



## **FACTSHEET: GOING THE EXTRA MILE: PUBLISHING OPPORTUNITIES DURING CANDIDATURE**

### **1. Why is it important for me to publish during candidature?**

Career wise, a record of peer-reviewed publications is important because it demonstrates scholarly activity, which in turn, can open up options and inform decision making about your future career. Importantly, quality publishing has the potential to add to the body of knowledge to a broad audience in your chosen field. More informally, there is also the personal satisfaction of having your name in print for the first time.

### **2. What should I publish and how?**

As a higher research degree student, you will usually publish the findings of your research. Although your research will be described in your thesis, publishing requires writing up your results in the form of a journal article and submitting it to one of the journals related to your speciality. You should develop a publication plan as part of your research proposal so that you can publish significant findings along the way. After the dissertation is complete, it will be lengthy and largely inaccessible for widespread use and only read by a handful of people. Subsequently, it will be advantageous to break up the thesis into different journal articles and or book chapters.

### **3. How will I learn to write a high quality journal article?**

Learning how to write a high quality journal article is a process that requires rigour and careful crafting. You will usually model the first draft of your article after literature you have read during your candidature, and then spend time crafting it together with your supervisor. Working with your supervisor is important when preparing your first publication because the publishing process is highly competitive, and to publish in high quality journals requires you to compete against other researchers who are much more experienced than you.

### **4. I am undertaking a PhD by publication, how many publications do I need?**

The College Research Committee have some guidelines on this, however, in the first instance it is important to have this discussion with your supervisor.

#### **Related resources:**

Ahern, K. (2012). How to create a journal article from a thesis. *Nurse Researcher*, 19(4), 21-25.

Mizzi, R.C. (2014). Writer's forum-Writing realities: An exploration of drawbacks and benefits of publishing while enrolled in a doctoral program. *New horizons in Adult Education & Human Resource Development*, 26(2), 54-59.