lists the number of resulting entries. Unfortunately, it is just one long list without page number links to jump through the results, and also lacks previous page and next page links. Clicking a title on this page displays the transaction details information, which can also be exported to a .csv file.

To see the list of transferred journals by date, click the “Transfer notifications” link. On this page, the list can be limited by effective transfer dates and/or notification dates. In addition, the list can be sorted by title A–Z, date created newest–oldest, date created oldest–newest, effective transfer date newest–oldest, and effective transfer date oldest–newest with 5, 10, 20, or 50 results per page. These results can also be exported to a .csv file. However, the results display does not list the number of resulting entries, but does provide page number links to jump through the results with previous page and next page links. Once again, clicking on a title displays the transaction details.
The two other links, Transfer form (login required) and Transfer bulk upload (login required) are not accessible to the general public. These areas of the site allow publishers to upload transfer details either individually or in bulk.

The ETAS site offers a link to the e-mail alerts in the body of the text of the Home page. Clicking this link displays the page to sign-up for alerts. Unfortunately, users are directed away from the ETAS site and would need to return to the site. The site should consider making this link more visible, and offer the sign-up directly from the site or display the sign-up page in a new window. In addition, users can subscribe to the Rich Site Summary (RSS) feed by clicking on the “Transfer Notifications” link or the RSS graphic in the upper-right corner of the Home page. The resulting page provides a link to subscribe. Like the e-mail listserv, a clearer link, and a direct sign-up from the ETAS Home page without being taken to a new page/site would be helpful.

The design of ETAS site is straightforward and the results appear quickly (including on mobile devices). For anyone looking for information on journals that have transferred publishers, this site is a good beginning point. The ETAS site offers valuable transferring information in one place and cuts down on the amount of time users would need to search for this information.

Rating: 4 out 5

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Association of College and Research Libraries Scholarly Communication Toolkit

http://acrl.libguides.com/scholcomm/toolkit

In 2003, the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) defined scholarly communication as

the system through which research and other scholarly writings are created, evaluated for quality, disseminated to the scholarly community, and preserved for future use. The system includes both formal means of communication, such as publication in peer-reviewed journals, and informal channels, such as electronic listservs.

The ACRL Scholarly Communication Toolkit was initially launched in 2005 by the ACRL Research and Scholarly Environment Committee (formerly the Scholarly Communication Committee) to support advocacy efforts designed to transform the scholarly communication landscape. The Toolkit is an educational resource primarily directed toward librarians to assist them with: (1) integrating a scholarly communication perspective into library operations and programs; and (2) preparing presentations on scholarly communication issues for administrators, faculty, staff, students, or other librarians.