

Procedures for Evaluating Impact of Journals and Conference Proceedings

Last updated 2/05/09

Listed in the *AME Definitions of Research Products* document there are three criteria for defining the classification of a research publication: 1) Highly competitive peer review with low acceptance rate (25% for conferences, 35% for journals), 2) Long paper, and 3) In highly cited conference or journal that is considered major event/journal in the field.

To address the third criterion, AME has established the following procedures to evaluate the impact of particular journals and conference proceedings. These procedures are necessary because in an emerging field such as digital media, it can sometimes be difficult to track publication impact. Newly established venues in particular present difficulties. Faculty and students can submit additional evidence of impact if these measures do not adequately address a publication. In all cases, it is the responsibility of the faculty or student documenting a publication record to provide evidence of high impact. The following procedures can be used to demonstrate publication impact.

1. The research facilitation committee has compiled a preliminary list of journals and conference proceedings where leaders in the field of media arts and sciences publish. Building from this list, a ranking of top tier journals and proceedings have been identified through quantitative measures and faculty input. This list is not intended to be definitive and will continue to be under review on a biannual basis. This list is available for download on the AME Resources page.
2. The Institute for Scientific Information's (ISI) Journal Citation Reports (JCR) also address publication impact. These can be accessed online through the ASU library website (search for JCR). The impact of a specific journal is calculated as: # of recent citations/ # of recent articles = impact factor. This should be compared to the impact factor for the subject category or the average of the categories if there is more than one. If the impact of the journal is higher than the average of the category, then it will be considered high impact.
3. The submitting faculty or student can also provide evidence of impact through the submission of materials that document extraordinary connectivity to leaders in the field that may not be captured by other means. For example, a hybrid conference, a festival or a new journal might have participation by leading figures whose participation may not be reflected by tracking publication records alone. Evidence to this effect, such as lists of typical attendees and research records that encompass all tracks, could be presented in support of an impact rating.