

EMPIRICAL ARTICLE

Developing Cross-Cutting Article Categories for Emerging Open-Access Journals: A Mixed Qual–Computational Approach

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Abstract

Purpose - Emerging open-access journals must communicate scope clearly while optimizing discoverability in algorithmically mediated search and indexing environments. This study develops and demonstrates a replicable protocol for deriving cross-cutting article categories from a journal's own corpus and operationalizing them as an editorial taxonomy in Open Journal Systems (OJS).

Design/Methodology/Approach - Using Management Research Quarterly (MRQ) as an instrumental case, we compiled the full-text corpus of published items and applied a mixed qualitative–computational pipeline. First, we conducted Gioia-style first-order coding and second-order thematic aggregation to induce candidate category dimensions and inclusion/exclusion rules. Second, we triangulated the interpretive structure using TF–IDF features (1–3-grams) and Non-Negative Matrix Factorization (NMF), iteratively reconciling discrepancies between human-coded themes and machine-surfaced term clusters. Finally, we translated the validated dimensions into deployable OJS categories for use in submission classification, reviewer assignment, and metadata export.

Findings - The analysis converged on four cross-cutting categories that represent MRQ's published work and editorial positioning: (1) Leadership & Organizational Change, (2) Knowledge & Learning, (3) Innovation & Digital Transformation, and (4) Sustainability & ESG. Qualitative coding provided construct-grounded category definitions, while TF–IDF/NMF validation indicated coherent lexical clusters aligned with the interpretive solution, supporting the taxonomy's internal consistency and auditability.

Originality/Value - Where most journal-mapping studies stop at description, this paper addresses the “last-mile” problem by converting corpus-derived themes into a live editorial taxonomy embedded in OJS. The contribution is both methodological (a transparent, human-in-the-loop qual–computational protocol) and practical (actionable infrastructure that can improve submission fit, reviewer matching, and discoverability through metadata).

KEYWORDS

Open access; Open Journal Systems (OJS); journal taxonomy; article categories; discoverability; metadata; qualitative content analysis; Gioia methodology; topic modeling; non-negative matrix factorization (NMF).

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1 | INTRODUCTION

Emerging open-access journals face a dual challenge: they must (a) signal scope and editorial priorities clearly to authors, reviewers, and indexers while (b) maximizing discoverability in an increasingly crowded, algorithmically mediated search environment. Open access has grown substantially over the past decade, reshaping how readers find and evaluate scholarship and making metadata quality (titles, abstracts,

keywords, categories) central to reach and impact (Björk et al. 2010, Piwowar et al. 2018). Within this landscape, Open Journal Systems (OJS) has enabled a large “scholar-publisher” class—especially in resource-constrained settings—to professionalize editorial workflow at low cost and publish openly at scale (Edgar and Willinsky 2010, Ndungu 2020). OJS also ties editorial metadata decisions directly to search engine visibility through configuration and indexing guidance (Public Knowledge Project 2025). From a platform perspective, taxonomies function as legitimacy-bearing coordination devices that shape how external audiences interpret and engage with a journal’s outputs (Lissillour and Sahut 2022).

Despite these affordances, many new journals still define article categories/taxonomies ad hoc. Indexing frameworks (e.g., Journal Publishing Practices and Standards, JPPS) codify good publishing practice but do not prescribe how a journal should derive content categories that reflect its actual intellectual output (INASP and AJOL 2017). At the same time, a growing “journal mapping” literature shows how bibliometrics and topic modeling can reveal thematic structures and their evolution in mature venues (e.g., Journal of Business Research; The Service Industries Journal), and method papers caution against black-box topic modeling while urging closer integration with theory (Donthu et al. 2020, Viglia et al. 2022, Hannigan et al. 2019). Building on these precedents, we study *Management Research Quarterly* (MRQ) as a single, instrumental case to demonstrate how a defensible taxonomy can be inductively derived from the journal’s own corpus and implemented in OJS to improve submission fit, reviewer assignment, and discoverability.

Our goal is twofold: (1) to create a replicable, evidence-based categorization aligned with a general-management, practice-relevant mission; and (2) to document a methodological protocol others can reuse as their journals evolve. While prior work typically describes journal landscapes but rarely converts findings into a live editorial taxonomy, we close this “last-mile” gap by (1) conducting Gioia-style first/second-order coding on MRQ articles; (2) validating the structure via topic modeling; and (3) operationalizing the resulting four cross-cutting categories in OJS as assignable classifications. This synthesis connects interpretive rigor with computational reliability and turns results into actionable infrastructure—a contribution that many bibliometric studies stop short of making (Björk et al. 2010, Edgar and Willinsky 2010, INASP and AJOL 2017, Ndungu 2020, Piwowar et al. 2018, Public Knowledge Project 2025).

2 | LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 | Open-access/OJS publishing and the discoverability problem

Open-access growth has increased the salience of search visibility and metadata for journals’ readership and impact (Björk et al. 2010, Piwowar et al. 2018). OJS, adopted by thousands of titles, offers end-to-end editorial management at low cost and has been pivotal for emerging

journals (Edgar and Willinsky 2010, Ndungu 2020). Public Knowledge Project (PKP)’s Google Scholar guidance underscores how category labels, keywords, and structured abstracts affect indexing, yet the literature provides little about how journals should derive those labels from their actual content (Public Knowledge Project 2025, INASP and AJOL 2017). This creates a practical need for evidence-based taxonomies that are grounded in each journal’s corpus.

2.2 | Journal mapping and science-mapping methods

In management and information science, bibliometric mapping clarifies a venue’s thematic structure and evolution using co-citation, co-word analysis, and bibliographic coupling; widely used tools include VOSviewer and bibliometrix (Aria and Cuccurullo 2017, Zupic and Čater 2015, Van Eck and Waltman 2010). Journal-level retrospectives (e.g., Journal of Business Research; The Service Industries Journal) demonstrate the value of such maps for scope audits and agenda setting (Donthu et al. 2020, Viglia et al. 2022). However, most studies aim at providing descriptive visualizations, not deployable editorial categories, leaving a translation gap.

2.3 | Text-as-data for topic discovery and validation

Unsupervised topic models—latent Dirichlet allocation (LDA) and related approaches like non-negative matrix factorization (NMF) and the structural topic model (STM)—are established tools for surfacing themes in large corpora (Blei et al. 2003, Roberts et al. 2019). Method syntheses, however, warn against black-box usage and highlight the need for human-in-the-loop validation and theoretical alignment (Grimmer and Stewart 2013). Topic-coherence metrics (e.g., normalized pointwise mutual information, NPMI) are useful diagnostics but cannot substitute for interpretive fit (Röder et al. 2015). In organizational research, reviews emphasize construct validity when translating text signals into conceptual categories (Kobayashi et al. 2018). This emphasis on interpretive fit is consistent with practice-oriented calls to treat categories as enacted infrastructures rather than purely computational outputs (Lissillour and Silva 2024). Our design—Gioia-style inductive coding followed by term frequency–inverse document frequency (TF–IDF)/NMF triangulation—follows these recommendations and produces categories that map cleanly onto editorial practice.

Where prior journal-mapping studies describe thematic structures, we institutionalize validated themes directly in OJS as cross-cutting categories. This “last-mile” integration aligns scholarly mapping with day-to-day editorial work (submission fit, reviewer assignment, indexing), addressing a practical need for emerging open-access journals.

3 | METHODOLOGY

We adopt a single-case, embedded design in which MRQ constitutes the case and the published articles are embedded units of analysis. Case designs are well suited to studying “how/why” questions and to examining contemporary, revelatory phenomena in depth (Eisenhardt and Graebner 2007, Yin 2009). MRQ is an emerging, open-access journal published by Brno International Business School in Czech Republic with an OJS infrastructure. The journal has recently accumulated enough articles to warrant a structured taxonomy; this makes it an instrumental case for understanding how nascent journals can derive categories from their own corpus rather than from ex-ante editorial claims. While case-based inquiry has limits on statistical generalization (Tsang 2014), its analytic generalization to methods and processes is appropriate for our objective: to specify a replicable categorization protocol for early-stage journals. The MRQ has published issues which editorials stressed the journal’s interest in indigenous scholarship (Rodriguez-Escobar 2024), organizational learning and emerging technologies (Desmarchelier 2024), sustainable supply chain management (Boyer 2024), sustainability and innovation (Liu 2024), and leadership (Cui 2025). Even though these editorials highlighted a few major themes, the most accurate article categories cannot be derived from them.

We compiled the full text of 39 MRQ items (all issues published up to Vol. 2 No. 3, 2025), including editorials and shorter contribution types (e.g., managerial insights and book reviews) insofar as they articulate scope and contribute to the journal’s discoverability-relevant corpus. We excluded reference lists and boilerplate (copyright, author bios), retained English-language content, and treated editorials as part of the corpus insofar as they articulate scope. PDFs were converted to machine-readable text, with routine cleaning (header/footer stripping, reference section removal where feasible, whitespace normalization). For computational steps, text was tokenized, lower-cased, and filtered with a domain stop-word list; we retained 1–3-gram features to preserve key phrases (e.g., “business continuity,” “knowledge sharing,” “digital transformation”). The following parameters we used for TF-IDF: n-grams of 1–3, stop-word removal, min_df = 2 (sensitivity tested at 3), and max_df = 0.80. NMF used n_components = 4 (matching the interpretive solution), init = ‘nndsvda’, and random_state = 42. Topic interpretability and coherence were inspected to ensure alignment with second-order themes (Röder, Both, & Hinneburg, 2015).

Following the spirit of inductive coding (Glaser and Strauss 1967) and the Gioia methodology (Corley and Gioia 2004), we conducted first-order coding on titles, abstracts, and problem/implication statements. We privileged in-vivo labels (authors’ own terms) whenever possible to remain informant-centric. Using constant comparison across articles, we iteratively refined a provisional code list, merged redundancies, and wrote analytic memos to record emergent relationships. At this stage, our aim was breadth over parsimony—to surface the repertoire of constructs present in the corpus without forcing early aggregation. The resulting first-order codebook (Table 1) captures recurring ideas

such as transformational leadership, business continuity, knowledge governance, AI supervision, and ESG reporting.

Next, we grouped first-order concepts into second-order themes using thematic analysis (Braun and Clarke 2006). Through successive rounds of memoing and challenge checks, we reconciled overlaps and sharpened distinctions, then elevated themes into aggregate dimensions intended to function as cross-cutting journal categories. This process yielded four dimensions—Leadership & Organizational Change; Knowledge & Learning; Innovation & Digital Transformation; Sustainability & ESG—each supported by clear inclusion/exclusion rules and representative MRQ references (Table 1).

To triangulate the interpretive structure, we transformed the corpus with TF-IDF using 1–3-gram features and ran Non-Negative Matrix Factorization (NMF) to identify coherent term clusters (Lee and Seung 1999). We examined the top-loading n-grams per component and compared them with our second-order themes; where discrepancies appeared, we revisited codes and labels until the qualitative themes and NMF topics converged. We report illustrative n-grams, primary assignment counts, and representative articles for each dimension (Table 2). Implementation used standard utilities in scikit-learn (Pedregosa et al. 2011).

Rigor was enhanced by method triangulation (interpretive coding + NMF topics) and an audit trail covering codebook versions.

4 | FINDINGS

The analysis converged on four cross-cutting categories that best represent MRQ’s published work and editorial positioning. Counts below report how many articles were primarily assigned to each category (highest model weight + thematic fit):

4.1 | Category narratives

4.2 | Leadership & Organizational Change

Research in this stream links leadership logics to continuity, culture, and performance across varied contexts. A systematic review shows that transformational leadership supports business continuity by fostering vision, sensemaking, and adaptive capacity in crises (Sabbah 2024). Empirical work connects leadership to human-capital outcomes—e.g., flexible leadership aligning gender dynamics with enterprise performance (Luo 2024) and innovation culture shaping millennial turnover intentions in banking through engagement mechanisms (Quashigah and Amuzu 2024). The leadership–performance nexus is further sharpened by boundary conditions: dysfunctional follower behavior interacts with specific leadership behaviors to influence organizational performance in state-owned organizations (Baio et al. 2024). At the micro-foundations level, psychological empowerment (meaning, competence, self-determination, impact) strengthens organizational commitment in public administration (Ganewatta and Wanniarachchi 2025), while in

TABLE 1 Table 1: coding codebook

Cat	Second-Order Theme	First-Order Concepts	References
LOC	Crisis & Continuity Leadership	Transformational leadership under disruption; sensemaking/sensegiving; leader support; continuity stewardship.	Sabbah, 2024; Cui, 2025.
LOC	Culture & Change Enablement	Vision-driven change; psychological safety; learning climate; values alignment.	Luo, 2024.
LOC	Trust, Commitment & Engagement	Affective commitment; leader integrity; leader–member exchange; engagement.	Quashigah & Amuzu, 2024; Ganewatta & Wanniarachchi, 2025.
LOC	Team Effectiveness & Capability	Empowerment; role clarity; collective efficacy; job crafting.	Ganewatta & Wanniarachchi, 2025; Cui, 2025.
LOC	Governance & Performance Linkages	Ethical standards; transparency and control; board oversight.	Bu, 2024; Rodriguez-Escobar, 2024.
KL	Knowledge Sharing Mechanisms	Communities of practice; codification vs. personalization; cross-boundary exchange.	Guechtouli, 2024; Purvis & Zhang, 2024.
KL	Learning Routines & Dynamic Capabilities	After-action reviews; reflective routines; exploration–exploitation balance.	Arhin & Cobblah, 2024; Rodriguez-Escobar, 2024.
KL	Psychological & Social Enablers	Empowerment; identification; reciprocity; psychological safety.	Baio et al., 2024.
KL	Knowledge Governance	Incentives for sharing; repositories; IP and capture concerns.	Purvis & Zhang, 2024; Charman & Bahadori, 2025.
KL	Capability Development & Outcomes	Absorptive capacity; skill formation; innovation-from-learning.	Desmarchelier, 2024.
IDT	Digital Adoption & Strategy	IT–business alignment; digital maturity; investment logic.	Wang, 2024.
IDT	AI/Data Governance & Ethics	Privacy; algorithmic accountability; data quality; AI supervision.	Monod, 2025; Chapuis & Guégan, 2024.
IDT	Platformization & Ecosystems	Two-sided platforms; complementors; network effects; orchestration.	Ghrayche et al., 2025; Wei, 2024.
IDT	Process Redesign & Automation	Business process management; robotic process automation; workflow integration.	Wang, 2024.
IDT	Innovation Outcomes	Product, service, and process innovation; ambidexterity.	Purvis & Zhang, 2024.
SESG	ESG Strategy & Integration	Materiality; strategy–ESG fit; stakeholder salience.	Liu, 2024; Haque et al., 2024.
SESG	Governance, Controls & Reporting	Board oversight; key performance indicators; assurance; compliance.	Vavřina & Drdla, 2024; Boyer, 2024.
SESG	Sustainable Operations & Supply Chains	Green procurement; circularity; certification; supplier standards.	Purvis & Fernandez, 2024; Lévy & Fernandez, 2024.
SESG	Social Impact & Inclusion	Diversity, equity, and inclusion; community value; human capital.	Liu, 2024; Haque et al., 2024.
SESG	Policy–Market Complementarity	Institutional alignment; public–private mechanisms; policy–market synergy.	Vainon, 2024; Weng et al., 2025.

TABLE 2 Table 2: weighted categories

Category	Scope	Primary assignments
Leadership & Organizational Change	Leadership theories and behaviors; culture, change, continuity, resilience; micro–macro links to performance and governance.	12
Knowledge & Learning	Knowledge sharing/transfer, absorptive capacity, learning organizations, capability development, intellectual capital.	11
Innovation & Digital Transformation	Digital strategy and adoption, information systems, data/AI, platforms, technology-enabled innovation and process redesign.	8
Sustainability & ESG	Environmental and social performance, governance mechanisms, CSR/ESG integration, standards, reporting, and impact.	8

Notes. TF-IDF with 1–3-gram features; NMF used to surface coherent term clusters; categories chosen by aligning top-loading n-grams and article content to second-order themes. "Primary assignments" count = articles where the category had the highest combined (model weight + thematic fit).

fragile telework settings leadership and resources jointly explain performance (Ghrayche et al. 2025). These studies collectively link leadership to change readiness, trust/commitment, team effectiveness, and governance-to-performance pathways. Recent contributions extend the continuity thread beyond crisis leadership reviews by examining resilience mechanisms and continuity drivers in professional-service contexts, reinforcing continuity as a core organizing theme for MRQ's leadership stream (Lančarič 2025, Nyamekye and Kwarteng 2025).

4.3 | Knowledge & Learning

MRQ contributions emphasize how knowledge flows and learning routines translate into capability development and performance. In industrial ecosystems, social media infrastructures enable information sharing and cluster-level coordination (Guechtouli and Purvis 2024), while within family businesses social networks underwrite organizational learning and capability renewal (Purvis and Zhang 2024). Editorial work underscores the role of emerging technologies as both a trigger and an enabler of learning (Desmarchelier 2024). Studies also connect continuous-improvement systems to learning outcomes—for example, TQM practices influence customer satisfaction via innovative employee

behavior and empowerment (Arhin and Cobblah 2024). Mapping work on the intellectual structure of AI marketing charts how knowledge domains evolve and interlock (Wei 2024). Together, these articles surface mechanisms such as communities of practice, codification/personalization, absorptive capacity, and psychological safety, clarifying how organizations build, store, and mobilize knowledge across public and private contexts. The journal also foregrounds the conditions of knowledge production itself—connecting boundary-spanning infrastructures and reflexive methodological toolkits to the operation of a more plural, accountable 'knowledge pipeline' (Bahadori and Ramjawan 2025, Bonaglia and Rokpelnis 2025, Dosquet 2025).

4.4 | Innovation & Digital Transformation

This category integrates work on digital strategy/adoption, AI/data governance, platform/ecosystem logics, and tech-enabled process redesign. Post-implementation studies of ERP in hybrid organizations reveal institutional logic contradictions and selective coupling during digital change (Wang 2024). Articles at the human–AI interface examine AI supervision through organizational behavior and AI ethics perspectives (Monod 2025) and call for responsibility-by-design in the

lifecycle of AI systems (Chapuis and Guégan 2024). Field-level analyses map the AI marketing literature's emerging structure to identify knowledge clusters and trajectories (Wei 2024). Digitalization of work is visible in telework performance under fragile conditions, where job demands/resources and leadership explain outcomes amid infrastructure constraints (Ghrayche et al. 2025), while editorial reflections highlight robotic management and empowerment as future levers (Cui 2025). Across these contributions, MRQ foregrounds IT–business alignment, data/AI governance, ecosystem orchestration, process automation, and ambidexterity as the core engines of transformation. Beyond organizational AI supervision, MRQ's digital strand now also covers domain-level transformations such as computational advertising and the reconfiguration of professional work through 'augmented' human–AI collaboration in legal practice (Nguyen 2025, Zhang and Gao 2025).

4.5 | Sustainability & ESG

MRQ's sustainability scholarship spans strategy integration, governance/reporting, supply chains, and socio-institutional dynamics. Benchmarking evidence links ESG governance—including social attributes—to comparative performance indicators (Vavřina and Drdla 2024), while editorial work situates sustainable supply chains within complex, interdisciplinary problem settings (Boyer 2024). Sectoral analyses of global industrial shipping chains bring a positivist international-relations lens to sustainability governance (Purvis and Zhang 2024). Urban-scale theorizing integrates psychoanalytic concepts with sustainable urbanization and Industry 4.0, re-framing city-level governance and social order (Lévy and Fernandez 2024). At the firm level, green HRM practices bolster environmental performance, especially when supported by green information management systems (Haque et al. 2024). Editorials emphasize global perspectives and the bridging of sustainability, innovation, and cultural ethics (Liu 2024). Collectively, these papers articulate how ESG strategy and metrics, board oversight and KPIs, green operations and circularity, and policy–market complementarity intersect to drive credible sustainability impact. Finally, the sustainability/governance stream now includes both policy–market synergy in sectoral upgrading and public-governance frictions shaping citizen compliance, widening ESG-relevant 'governance' beyond firm-level reporting alone (Weng et al. 2025, Uddin 2025).

5 | CONCLUSION

This study demonstrates that a mixed qual–computational pipeline can yield a defensible, auditable editorial taxonomy for an emerging open-access journal. By combining Gioia-style first- and second-order coding with thematic analysis and validating the resulting structure through TF-IDF (1–3-grams) and Non-Negative Matrix Factorization (NMF), we derived four cross-cutting categories from the corpus of 29 MRQ articles: Leadership & Organizational Change (10), Knowledge & Learning (8), Innovation & Digital Transformation (5), and Sustainability & ESG (6).

The codebook (Table 1) preserves the in-vivo language of authors while the model outputs (Table 2) confirm that machine-surfaced n-grams align with the interpretive themes. Together, these products provide a transparent basis for category assignment and are now embedded in MRQ's OJS workflow.

Theoretically, the contribution unfolds along four dimensions. First, the design advances the integration of interpretive theory-building with computational validation. Rather than relying on topic models as a black box, we position human coding—the Gioia methodology and thematic analysis—as primary, and use topic modeling as a robustness check, thus heeding calls in management and text-as-data research to connect machine outputs to constructs and theory (Braun and Clarke 2006, Hannigan et al. 2019, Grimmer and Stewart 2013, Corley and Gioia 2004). Second, the project moves the science-mapping literature from description to operationalization: where bibliometric mapping and topic modeling typically visualize clusters and trends (Aria and Cuccurullo 2017, Zupic and Čater 2015, Viglia et al. 2022, Van Eck and Waltman 2010, Donthu et al. 2020), we convert the empirically derived structure into a live editorial taxonomy implemented in OJS metadata and workflows. Because editorial infrastructures evolve after deployment, category schemes should be treated as 'post-implementation' systems requiring periodic recalibration as the corpus and practices change (Lissillour and Rodríguez-Escobar 2020). Third, the categories are mechanism-centric and intentionally cross-cutting. By foregrounding mechanisms (e.g., leadership for continuity; learning routines for capability; data/AI governance for digitalization; ESG governance for performance), the scheme avoids siloing by sector or method and enables analytical generalization across contexts in the spirit of case-based theorizing (Eisenhardt and Graebner 2007, Yin 2009). Finally, the study specifies a replicable protocol—data assembly, inductive coding, topic-model triangulation, and OJS deployment—that other emerging open-access journals can adopt to align scope, practice relevance, and discoverability.

The managerial and editorial implications follow directly. For editors, the categories sharpen submission fit at desk-review, streamline reviewer search and assignment, and enable portfolio analytics (submissions, acceptances, turnaround, and downloads by category). The categories can be implemented in OJS as a journal-level taxonomy available at submission and publication. Authors select one primary and up to two secondary categories; editors may adjust assignments during desk review. Category labels are written to article metadata (HTML and XML exports) to enhance indexing in Google Scholar and aggregators, and editorial dashboards report submissions, time-to-decision, and downloads by category (Edgar and Willinsky 2010, Public Knowledge Project 2025). For authors, the taxonomy provides clearer signals about scope and framing, improving the efficiency of manuscript targeting. For reviewers, category-linked rubrics can standardize expectations and elevate review quality. For institutions and funders, the taxonomy affords a lens for program evaluation and for planning special issues that closely match demonstrated strengths. Because OJS exposes category metadata to indexing services, embedding the taxonomy in article records should,

in principle, enhance search visibility and retrieval, complementing evidence that metadata quality and open access shape usage and impact (Edgar and Willinsky 2010, Public Knowledge Project 2025, Björk et al. 2010, Piwowar et al. 2018). In this sense, the study connects editorial policy to discoverability by design.

Several limitations suggest avenues for future research. The findings rest on a single journal at an early stage with 39 articles; although appropriate for an instrumental case, broader comparative replication across journals and fields would test portability and boundary conditions (Tsang 2014, Yin 2009). The qualitative coding was conducted by a single analyst, which we mitigated through an audit trail and computational triangulation; subsequent updates should incorporate inter-coder calibration procedures (training, pilots, and agreement statistics) to strengthen reliability. Method choices also delimit the results. We used TF-IDF and NMF (Lee and Seung 1999, Pedregosa et al. 2011); future work could compare LDA and STM architectures or embedding-based models, and report coherence and stability diagnostics alongside interpretive fit (Blei et al. 2003, Roberts et al. 2019, Röder et al. 2015). Pipeline refinements—domain lexicons, section-aware parsing, and multilingual handling—could further improve feature quality in mixed PDF/HTML corpora, a common constraint in journal operations (Kobayashi et al. 2018). Future work should also examine the normative implications of editorial taxonomies—especially for AI-enabled indexing and recommendation—where categorization can reproduce or contest epistemic hierarchies and ethical assumptions (Sahut et al. 2023). Beyond methodological extensions, assessing outcomes is crucial: future research should examine whether category adoption improves operational metrics (desk-reject accuracy, reviewer-match latency, time-to-decision) and discovery metrics (views, downloads, Google Scholar impressions) relative to pre-adoption baselines, especially given OJS's prominence in the open-access ecosystem (Edgar and Willinsky 2010, Public Knowledge Project 2025).

In conclusion, by deriving, validating, and operationalizing a cross-cutting taxonomy from the journal's own corpus, this study offers a practical route from qualitative insight to computational confirmation and, crucially, to editorial practice. For emerging open-access journals, the approach aligns mission, metadata, and discoverability, transforming categorization from a one-off editorial decision into a sustained knowledge infrastructure that can evolve as the corpus grows.

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None reported.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors declare no potential conflict of interests.

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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

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