School of Medicine Publications Report 2015

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Objective
Identify research publications of School of Medicine (SoM) Faculty for the 14-15 fiscal year. Analyze publishing rates by journal impact factor, departmental affiliation, and publication type. Compare results to 13-14 data.

Method
544 full-time faculty members were searched in the Author field in the databases PubMed and Embase. Results were limited to publication dates between July 1st, 2014 and June 30th, 2015. The keyword “Tulane” was added to common names. A detailed search strategy is available.1 Items were loaded into a RefWorks online database2 for de-duplication and exported to Excel 2013 for item analysis. The 2015 journal impact factor from Thomas Reuters Journal Citation Reports was used for journal analysis3.

Results
School of Medicine Faculty members published 912 research publications in 412 scientific journals for the 14-15 fiscal year. Two-thirds (67%, n=611) were manuscripts and the remaining third (33%, n=301) were scientific meeting abstracts (Figure 1).

339 journals had journal impact factors. 8% of all publications (n=70) were published in scientific journals with an impact factor higher than 10. The majority of publications (50%, n=455) appeared in scientific journals with impact factors between 10 and 3. (Figure 2)

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1 http://libguides.tulane.edu/MedPubs
2 http://www.refworks.com/refshare2?site=031081136005200000/84301446581286941/053221446491778000
3 2015 Journal Citation Reports® Science Edition (Thomson Reuters, 2015)
Manuscripts by Department

The departments of Microbiology and Immunology, Surgery, and Urology produced the highest number of publications when the Department of Medicine is omitted. Within Sections of Medicine, Endocrinology, Gastroenterology and Hematology/Medical Oncology produced the most manuscripts. Figure 3 shows a breakdown of manuscript output by department.

Figure 3: manuscript output by department
Manuscripts by Center

19% of all manuscripts (n=118) were affiliated with a Tulane School of Medicine center or institute. The Tulane National Primate Research Center (TUNPRC) had the most publications of a center (n=45), followed by the Tulane Heart and Vascular Institute (n=16) and the Tulane Cancer Center (n=15). Figure 4 shows manuscripts by center or institute.

Figure 4: manuscript output by center or institute
The Primate Center also affiliates publications by TUNPRC department (Figure 5).

Cross referencing affiliation between department and center reveals some expected connections. For example, 57% (n=26) of TUNPRC manuscripts are also affiliated with the Department of Microbiology and Immunology. Tulane Heart and Vascular Institute publications are affiliated exclusively with Department of Medicine and the Section of Cardiology (n=16). Tulane Cancer Center departmental affiliations split nearly evenly between Biochemistry (n=7) and Structural and Cellular Biology (n=6). The Hayward Genetics Center shows a strong affiliation with Pediatrics (n=5).

Manuscripts by Author

102 manuscripts listed Tulane faculty as first authors, and 319 manuscripts listed Tulane faculty as last authors. Table 1 lists the highest producing authors by manuscripts, abstracts and all publications for July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015.

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Table 1: Authorship trends
Abstracts by Department, Center or Institute

301 meeting abstracts were identified in the data. PubMed does not index meeting abstracts, so references that did not have a PubMed Identification Number (PMID) and/or were noted as a meeting abstract in EMBASE were counted as an abstract from a scientific session. The top producing department for meeting abstracts is the Department of Medicine (n=85, 28%). With Medicine omitted, Urology (n=48, 16%), Surgery (n=46, 15%), Neurology (n=24, 8%) and Pediatrics (n=23, 8%) produced the most meeting abstracts. 8% of meeting abstracts (n=26) were affiliated with a Tulane Center or Institute, the highest rates being the Primate Center (n=6), the Heart and Vascular Institute (n=5) and the Center for Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine (n=5).

Publication metrics

Publication trends for this year are almost identical to 2013-2014. Both years saw 70 manuscripts published in high tier journals. Figure 6 compares all publications by journal impact factor for the past 2 fiscal years.
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Overall:

- Publications in journals with impact factors **increased** 115% (295 in 2014 versus 339 in 2015)
- The number of publications **decreased** by 5% (955 publications in 2014 versus 912 publications in 2015)
- 2015 faculty included 69 additional Special Clinical faculty, which were not included in 2014

Limitations of analysis

This report is limited to journal articles and conference abstracts indexed in PubMed⁴ and Embase⁵. Results do not include textbooks, book chapters, webpages, blog posts, DVDs, theses or gray literature.

Only the first affiliation for Department and Center is used in this item analysis. Output may be higher when all departments are recorded.

The 2014 Impact Factor from Journal Citation Reports is used to rank journals in order of impact. It is important to note that 2014 impact factors tell only a part of the story. Different specialties exhibit different ranges of peak impact. Some journals with lower impact factors are in fact high impact when considered in the context of their specific field. Impact factors are calculated over a range of years, thus recently established journals will have an impact factor of zero.⁶

More Information

More information is available on the Faculty Publications Subject Guide: [http://libguides.tulane.edu/MedPubs](http://libguides.tulane.edu/MedPubs)

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⁴ A biomedical literature database from the US National Institutes of Health with 24 million citations from MEDLINE, life science journals, and online books www.pubmed.gov

⁵ A biomedical literature database covering over 28 million indexed records from international biomedical literature, conference proceedings and drug and medical device information. www.embase.com