



## Symposium “Publishing strategies and publishing options”

European Congress of Arachnology, Rennes, France

In this symposium we will discuss what types of journals there are, where to publish and consider whether/where to work for free. This is not an easy topic, especially not when publications and editorial experience are essential for career development and for receiving performance-related bonuses.

Open Access and Open Science are being propagated, and science is becoming more transparent because methods and data are more easily accessible, which is a good thing. But how do scientists find the best way to publish their results among all the traditional and newly-founded journals? Some of the factors that affect the choice of journal are citability, reputation, speed of publication and the odds of acceptance. Depending on the circumstances, some researchers opt for speed rather than reputation. Journals with a high acceptance rate and fast processing speed are enticing, though sometimes incur the risk of publishing without obvious or adequate quality control. There is much discussion about so-called predatory journals or predatory publishing houses. Some publishers were founded only a few decades ago and are growing at an incredible pace, focusing on growth and speed, while optimizing their practices around the *Access Processing Charges* (APC) business model. This rapid growth builds on enthusiastic scientists all over the world who act as reviewers and editors free of charge. Nevertheless, scientists pay considerable sums for open access publication, for some journals over 10,000 €. We will explore options including non-profit, society-based journals, and journals connected to large publishing houses where the publisher returns part of the income to the society. We will also explore the option to publish with *Peer Community In* (PCI), a non-profit and non-commercial organization that is managed by scientists for scientists. Here, preprints are evaluated and recommended, leading to citable articles that can be published in one of the PCI journal sections. PCI provides free access to both authors and readers but does not provide an Impact Factor.

Since impact factors are linked to our current research evaluation system, we will discuss how this shapes the publishing options and strategies especially for early career researchers.

### **Organizer:**

Gabriele Uhl, University of Greifswald, Germany

Email: [gabriele.uhl@uni-greifswald.de](mailto:gabriele.uhl@uni-greifswald.de)