News from New Brunswick

News from Université de Moncton
Marc Harper, Health Sciences Librarian, Bibliothèque Champlain

Library initiatives to combat predatory publishing

As mentioned in the summer edition of the APLA Bulletin, Université de Moncton’s Bibliothèque Champlain has been offering presentations to faculty and students on how to avoid predatory publishers. This unfortunate phenomenon aims to charge fees in exchange for publication from unsuspecting authors. Authors are usually unaware that peer review committees are either very weak or non-existent.

Over the last few months, the Faculty of Advanced Studies and Research (FESR: Faculté des études supérieures et de la recherche) has taken advantage of library presentations and services. This summer, the Dean and Assistant Dean of the FESR attended a library presentation in preparation for a university wide initiative aiming to prevent academic researchers from publishing their work in predatory publications.

A campus wide e-mail was sent shortly after the presentation by the FESR to announce their initiative. The e-mail contained an attached PowerPoint of a library presentation as well as links to several library resources.

Zotero Updates

During the 2016-17 academic year, Bibliothèque Champlain transitioned from RefWorks to Zotero as the primary citation manager promoted by the library. After a successful transition, this past summer saw updates to Zotero’s platform that necessitated quick thinking and fast action on the part of library staff in order for our website and video tutorials to be up to date. After a few hectic weeks leading into the new school year, Bibliothèque Champlain’s Zotero page is up to date and compatible with the new changes. These changes include, among others, the Microsoft Word plugin being automatically downloaded when Zotero itself is downloaded, and a desktop icon leading to Zotero as opposed to a connector within the browser.