



Part 1: Writing for Publication

Norm Medeiros
Associate Librarian
Haverford College

Turn Your Idea into a Publication

an ALCTS Virtual Symposium • January 13, 2015



Getting Started

- A little background
- Have something useful to say
- Start small



Tips & Techniques

- Start with an outline
- Methodology
- Tie in previous research effectively; draw conclusions that are beyond the local
- Stay on track; set deliverables
- Adhere to instructions for authors
- Ask a trusted colleague for feedback
- Read *The Elements of Style*. Be clear; omit needless words; use the active voice
- Writing is a process. Revise, revise, ferment, revise



Overarching Principles

- Your writing should be enjoyable to read
- Never marry your prose
- Know your audience
- Exercise your writing and it will get stronger



Collaborative Writing

- Harder than solo writing, but product usually better
- Provides more input; tests assumptions
- Requires a project leader to keep contributors on task
- Requires an editorial leader to normalize style and voice



Copyright

- Retain copyright of your work



Transparency

- Make data and code available
- ReadMe file
- Data repositories



CENTER FOR OPEN SCIENCE

The
Dataverse
Network[™]
Project



A Web Application for Publishing, Citing,
Analyzing and Preserving Research Data

BETA open
ICPSR



Final Thoughts

- No prescription for success
- Write for ALCTS



Thank you!

Turn Your Idea into a Publication

an ALCTS Virtual Symposium • January 13, 2015