

May 2021

Student Research Journal: A Decade of Building a Global Community of Scholars

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Recommended Citation

Huard, R. (2021). Student Research Journal: A Decade of Building a Global Community of Scholars. *School of Information Student Research Journal*, 11(1). <https://doi.org/10.31979/2575-2499.110102>
Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.sjsu.edu/ischoolsrj/vol11/iss1/2>

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Student Research Journal: A Decade of Building a Global Community of Scholars

About Author

Dr. Ruth Huard is the Dean of the College of Professional and Global Education, serving as the leader for multiple areas within the college: the academic departments in information and data science disciplines, professional and continuing education, global programs and services, and two research and training centers - Silicon Valley Center for Global Studies and the Silicon Valley Center for Big Data and Cybersecurity.

With over 20 years of academic and professional experience in the areas of learning sciences and technology design, Dr. Huard has facilitated the growth of online teaching and learning opportunities for the SJSU community through academic entrepreneurship and accessible technologies.

This is a truly proud moment for the College of Professional and Global Education and San José State University as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the *School of Information Student Research Journal (SRJ)*. In 2011, *SRJ* was created because of the strategic foresight and innovative spirit of the School of Information's leaders, faculty, and students. They understood the importance of providing access and opportunity for students to disseminate their scholarly work in the disciplinary areas of library, information, and data science. To this day, *SRJ* continues to hold its distinctive position as the university's only student governed, peer-reviewed, open-source journal for student research.

Since its founding, *SRJ* has thrived. It has:

- published 78 editorials, articles, book reviews, and evidence summaries
- been downloaded more than 140,000 times from 190 countries
- mentored, trained, and worked with 84 student editors
- received 41 submissions in queue to undergo the peer-review process

The data above not only reflects the vital statistics in *SRJ*'s evolution, but also captures *SRJ*'s most significant achievement of creating a global community of scholars to provoke thought, discussion, and action.

SRJ, as a rigorous, peer reviewed journal, serves as a foundation for an intellectual community in which scholars, students, and practitioners drive relevant and scholarly discourse around the discovery, design, access, analysis, protection, and preservation of data and information. The editorials, articles, and reviews are consistently contemporary, yet the value of those scholarly contributions persist through time. For example, early issues featured articles that addressed health literacy (Flatherty, 2011), privacy and ethics (Tesseler, 2014), needs of homeless library patrons (Barrows, 2014), internet filtering technology (Overaa, 2014), patient access to electronic health records (Zuniga, 2015) – all topics that continue to be relevant and important in today's scholarly conversations across our global communities. Of particular significance as the world faces the COVID-19 health pandemic, *SRJ* has published several articles, both from student contributors and faculty guest contributors, that have focused on health topics. As an example, *Crisis Informatics: Perspectives of Trust – Is Social Media a Mixed Blessing?* contributor Chris Hagar assessed the effectiveness of social media for sharing information during a crisis.

The global reach and relevance of *SRJ* since its inception 10 years ago are a testament to the thoughtful and critical review process undertaken by *SRJ*'s editorial team. It also signals their understanding of significant topics and issues in their discipline and beyond. Congratulations to the *SRJ* editorial staff, Editor-in-Chief Catherine Liebau-Nelsen, and all those who came before them in upholding the rigorous standards of scholarship and for their significant role in developing an international community of scholars.

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