

The PRHSJ goes Green: What does it Mean?

For 33 years the Puerto Rico Health Sciences Journal (PRHSJ), publication of the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus, has been a valuable resource for the academic community, an accessible tool for students and faculty to publish and disseminate their work. The Journal has grown and expanded its publication topics to include basic and clinical science, clinical and translational research, public health research, community studies, and educational research. Fulfilling the mission of the PRHSJ to provide a national and international dissemination of the research activity performed by our faculty and students from the six schools of the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus as well as other centers in Puerto Rico conducting health sciences research in Puerto Rico (1).

By 2007 the Journal was a *fully peer-reviewed publication* with sustain indexation in main data bases such as PubMed/Medline, Science Citation Index Expanded (SciSearch®), SCOPUS, Latindex, Index Copernicus, Journal Citation Reports/Science Edition and by a license agreement with EBSCO (2). In 2008, the PRHSJ implemented a free open access tool for journals known as *Open Journal System (OJS)* (3, 4) which is a platform for manuscript submission and publication on the Web. This initiative has provide the Journal to global dissemination being viewed not only in Puerto Rico but also in the United States and other countries such as China, India, Iran, Japan, Mexico, and Turkey.

The PRHSJ continues to grow, it as a consistent and growing impact factor, has a bibliographic repository in PubMed Central and has a presence in prestigious databases such as Web of Science and SCOPUS among others as mention above, and has a continuous increase manuscript submissions. Recently the PRHSJ obtained the Creative Commons license which permits the author to continue with the copyright of the manuscript as long as acknowledgement to the Journal is provided in citations.

Today the PRHSJ received another important recognition. SHERPA/RoMEO, a database of publishers' copyright and self-archiving policies, has classified the PRHSJ as a "green journal" (5). What does it mean to "go green"? The RoMEO color green classification means that an author can archive pre-print and post-print or publisher's version/PDF. Therefore, all titles are open access. An author can submit a manuscript free of charge and archive pre-print and post-print versions of their work. Also publisher's final version of manuscripts are available in PDF format for download, print and distribute without any cost.

This is a significant distinction for the PRHSJ, another stepping milestone in its trajectory. The PRHSJ has accepted the challenges of the new technology era and continuously worked to accommodate to the changes. These changes and success are the sum on the work of a compromised group of

persons from the Editorial Board to the compromise of our Leaders in the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus, Dean of Academic Affairs and Chancellor, that has foster the Journal since its origin. The PRHSJ continues to follow the mission as stated by the first Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Lillian Haddock, and their initial Editor's Board. Today's success was possible to the vision of Dr. Jorge L. Sánchez who in 2007 established the peer-review structure and installed the Open Journal System platform. However, we cannot dismiss the work of our past Editors-in-Chief, Dr. Rafael Villavicencio, Dr. Luis M. Vilá and their Editorial Board, and the Journal's Staff. Most importantly, we need the continuous collaboration of our reviewers' and author's manuscript submission to continue with the mission of the PRHSJ.

The PRHSJ, represented by the Editorial Board, Editor-in-Chief, and the Leaders of the University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus, are grateful to our author's and reviewer's for their continuous support and will continue to work promoting publications while maintaining high standards of quality. The PRHSJ, the only peer-reviewed health science journal with impact factor in Puerto Rico, will continue to make available to everyone relevant scientific information and important investigations of our faculty and students. Not strenuous restrictions or regulations, just knowledge.

The PRHSJ has many successes and with our faculty, students, reviewers, Editorial Board, Journal Staff and Institutional support many more will come.



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<http://prhsj.rcm.upr.edu>

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