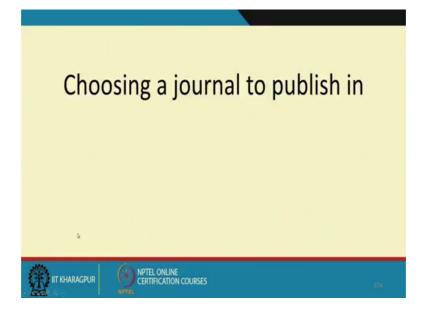
Research Writing Prof. Aradhna Malik Vinod Gupta School of Management Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur

Lecture -29 Choosing a Journal to Publish In

Welcome back to the MOOC course on research writing my name is Aradhna Malik and I am helping you with the course. And we have now you know we reached the stage where we are talking about you know you revise you revise your document you proofread it; you want to now submit it to a journal. So, this lecture is being recorded as a result of some suggestions I got from the students on the forum and via email.

Now, this in this class we will help you identify the journal you choose for publication. So, you we are specifically talking about research articles at this point and so, how do you choose a journal to publish in.

(Refer Slide Time: 00:58)



(Refer Slide Time: 00:59)



Some factors to consider are one is the scope of the journal what is the general looking at, what kinds of articles as to journal published, what is the vision and mission of the journal, what was the journal setup for all of these things you know constitutes the scope of the journal.

So, that is absolutely essential for you to find what how you should publish and what you should do you know. So, the kinds of articles that should go into particular journal; so, the match between what you have worked on and the aims of the arctic of the journal are is very very important. Then the impact and reputation of the journal is another very important factor; how impactful is it what is the academic reputation of that journal and we will talk more about it in the in this class.

The policies of the journal every general will tell you what they will publish, what kinds of articles they publish and what kind of material they will publish and so, on. The accessibility of journal articles is another issue you have open access journals which are available across the globe, which you can access you know free of cost; you have some journals that are available through the subscriptions that your of your own library and you know.

So, it just depends on the accessibility of the journal articles what is accessibility or what is not you know do you have in access because when you pick a journal the review was many times require you to sight from that journal itself.

And so, they will exceptive to have read articles from the journal you are submitting to and they will expect that you will site from the same journal, you will know enough about the journal to have refer do it for you to have chosen the journal. So, do you have access to copies of the journal if not then you need to pick a different journal.

(Refer Slide Time: 03:03)

Identifying impact & reputation of journals

- <u>Impact Factor</u>: The numerical value assigned to a journal based on its usage. (No. of times articles from that journal have been used in other peer reviewed literature)
 - H-index (Hirsch Index): Measures the productivity and citation impact of individual publications or scholars.



Now, how do you identify impact and reputation journals? The impact factor the numerical value assigned to a journal based on its usage. So, this is one of the ways in which the impact factor is gagged the H index the Hirsch index measures the productivity and citation impact of individual publications or scholars.

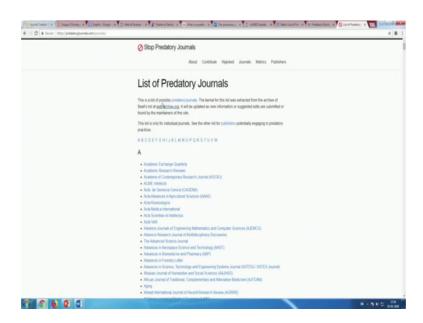
So, that is the impact factor it is a numerical value assigned to a journal or an article or an author's work based on the usage of that authors work on the usage of that particular article or that journal.

(Refer Slide Time: 03:39)



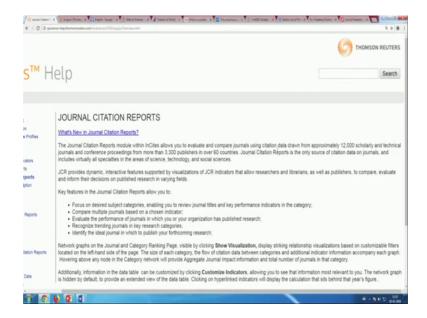
Some journal metrics various ways you know some credible journal metrics are the incites journal citation reports I will show them to you. The SCOPUS journal metrics are there, you have Google scholar metrics, you have Web of science metrics and you have publish or perish let me show you what each of these are.

(Refer Slide Time: 04:00)



You have already pulled the stuff up for you; so, this is a here incites.

(Refer Slide Time: 04:07)

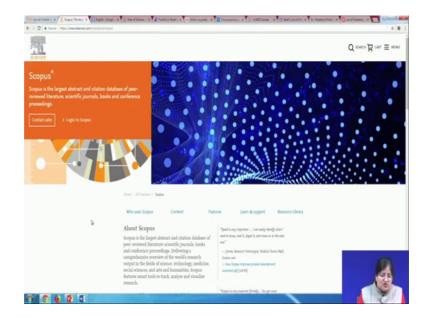


Now, a incites is it has been put up by Thomson Reuters; I just the link is there you can browse through this; we cannot access this because our library does not subscribe to this, but then this is the overview. So, the journal citation reports module with incites allows you to evaluate and compare journals using citation data drawn from approximately 12000 scholarly and technical journals and conference proceedings from more than 3300 publishers in over 60 countries.

Key features in the journal citation reports allow you to focus on desired subject categories and reading from here enabling you to review journal titles and key performance indicators and the category compare multiple journals based on a chosen indicator evaluate the performance of journals in which you or your organizations published research, recognize trending journals in key research categories, identify the ideal journal in which to publish your forthcoming the research hm.

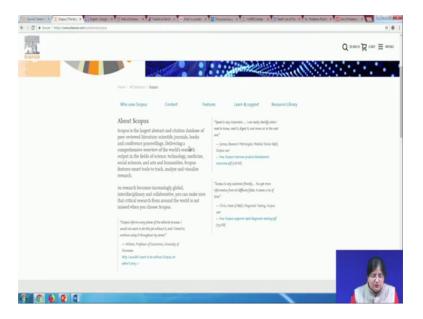
So, network graphs on the journal and category ranking page visible by clicking show visualization; I wish I could show this to you we do not have access it.

(Refer Slide Time: 05:30)



The other one that we mentioned here was Scopus; Scopus index.

(Refer Slide Time: 05:37)



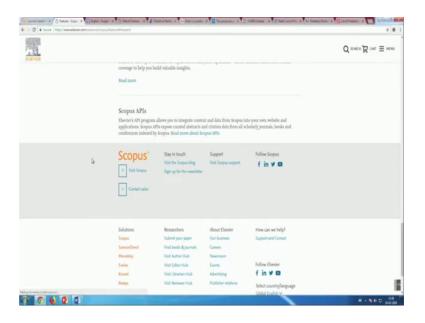
So, here largest abstract and citation database of peer reviewed literature scientific journals books and conference proceedings. So, let us see if you can login to the features here ok; so, this is been put up by sevier group.

(Refer Slide Time: 06:04)



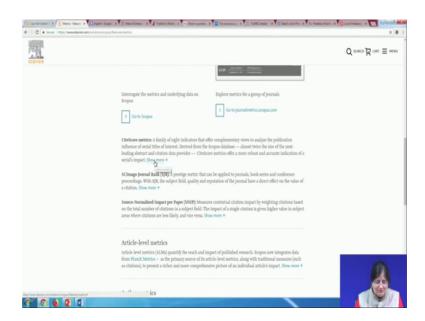
So, the so yeah research metrics.

(Refer Slide Time: 06:13)



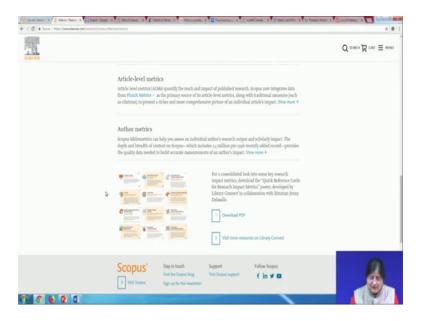
Here I do not think we are able to access this also you have journal metrics, you have sites score metrics you may go general rank source normalized impact for paper.

(Refer Slide Time: 06:36)



Various metrics are there article level metrics author metrics are there.

(Refer Slide Time: 06:47)



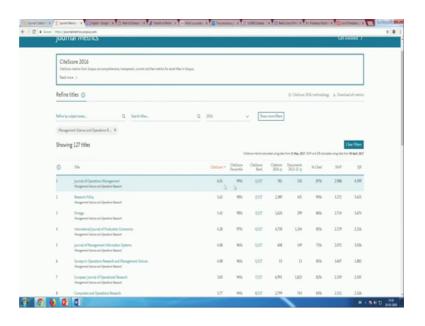
So, you can download the indicators here and you can see how these are computed let us see trying to take you to that specific page.

(Refer Slide Time: 07:08)



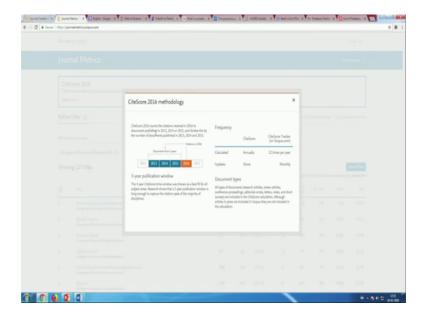
Send arrogate matrix for a group of journals.

(Refer Slide Time: 07:23)



So, let us say refined by subject areas let us say management science and operations research. So, we have all of these operations research number of citations are less, but the sites score is high because the sight score rank is here its number 1 87 percent article that excited. So, various things are here and you can see what each of these means the sight score ok. So, you know you can sight score 2016 methodology.

(Refer Slide Time: 08:50)

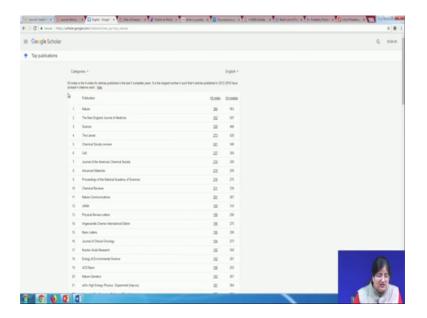


Sight score 2016 counts the citations received in 2016 to the documents published in 2013, 14 or 15 and divides this pattern number of documents published in 2013, 14 and 15 ok.

So, the number of citation divide the divided by the number of documents citations received in 2016 and. So, so you know. So, counts the these citations received in 2016 to document published in 2013, 14 or 15 and divides this by the number of documents citations to these documents divided by the number of documents themselves.

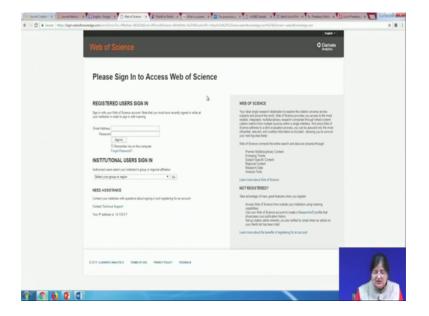
And so, all of this is here; so, you know these are various ways in which you can in which they do this. Now, here the Google matrix again here Google scholar matrix Google scholars are very good resource here and another one.

(Refer Slide Time: 09:50)



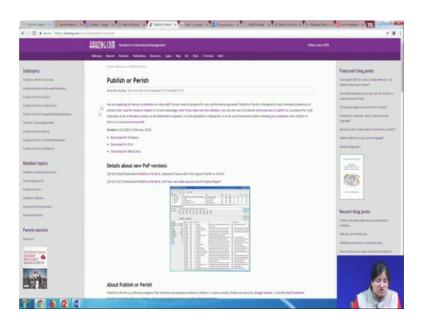
So, here you can see various top publications nature for example, has the h 5 index of 366 h 5 median of h 5 index is the h index for the articles published in the last 5 complete years it is the largest number is that such h articles published in 2012 to 16 have at least 8 citations each. So, again you know this is there then web of science.

(Refer Slide Time: 10:20)



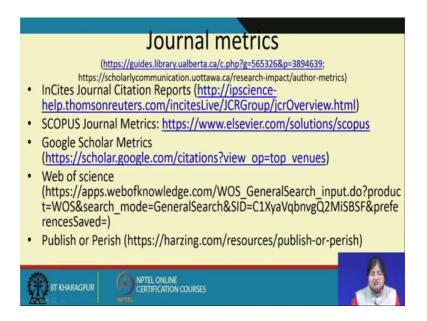
We cannot access this, but again you know you can go through this more publish or perish.

(Refer Slide Time: 10:30)



So, you can download it and then you know you can use it to decide which journals to submit and so, this also contains various indexes related to the journal.

(Refer Slide Time: 10:51)



Next here so, journal metrics we covered again various ways in which the number of citation or where you publish is quantified and how your publication is received primarily.

(Refer Slide Time: 11:05)

H Index

IIT KHARAGPUR

Author Metrics ORCID (Open Researcher & Contributor iD): Many reputed journals ask you for this when submitting your manuscript - Feeds into the H Index - Ensures that your work is attributed to you

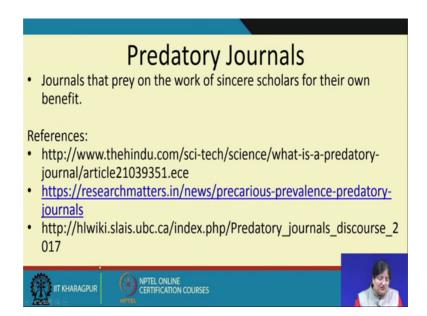
Some author matrix again the H index like I told you it is the Hirsch index; ORCID is a way of feeding into the Hirsch index. ORCID stands for Open Research and Contributor iD many times of you submitted articles to say a the a savvier group of journals or the emerald publishers you would have seen that they ask for your ORCID iD ORCID number.

NPTEL ONLINE CERTIFICATION COURSES

So, ORCID stands for open researcher and contributor iD many reputed journals ask you for this when submitting a manuscript, it feeds into the h index and it ensures that your work is attributed to you because then anytime your name is cited are you know something from your articles or something from your creation is cited the dealings are formed to it.

Now, another very a matter of concern here is the predatory journals that is something that I would really like to cover in this lecture.

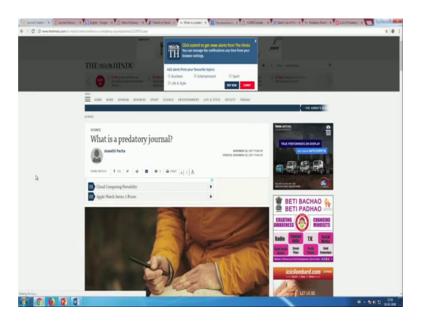
(Refer Slide Time: 12:08)



And that is what are predatory journals? Predatory journals are journals that pray on the work of sincere scholars for their own benefit. So, they just one more publications and so, they keep referring to themselves and a lot of times this leads to misuse of the work of sincere authors. Now, this is a very very unethical practice that is been going on.

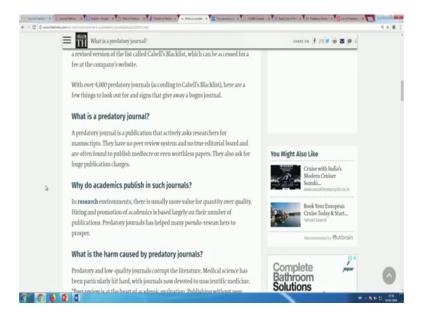
So, many times many general spring up that are not very valuable and where you should not published. So, you should be vary of these predatory journals; the references that you can read or where the place where you can places where you can find more information on predatory journals are here let me show you these what is the very nice article in the Hindu by Aswathy Pacha.

(Refer Slide Time: 13:02)



This was published on the 28th of November 2017. So, this is not predatory journals what is the predatory journal?

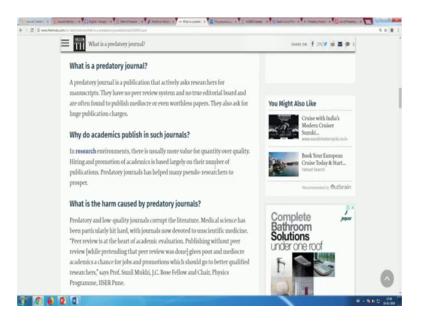
(Refer Slide Time: 13:13)



Predatory journal is a publication that actively asks researchers for manuscripts um. There are no peer review system and no true editorial board and are often found to publish mediocre even worthless papers. They also ask for huge publication charges now this is something that you must be careful of whenever you are trying to submit your

work to a journal please make sure that you are you know you are not being asked to pay for the publication.

(Refer Slide Time: 14:00)



If you have been asked to pay for the publication then something is definitely fishy why do academics publicans or journals in research and management there usually more value for quantity over quality. So, many papers for promotion; So, many papers for this and that.

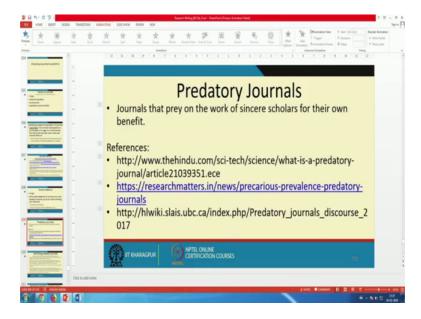
So, many times we tend to you know many times one is tempted to publish in these journals. In research hiring in promotion of academics is based largely on the number of their publications and predatory journals have helped many pseudo resources to prosper.

(Refer Slide Time: 14:30)



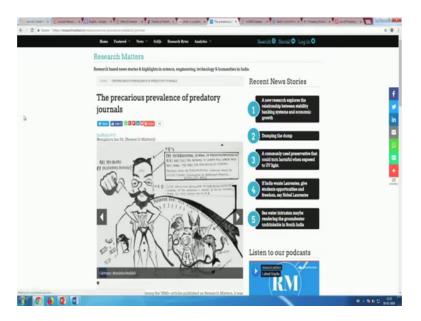
So, what is the harm predatory and low quality journals corrupt the literature many times they accept publications are they accept manuscripts that are not worthy of publication or that could do with a lot of review. So, you know various criteria are mentioned here again let me first street from here and then I will come back to this.

(Refer Slide Time: 14:49)



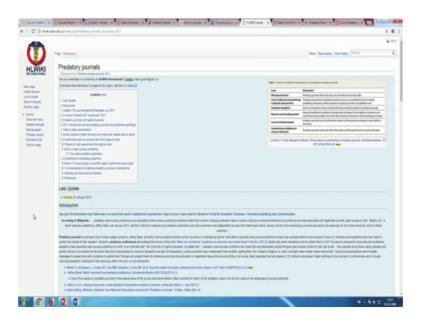
This in another one research matter there is in other article that was written on the basis of this article.

(Refer Slide Time: 14:55)



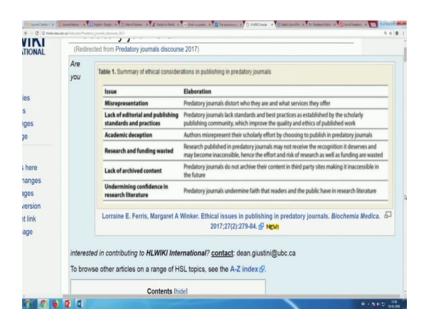
The precarious prevalence of predatory journals and another article that you can read you know one predatory journals.

(Refer Slide Time: 15:05)



Then H L WIKI from Canada talks about predatory journals and talks about how the ethical considerations; I have not put this on a slide I would like to read this directly from the website. So, I am just increasing the size here ok.

(Refer Slide Time: 15:26)

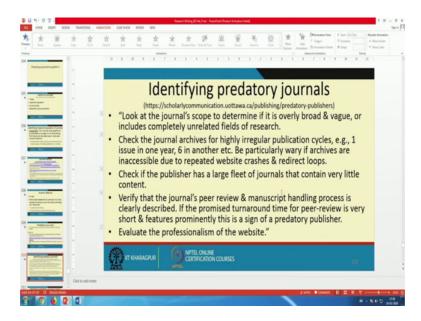


So, there is a summary of ethical considerations in publishing in predatory journals there is misrepresentation predatory journals distraught who they are and what services they offer this lack of editorial and publishing in standards and practices predatory journals like standards and best practices as established by the scholarly publishing community which improve the quality and ethics of published work.

There is a two academic deception author is misrepresents there scholarly offered by choosing to published in predatory journals. Research and funding is wasted research published in predatory journals may not receive the recognition, it deserves and may become inaccessible hence the effort and risk of research as well as funding a wasted, lack of archive content predatory journals to not archive the content and third party size making it inaccessible in the future; undermining conference confidence in research literature.

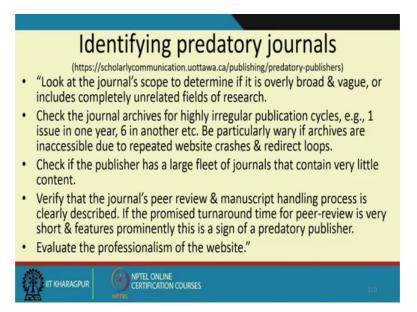
So, predatory journals undermining face that readers and the public have in research literature. Again this is from a paper here the reference is mentioned you can go through this um. So, this is a H L WIKI has been put up by the university of British Columbia Canada. So, that is in another very nice article that you can read.

(Refer Slide Time: 16:47)



Now, identifying predatory journals how do you identify predatory journals you must look at the journals scope to determine if it is overly broad and vague or if it in includes completely unrelated fields of research.

(Refer Slide Time: 16:53)



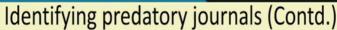
So, anything in and everything can be published in these journals, check the journal archives for highly irregulation irregular publication cycles. So, for example, one issue in one year and 6 in another etcetera be particularly vary if the archives are inaccessible due

to repeated website crashes this information is from a an article put up by University of Ottawa Canada and the link the they have been given up we know right at the top ok.

Check if the publisher has a large fleet of journals that contain very little content; many times publishers just publish you know they bring journal after journal after journal and many times these journals are not a very good quality verify that the journals peer review and manuscript handling process is clearly described if the promised turnaround time for peer review is very short and features prominently this is a sign of a predatory publisher good publisher will take at least a month to give you a review area decision and some topmost journals can take even 7 to 8 months.

Evaluate the professionalism of the website how has the website been put up and then this (Refer Time: 18:13) if there is a journal that does not have a website please do not published in it and telling you that that can be unless you have a physical copy in your hand and unless you can see that the journal you know is worth your while. And you can find a citation index if the journal does not have an online presence you must turnaround and find out if something is fishy ah; you must at least you know it must raise an alarm if it claims to be indexed by a reputable database, verify this by checking the database.

(Refer Slide Time: 18:40)



(https://scholarlycommunication.uottawa.ca/publishing/predatory-publishers)

- "If it claims to be indexed by a reputable database, verify this by checking the database.
- Look out for fake indexes like the Index Copernicus, or fake impact factors like the Universal Impact Factor or Global Impact Factor.
- Verify that the journal displays its author fee policy.
- Check that the publisher provides full, verifiable contact information on the journal site. Be cautious of publishers that provide contact email addresses that are non-professional or not affiliated with the journal."



Many times they will tell you oh we are Scopus indexed and we are indexed in ABSCO go to abscond find out if the journal is listed there.

Look out for fate in fake indexes like the index Copernicus or fake impact factors like the universal impact factor or global impact factor. Then verify that the journal displays it is author fee policy to the charge of fee from the authors good journal will not ask you to pay, they will raise their funds from the subscriptions or from how people subscribed to them good open access journals may ask you to pay of fee, but again you need to check they will not ask for exorbitant amounts.

So, typically there and an advertisements and donations check that the publisher provides full verifiable contact information on the journal site be cautious of publishers that provide contact email addresses that are not professional or not affiliated with the journal. If it is a journal they will have you know their own website and they will people will be there email addresses will be connected to that journal.

(Refer Slide Time: 19:50)

Identifying predatory journals (Contd.)

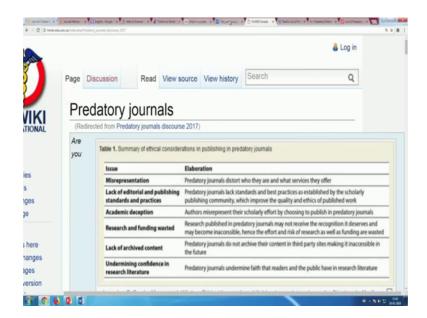
(https://scholarlycommunication.uottawa.ca/publishing/predatory-publishers)

- "Reputable publishers can become members of an industry association that whets its members like the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association & the Committee on Publication Ethics. Verify their membership if they claim to be associated.
- Use common sense: If something appears suspicious, proceed with caution. Consult with colleagues, or superiors, or contact your librarian."



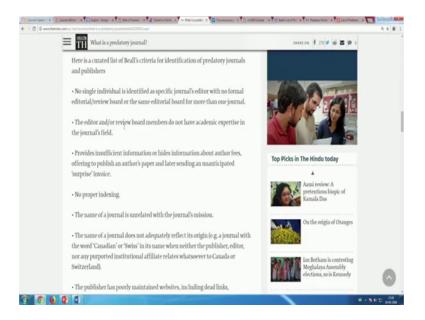
Reputable publishers can become members of an industry association that whets its members like the open access scholarly publishers association and the committee on publication ethics. Verify their membership if they claim to be associated; use common sense if something sphere suspicious go you know explore proceed with caution consult with colleagues or superiors or contact your librarian.

(Refer Slide Time: 20:16)



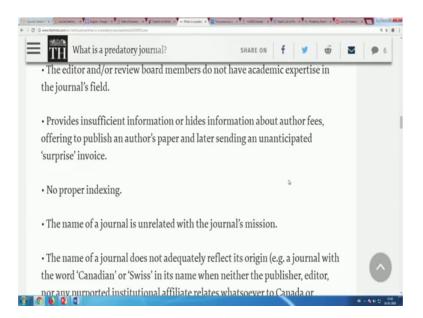
Then some more thoughts on predatory publishers again I would like to read this from here some more ideas that have been given in this article curated list to be this criteria for identification of predatory journals no single individual is identified as specific journal editor with no formal editorial review board on the same editorial board for more than one journal.

(Refer Slide Time: 20:30)



Again cause for concern this is directly from the website.

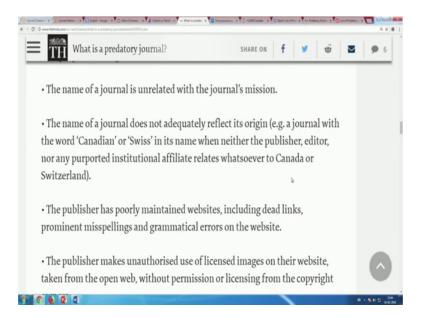
(Refer Slide Time: 20:50)



The editor and the review board members do not have academic expertise in the journals field. It provides insufficient information or hides information about author fees offering to publish an authors paper and later sending an unanticipated surprise invoice.

Socially then tell you yes we will publish it you are happy you mention that publication in your resume you may you used it and they say; we will be able to publish only after you pay this much money bad; do not go for them, no proper indexing the name of a journal is unrelated with the journals mission.

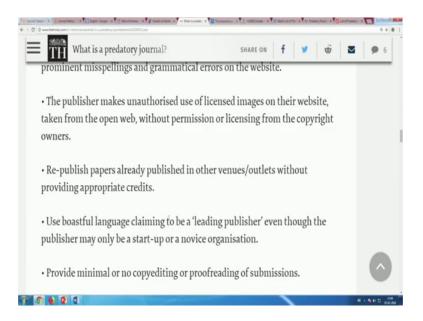
(Refer Slide Time: 21:24)



The name of a journal does not adequately reflect its origin for example, journey with the word Canadian or Swiss in its name within when neither the publisher, editor nor any purported institutional affiliate relates whatsoever to Canada or Switzerland. So, you could be sitting in India and saying Canadian journal of integrative marketing come in I hope there is no so, journal.

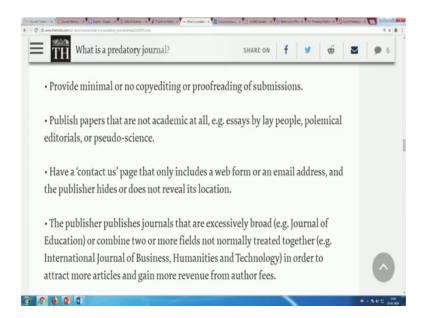
But say Canadian journal of x y z and you know it may or may not exist. The publisher has poorly maintained websites including dead links misspellings and grammatical errors on the web site.

(Refer Slide Time: 22:05)



Publisher makes unauthorized use of licensed images on their website taken from the open web without permission or licensing from the copyright owners.

(Refer Slide Time: 22:16)

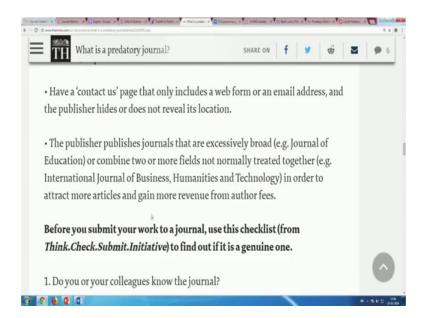


Republish papers if the journal republishers, papers already published in other a venues outlets without providing appropriate credits they do not even ask you to reference these.

So, using boastful language claiming to be a leading publisher even though the publisher may only be a startup or a novice organization; they provide minimal or no copy editing or proofreading of submissions, they republish papers that are not academic at all for example, essays by lay people polemical editors of pseudo science.

They have a contact us page that only includes a web form or an email address and the publisher hides or does not reveal is physical address or location the publisher publishes journals that are excessively broad.

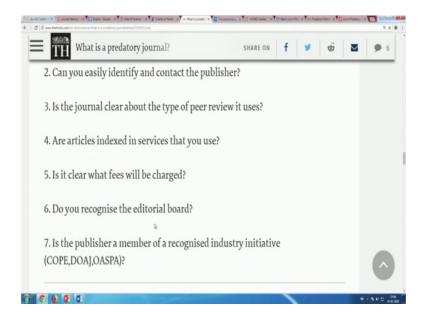
(Refer Slide Time: 22:57)



So, you know are combine two or more fields do not normally treated together for example, international journal of business humanities and technology in order to attract more articles hm.

Now, before you submit your work to a journal use this checklist again they also I am just reading from the website.

(Refer Slide Time: 23:13)

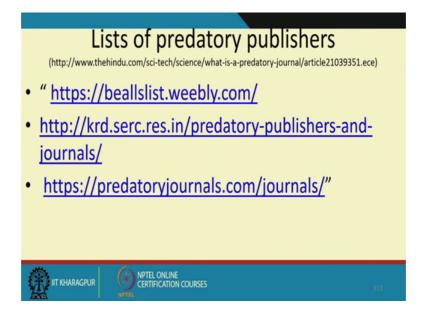


I came to know that people wanted this information. So, I have you know hurriedly got it all together do you or your colleagues do you or your colleagues know the journal can

you easily identify and contact the publisher; is the journal clear about the type of peer review it uses? Are articles indexed in services that you use? Is it clear what fees will be charged? Do you recognize the editorial board? Is the publisher a member of a recognized industry initiative etcetera.

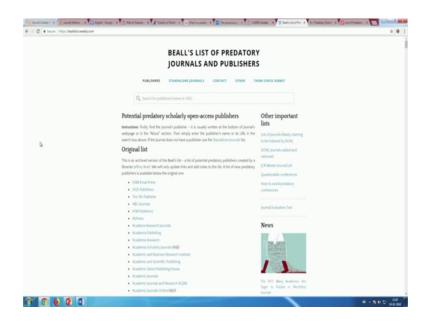
So, unless you have this information with you please do not submit to such journals ok.

(Refer Slide Time: 23:54)



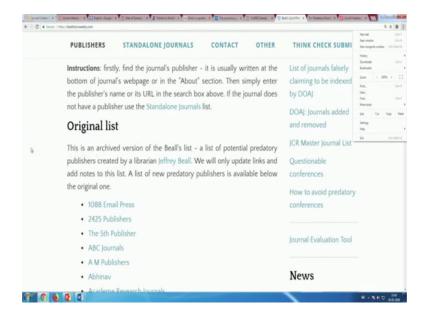
Some list of predatory publishers that have been again that were mentioned here that might be of use to you there is the you know bealls list I will just show you.

(Refer Slide Time: 24:05)



So, this again bealls original list was pulled down because the various complaints people said that many authentic journals were included in this I am not sure of the background of this list, but this should raise some antonius.

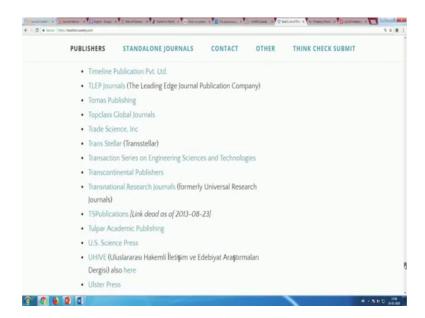
(Refer Slide Time: 24:26)



So, just go through this list and if you are if you suspect that articles may have been published from these data bases then maybe you can be cautious about this list. It is a very long list of publishers that are predatory and here I will just increase the size just see; it unfortunate that many people are you know choosing to be unethical here. So, you can see this alright.

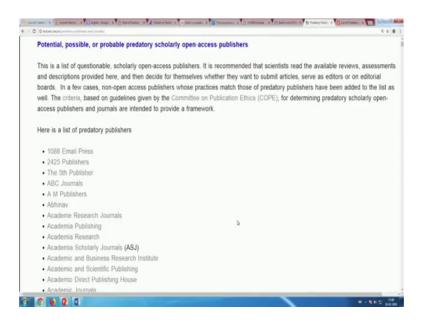
So, you can go through this list it is very very scary to see this, but then you have the links. So, you can go through this is the most credible list worldwide they have also added to it.

(Refer Slide Time: 26:00)



Here predator again predatory publishers and journals this is a list put up by the S C R C division of the council for scientific information and research.

(Refer Slide Time: 26:21)



So, this contains whole list of journals from India also. So, this might be useful for you if you know in the interest of make taking advantage of the low hanging fruit you are tempted to publish in any one of these journals; please do not it can ruin your professional reputation. So, you know you can see this here ok. So, some from India also

specifically, but then again you know you can go through this list and you might find some that are not good ok, there is another list of predatory journals again.

So, I mean various have been put up and maybe you can combine this list maybe there are some things that are common. But the only thing that I can advise you at this point is you know these list help us understand what is going on in the world these lists are helping us understand where not to publish.

So, all I can say is please choose your journal with care, please look at or please choose where you publish with care, please choose you know the journal that is most appropriate to your own area and please be careful please do not publish in this predatory journals they would really harm your career. That is all we have time for in this class we will try and wrap up the discussion on research writing in the next class.

Thank you very much for listening.