



Strengthening Scholarly Dialogue in Disability Studies: Quality, Continuity, and Collective Commitment

Dear Readers, Authors, Reviewers and Editors,

Academic journals do not merely archive research; they cultivate intellectual ecosystems. In the interdisciplinary field of Disability Studies, where scholarship intersects with rights, policy, lived experience, and practice, the responsibility of a journal extends far beyond the mere act of publication. The *Journal of Disability Studies (JDS)* remains committed to nurturing a rigorous, ethical, and inclusive platform that advances critical inquiry and meaningful dialogue.

Submissions, Selectivity, and Scholarly Standards

The growing interest in submitting manuscripts to JDS reflects the expanding relevance of disability scholarship across disciplines and geographies. Increased submissions are encouraging, yet they also demand a careful balance between inclusivity and academic rigor. Editorial responsibility lies in ensuring that each manuscript undergoes a fair, timely, and thorough review process while maintaining the quality benchmarks that define a credible scholarly journal.

Selectivity, transparent peer review, and editorial diligence are not barriers to participation; rather, they are safeguards that preserve the integrity of the field. Timely editorial decisions and constructive feedback remain central to our commitment to authors and to the advancement of Disability Studies as a scholarly domain.

Processing Efficiency and the Role of Reviewers

Efficient manuscript handling is integral to sustaining author confidence and academic momentum. Reviewers play a pivotal, often invisible, role in this process. Their intellectual labor shapes not only individual articles but the direction and credibility of the journal itself. JDS deeply values reviewers' contributions and continues to strive for workflows that respect both scholarly depth and reasonable timelines.

Visibility, Indexing, and Knowledge Dissemination

In Disability Studies, visibility is not merely an academic metric; it is an ethical imperative. Ensuring that research reaches policymakers, practitioners, activists, and scholars worldwide enhances its real-world impact. JDS views indexing, discoverability, and open accessibility as strategic priorities that amplify voices and ideas within and beyond academia.

Communication as a Shared Responsibility

Transparent and responsive communication is foundational to trust within the scholarly community. While the editorial office makes every effort to remain accessible and responsive, academic publishing is inherently collaborative. Mutual respect for timelines, responsibilities, and professional constraints enables smoother engagement for all stakeholders.

Platform Disruption, Data Loss, and Journal Migration: A Note of Transparency

It is important to candidly acknowledge a significant challenge recently faced by the *Journal of Disability Studies*. As communicated by publisher, our former publishing platform

(pubs.iscience.in/jds) suffered a critical technical failure following server-level changes. Over several months, persistent efforts were made to address hidden intrusions and malicious code that were not visible on the front end. Unfortunately, the technical team ultimately concluded that full restoration of the platform was extremely difficult, with no reliable timeline for recovery.

This unforeseen disruption resulted in the loss of article metadata and user records, leaving the website inaccessible and without visible content for an extended period. Recognizing the seriousness of this situation, a decisive step was taken to migrate the journal to a new, stable platform using the Open Journal Systems (OJS) framework.

Despite these setbacks, I am pleased to share that **all available PDF files of published articles have been painstakingly retrieved and consolidated**. These papers are now in the process of being re-uploaded to the new journal website. This transition, while necessary, will take time and may cause temporary inconvenience, particularly with regard to article discoverability and citation continuity. We sincerely request the patience and understanding of our authors and readers during this restoration phase. We kindly request you to re-register on the new website to receive updates and to continue with submissions, peer review, or editorial activities without interruption.

Gratitude, Continuity, and Collective Legacy

I express my heartfelt gratitude for your invaluable role as a member of the Editorial and Editorial Advisory Board of the *Journal of Disability Studies (JDS)*. We deeply value the time, commitment, and expertise you have generously devoted to our publication. Your contribution has played a crucial role in strengthening the quality, integrity, and academic credibility of the journal, while also inspiring our editorial team to pursue excellence in the field.

Over the years, with the unwavering support of editors, authors, reviewers, and readers, JDS has published eleven volumes between 2015 and 2025, featuring more than 100 original scholarly articles. These achievements reflect a shared commitment to advancing Disability Studies as a vital and interdisciplinary field. The journal's continuity and legacy are not the result of an editor's efforts alone, but rather the collective outcome of trust, collaboration, and sustained scholarly dedication.

Moving Forward Together

Challenges, though difficult, also offer opportunities for renewal and strengthening. As JDS enters this new phase on a more robust platform, we reaffirm our commitment to quality, accessibility, and ethical publishing. We invite continued engagement, constructive feedback, and active participation from the Disability Studies community.

Together, let us ensure that this journal remains a resilient, credible, and impactful space for scholarship that matters.

With sincere appreciation and resolve,

Editor-in-Chief

Journal of Disability Studies

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