State of the Journal Report

G. Roberts¹, Editor-in-Chief; A. Harder², Senior Editor; J. Lindner³, Senior Editor

Advancements in Agricultural Development (AAD) was started to address a need for a scholarly journal focused on the practical outcomes of research in agricultural development research. We have just concluded our second year of operation at AAD and want to share some reflections on the past and goals for the future. We wish to thank the authors and reviewers who have contributed to AAD over this time (see the reviewer list at the end of this report). We also wish to acknowledge and thank the Department of Curriculum and Teaching at Auburn University for their financial support of AAD. We also wish to thank our editorial assistants (Katrina Alford, Olivia Caillouet, Andy Chaparro, & Alexandria McLeod) who work behind the scenes to make things run smoothly.

Articles and Authorship

Issues in agriculture are often time-sensitive, so we sought from the beginning of AAD to develop a timely review/publication process to allow quicker dissemination of research. The number of published articles in AAD has slightly increased while the number of submissions is increasing (see Table 1). We anticipate a 25% increase in the number of published articles in 2022. Consequently, we will be adding a fourth issue beginning in Volume 3. We have also recently recruited Dr. Robert Strong from Texas A&M University as an Editor to assist with the review process, who brings prior experience as the Executive Editor of the Journal of International Agricultural and Extension Education to the AAD team. The breadth of contributing authors to AAD continues to expand. For Volumes 1 and 2 (50 articles), there were 135 unique authors from 33 universities and 5 countries.

Table 1

Published Articles in AAD

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Volume (Year)</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Number of articles published</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 (2020)</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>2 (2021)</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
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Consumption and Usage

The number of people consuming research published in AAD is expanding. The number of views for articles has been trending upwards (see Figure 1). The number of citations for articles in AAD is also increasing. The Cited By and Plum X Analytics features we installed on our web platform allow authors see how their research is being used. To further expand how research published in AAD is disseminated, we have launched Facebook (@agdevresearch) and Twitter (@agdevresearch) accounts to announce newly published research and to highlight previous research published in AAD.

Figure 1

Article Views in AAD

Metadata and Indexing

We are continually working to make research in AAD more discoverable by the larger scientific community. We submit the complete metadata to Crossref, which includes the full abstract, references, and funding information for each article. Including the references means that articles published in AAD are linked with the articles they cited and will show up in the cited by sections on other publisher’s pages.

Indexing is an important part of making research in AAD even more discoverable. AAD is currently indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), Google Scholar, ROAD, and Ulrichs. Our goal is to be indexed in Scopus and the Web of Science, both of which require a documented history of the impacts of the journal. We proactively taking steps to position AAD for inclusion in these prestigious indices to increase visibility of research published in AAD.
Looking Ahead

The editorial team at AAD continually works to meet the needs of researchers in our field. As we look into 2022 and beyond, our goals are to:

1. continually refine our editorial process to meet researcher needs;
2. attract research from the global agricultural development community;
3. add features to our web-platform to enhance the author and reader experience; and
4. position AAD for inclusion in Scopus and the Web of Science.

2020 and 2021 Reviewers

David Agole, Kyambogo University, Uganda
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Matt Baker, Texas A&M University, USA
Anna Ball, University of Illinois, USA
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Debra Barry, University of Florida, USA
Matt Benge, University of Florida, USA
Amanda Bowling, The Ohio State University, USA
Gary Briers, Texas A&M University, USA
Amy Brown, University of Florida, USA
James Bunch, University of Florida, USA
Chris Clemons, Auburn University, USA
Nathan Conner, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA
Marina D’Abreu Denny, Mississippi State University, USA
John Diaz, University of Florida, USA
David Doerfert, Texas Tech University, USA
Kim Dooley, Texas A&M University, USA
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Bryan Reiling, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA
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Stacey Stearns, University of Connecticut, USA
Nicole Stedman, University of Florida, USA
Carrie Stephens, The University of Tennessee, USA
Christopher Stripling, The University of Tennessee, USA
Jennifer Strong, Texas A&M University, USA
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