Development and Implementation of a Web-Based Journal Management System to Enhance Accreditation and Quality Evaluation

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Article Info

ABSTRACT

Purpose of the Study: This study aims to explore the role and importance of a dedicated journal management website in facilitating the organization, monitoring, and evaluation of journal development at Jambi University. The focus is on how this digital platform can improve journal accreditation processes and overall management efficiency.

Methodology: The research adopts a qualitative approach, utilizing focused interviews with 20 respondents from the journal management team at Jambi University. A purposive sampling method was employed to ensure that participants had relevant experience in journal management. Data were collected through in-depth interviews and analyzed to identify common themes related to the challenges and benefits of using a centralized journal management platform.

Main Findings: The findings reveal that the implementation of a dedicated journal management website is crucial in supporting the accreditation and development process. Respondents highlighted that such a platform simplifies tracking journal progress, facilitates communication and collaboration among team members, and provides an organized structure for managing evaluation and feedback. The website also enables the team to systematically monitor the quality of journals, helping them meet national and international accreditation standards more efficiently.

Novelty/Originality of the Study: This study introduces an innovative approach to managing academic journals through a specialized digital platform, addressing a critical gap in traditional journal management practices. The proposed website not only enhances administrative efficiency but also serves as a strategic tool for continuous quality improvement and collaborative evaluation, ultimately raising the university's research profile on a broader scale.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Technological developments are growing rapidly with the passage of time. These advancements are inevitable and naturally align with the continuous progress of science and knowledge [1], [2]. Therefore, it is crucial for humans as technology users to be capable of utilizing both current and emerging technologies to improve various aspects of life [3], [4]. One technological advancement that is increasingly prominent is the use

of online digital media, which plays a significant role in expanding accessibility and enhancing effectiveness in multiple fields.

Digitalization is one of the key aspects of technological development, offering broader access to information and increased efficiency. It plays a crucial role in optimizing the use of technology, enabling users to access the required information more easily and quickly [5]-[7]. In the context of evaluation and monitoring, digitalization provides opportunities to improve processes by making them more effective and efficient [8]-[10]. One area where this digital transformation has had a significant impact is the evaluation system, which can now be conducted digitally, optimizing time and resources. Web-based digital evaluation offers greater accuracy in assessment results and ensures easy access to those results [11]-[14].

Today, websites have become a vital tool for disseminating and obtaining information. A website uses the internet network, allowing it to be accessed by anyone, anytime, and anywhere [15]-[18]. Websites simplify the process of sharing and disseminating information, with the primary aim of providing easy access to specific topics or services [19]-[22]. In this study, the service in question refers to information related to tracking and mapping the progress of journals managed by individual journal managers. Before information on journal progress can be obtained, a digital assessment system must first be utilized. In this case, the website acts as a digital assessment tool, facilitating web-based evaluations. This method offers quick results as it can be accessed online, making information more readily available [23]-[25]. Web-based assessment systems thus provide a more reliable and efficient solution for accessing up-to-date data.

This research focuses on the importance of websites as journal management services within Jambi University. The website is expected to optimize the governance of journals by providing a platform for data collection and progress mapping for each journal under the university's management. The website-based system aims to make journal governance more systematic, transparent, and efficient. With this website, journal managers can monitor and record the development of their journals in real-time, ensuring that the progress of each journal can be easily tracked and evaluated.

Although numerous studies have explored the benefits of web-based assessment and digital systems in education and management, research on the application of website-based systems for journal governance at the institutional level, particularly in Indonesian universities such as Jambi University, is still limited. Most existing studies focus on general digital evaluation systems or academic information systems but do not specifically address journal management and progress tracking. This study fills that gap by examining how a dedicated website can be utilized to manage and monitor journal progress effectively.

By addressing this research gap, the study provides practical insights into the development of web-based journal management systems and offers recommendations for universities aiming to improve journal governance through digital solutions. Ultimately, the findings of this research will contribute to better practices in journal management, promoting efficiency and transparency in academic publishing processes at Jambi University.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This research adopts a qualitative approach with a focus on interviews as the primary data collection method. According to Fitrah, qualitative research is conducted in real-life settings with the aim of investigating and understanding specific phenomena [26]. Interviews are structured conversations with a specific purpose. In this study, the interview technique is used to collect subjective data such as opinions, attitudes, and behaviors of participants regarding the importance of web assessment for journal management at Jambi University. In qualitative research, participants are referred to as informants or sources, not statistical samples. The sample for this study consists of 20 informants, who are members of the journal editorial team at Jambi University. These informants were selected based on their roles and experiences in journal management to ensure the data collected is relevant and insightful.

The instrument used in this study is an observation and interview guide consisting of five open-ended questions aimed at exploring the importance of web assessment for journal management. The interview questions were designed and validated by experts to ensure their relevance and clarity before being administered. The interview questions are listed in table 1.

Table 1. Interview Grid

No	Question
1	How do readers find out the indexation of journals at Jambi University?
2	Do you know about web-assessment for journal houses?
3	In your opinion, as the editor of a journal house at UNJA, is a management and assessment-based system needed for all journals at Jambi University?

The data analysis in this study follows the Miles and Huberman framework, which includes four key stages: Data Collection, Data is collected through interviews with 20 informants; Data Reduction, The data is simplified and categorized to focus on relevant information by eliminating unnecessary details; Data Display, The reduced data is presented in an organized format to allow for easier interpretation and analysis; Conclusion Drawing and Verification, Conclusions are drawn based on the data presented, and the findings are verified to ensure accuracy and validity [27].

The research procedure is carried out in several steps as 1) Instrument Preparation and Validation, The interview guide is developed and validated by experts until it is deemed suitable for use; 2) Data Collection, Interviews are conducted with 20 informants from the journal editorial team at Jambi University; 3) Data Analysis, The interview data is reduced and categorized based on recurring themes and patterns; 4) Data Presentation and Conclusion, The data is presented in an organized format, leading to the final conclusions and recommendations. The overall research procedure is summarized in Figure 1, which provides a visual representation of the steps taken throughout the study.
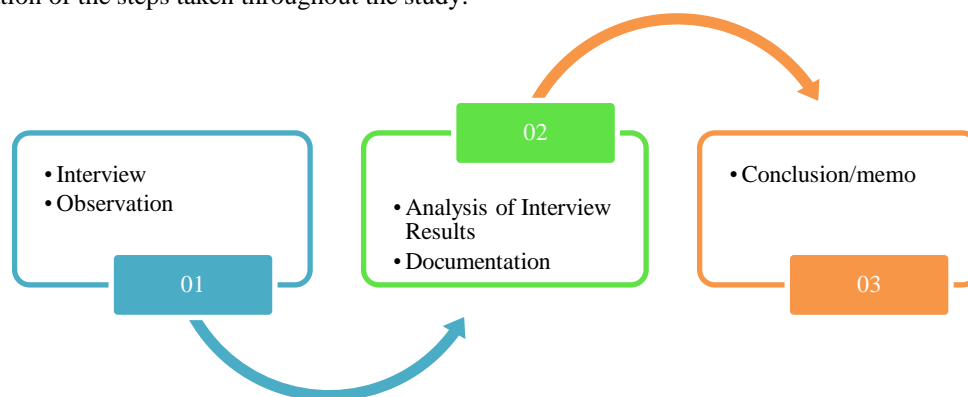

Table 1. Results of interviews with journal managers at Jambi University

3.   RESULTS AND DICUSSION

The interviews were conducted with 20 journal managers from various journals at Jambi University, including IRJE, EDUFISIKA, EDUMATICA, UNDANG, BIODIK, BIO-SITE, JITUJ, JAKU, MENDAPO, TITIAN, EDU-SAINS, ZAAKEN, JOLS, PAMPAS, MSA, LIMBAGO, LANGUE, KRINOK, COMMUNALE, and IJSSC. The interview responses were analyzed and categorized into three key questions.

How do readers find out the indexation of journals at Jambi University?
The majority of respondents (85%) stated that readers can find out about journal indexation by visiting the journal's official website. Additionally, 35% mentioned that journal indexation information is also available on the SINTA website. This indicates that the primary source of information for journal indexation is the journal website, supported by SINTA as an additional reference.

Do you know about web-based assessment and management systems for journal houses?
Most respondents (75%) are familiar with the concept of web-based assessment and management systems. Several respondents expressed enthusiasm about the potential benefits of such a system, noting that it could be very helpful in managing journals at Jambi University. However, a small portion of respondents (25%) admitted to having limited or no knowledge about this system, indicating a need for training and socialization.

In your opinion, is a web-based management and assessment system necessary for all journals at Jambi University?
The responses overwhelmingly emphasized the importance of having a web-based management and assessment system. The majority (90%) of respondents considered it essential for improving journal quality and achieving accreditation targets.

Respondents highlighted several reasons for its necessity: Monitoring and Evaluation: The system would provide an ongoing evaluation mechanism for identifying areas for improvement. Achieving Accreditation Goals: Respondents believe it will help journals meet SINTA accreditation standards. Ease of Management: Many mentioned that such a system would simplify the journal management process, especially for journals still in the early stages of development or those aiming for higher accreditation levels. Several

respondents expressed a desire for Jambi University to implement this system soon. One respondent noted, "We have been hoping for a long time for Jambi University to have an assessment system that can help us monitor, evaluate, and improve our journals more effectively."

Interviews conducted with 20 journal managers from different journal houses at Jambi University provided insights into how journals are managed, indexed, and evaluated. The findings indicate that journal managers primarily rely on the journal's official website and SINTA (Science and Technology Index) for checking indexation status. The introduction of a web-based journal management and assessment system has been perceived as highly beneficial for improving the overall quality of journals at Jambi University. This system is expected to offer comprehensive tools for evaluation and help journal managers identify areas for improvement to meet SINTA accreditation standards [28]-[32].

The development of a web-based journal assessment system could play a pivotal role in enhancing journal management at Jambi University. This system is envisioned to provide a centralized platform for managing and evaluating journals, which would serve as the main access point for all UNJA journals. It will include key features such as: Journal Statistics Monitoring, displaying data based on index type, SINTA level, language usage, and subject areas. Evaluation and Feedback Mechanism, highlighting gaps in journal performance in areas such as indexation, timeliness, editorial quality, peer review processes, and citation metrics. Accreditation Tracking, to help journal managers monitor their progress toward achieving higher SINTA levels or international recognition (e.g., DOAJ index and DOAJ Seal). Such a system would provide real-time analytics and detailed assessments for journal managers, enabling them to make data-driven decisions to improve journal quality.

At present, Jambi University has 33 SINTA-accredited journals. In addition, some journals from Jambi University have been cited in 198 articles in the Scopus database. Several journals have also been included in DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) and received the prestigious DOAJ Seal, which signifies high-quality open-access journals adhering to best practices in scholarly publishing. These achievements are significant but leave room for further improvement, especially in accelerating journal visibility and global reach [33], [34]. The findings reveal that journal managers acknowledge the importance of having a systematic evaluation tool to monitor their journal's progress. Such a system would help journal houses achieve higher accreditation and meet national and international standards. Currently, many journals at Jambi University remain below the desired quality level, with some not yet accredited.

The lack of a standardized evaluation mechanism has led to fragmented efforts in improving journals. A centralized assessment system would help journal managers track performance, providing clear guidance on areas that require improvement, such as: Improving editorial processes and timeliness of publication; Enhancing peer review quality and reducing publication delays; Increasing citation impact and international visibility through better indexing. This study offers a novel contribution by exploring the potential of a web-based journal management and assessment system to address challenges in university journal management. While previous research has focused primarily on journal indexation and accreditation, this study emphasizes the need for a comprehensive, data-driven evaluation system that integrates: Real-time monitoring of journal performance metrics; Customized feedback and recommendations for journal managers; Enhanced access and visibility for readers and contributors through a centralized digital platform.

This systematic approach provides a unique perspective on improving university journals, particularly in regions where journal management resources are still developing. The results have several implications for university journal management, academic publishing, and higher education policy. For Journal Managers, The proposed system offers a structured pathway to enhance journal quality and meet SINTA accreditation targets. Data-driven decision-making can improve management processes, ensuring journals are indexed more effectively and published on time. For Higher Education Institutions, Universities can boost their research visibility and reputation by supporting the development of this system. A centralized journal platform can help streamline the evaluation process, reducing administrative burden and improving resource allocation. For Policy Makers and Regulators, Standardized assessment frameworks could be adopted to monitor journal performance across universities. Regulators could collaborate with universities to enhance mentorship and training programs for journal editors and managers.

Limitation of this study focuses Language and Database Restrictions, The study relies heavily on data from SINTA and DOAJ, which may exclude relevant journals indexed in other international databases. Future studies could incorporate additional indexing systems such as Scopus and Web of Science. Lack of Longitudinal Analysis, The findings are based on current data and interviews, lacking a long-term perspective on the impact of web-based journal management systems. A longitudinal approach would provide deeper insights into their effectiveness over time. For the future, we recommend doing Develop and Implement the Web-Based Journal Management System, The system should include real-time performance monitoring, automated feedback, and integration with major indexing services (e.g., SINTA, DOAJ, Scopus). User-friendly interfaces and customized dashboards for journal managers will improve adoption and usability. Provide Training and Support for Journal Managers, Universities should invest in training programs to help journal managers and editors understand how

to utilize the system effectively. Workshops on best practices in editorial management, peer review processes, and publication ethics should be conducted regularly. Enhance Collaboration with Indexing Bodies, Jambi University should collaborate with indexing organizations to ensure more journals are indexed and achieve international visibility. Mentorship programs involving successful journal editors could help improve the quality of less-established journals. Expand Research on Journal Management Systems, Future studies should assess the long-term impact of implementing web-based systems on journal quality and university research visibility. Comparative research involving multiple universities would offer broader insights and foster best practices in journal management.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of this research, it can be concluded that the development of a dedicated website to monitor, assess, and evaluate journal quality at Jambi University is essential. This website would serve as a centralized platform to oversee key aspects such as indexation status, timely publication, editorial and peer-review processes, citation metrics, and national and international accreditation standards. The availability of such a tool would significantly improve transparency and efficiency in managing and enhancing the quality of academic journals within the university.

The implementation of a journal management website has the potential to streamline journal monitoring processes, promote quality assurance, and support continuous improvement of publication standards. This platform would enable editors and researchers to track journal performance more effectively and identify areas for improvement in real time. Additionally, it could facilitate collaboration with external reviewers and accreditation bodies, thereby increasing the visibility and credibility of Jambi University's journals on both national and international levels. Future research should focus on the technical design and user requirements of the proposed website to ensure usability and functionality. Furthermore, the integration of advanced features such as automated quality assessment, citation analysis, and open-access tracking would enhance the platform's impact. Collaboration between IT experts, journal editors, and university administrators is critical to the successful development and implementation of this system.

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