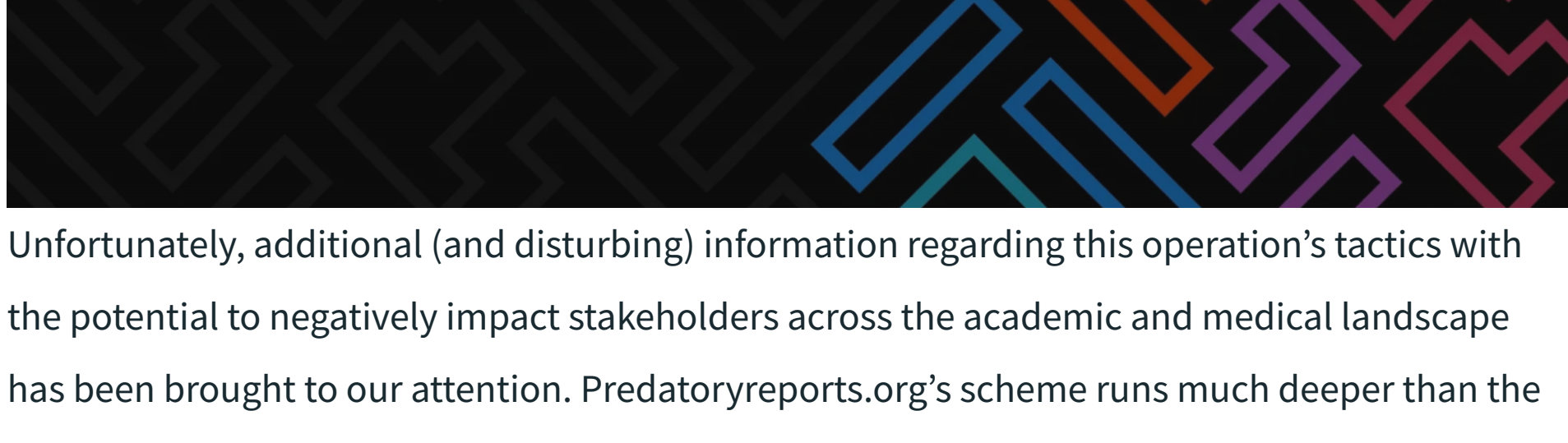




JANUARY 16, 2024 | [THE SOURCE](#) | [CABELLS NEWS](#), [PREDATORY](#)

Unmasking a Predator: predatoryreports.org

For some time now, [Cabells](#) has been aware of an organization, with no affiliation to Cabells whatsoever, operating under the name Predatory Reports and using the website domain “[predatoryreports.org](#)” – a clear infringement and brazen attempt to capitalize on our reputation and long-standing commitment to the research community. Despite the unethical and injurious hijacking of our [Predatory Reports](#) product name, we have attempted to communicate in good faith with this organization to come to an amicable resolution of this matter.



Unfortunately, additional (and disturbing) information regarding this operation's tactics with the potential to negatively impact stakeholders across the academic and medical landscape has been brought to our attention. Predatoryreports.org's scheme runs much deeper than the hijacking of our [Predatory Reports](#) product name, it would be remiss of us to not share the details of what we have found with our community.

Background

On the “[About](#)” page of the [predatoryreports.org](#) website, this message can be found:

About us



Predatory Reports is an organization made up of volunteer researchers who have been harmed by predatory publishers and want to help researchers identify trusted journals and publishers for their research.

Because we at Cabells are in favor of any ethical and lawful endeavor to safeguard the scholarly and medical research communities and protect the universe of research upon which our collective knowledge base is built, we first sought to rectify this matter in an expedient and uncontentious manner. We were not seeking to stop the “service” this organization was purportedly providing, we simply asked that they cease the unethical and predatory tactic of using our name to identify their services.

This organization has knowingly hijacked Cabells' Predatory Reports name, as evidenced by [this blog post](#) from the “News” section of their website, which refers to Cabells' Predatory Reports several times (including [here](#) and [here](#)). However, it should also be noted that this article (along with at least several others posted to their “News” section) has been plagiarized, in this case from the [InterAcademy Partnership's](#) (IAP) summary report, “[Combatting Predatory Academic Journals and Conferences](#).” In this report, to which Cabells contributed background and statistical information, Cabells is referenced several times as a trusted and recommended tool for verifying journal legitimacy. This organization has presented this post (and others as well, on a routine basis) as their own content, using text and figures with no attribution.

As with most predatory operations Cabells investigates, this outfit's plagiarism of blog posts is just the tip of the iceberg in terms of illicit activity. At some point, without fail, it becomes about the money.

“As a gesture of good faith...”

Elsewhere on the “About” page of this operation's website, [this statement](#) can be found:

Perhaps this should read instead, “without the *willing* support of any company.”

As stated earlier, Cabells has repeatedly reached out in good faith to the perpetrators of this predatory outfit, and we have received no cooperation. Rather, they have ignored any culpability and wrongful use of our name and someone posing as “David Frizin” and using the email [frizindavid@gmail.com](#) has offered to sell it back to us for an exorbitant amount of money.

“David Frizin” first demonstrated that they had editorial control over content on predatoryreports.org by showing us, in email communications with our legal counsel, that they could remove our name and change their website (and domain name) to “Predatory Journals.”

“David's” “good faith” did not last long however, and, with no payment forthcoming, the website has since reverted to using the Cabells' Predatory Reports name:

Still, despite this frustrating and disturbing exchange, we sought to handle this matter with discretion and through the appropriate legal channels at our disposal, which we continue to do. Unfortunately, as we have come to find out, the unethical use of our [Predatory Reports](#) name was just the beginning...

Seeking a bribe

Cabells has been sent an email exchange between “David Frizin” and a publisher who has been included in their “The Predatory Publishers List (Part 1).” In this exchange, “David” shows the ability to remove the publisher from the predatoryreports.org listing, once again, as an act of “good faith”:

After receiving thanks for the removal, “David” then made clear that it was only temporary, to show that they are one of the editors of the website:

The “agreement” that “David” sought to establish “so that the publisher remains off the list” permanently? A payment of \$50,000:

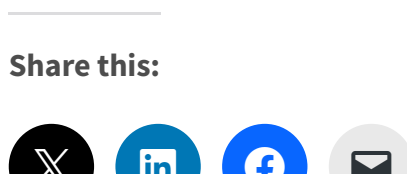
After demonstrating editorial control over the predatoryreports.org website by temporarily removing the publisher in question from their bogus list, “David” then stated the removal was only temporary, but for the sum of \$50,000, could be permanent.

In summation, the perpetrators behind this predatory operation, predatoryreports.org:

1. Have essentially copied the list of publishers included in the long defunct bealllist.net
2. Have packaged it as their own new list in part by hijacking and infringing on the name our long-standing, trusted resource, [Predatory Reports](#)
3. Are seeking bribes from publishers in order to have their name removed from their list.

Cabells will continue to investigate and monitor this matter and will report our findings as new information becomes available. If you have any additional information on this deceptive operation, or have any questions for us on this matter, please don't hesitate to contact us at [info@cabells.com](#).

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4 thoughts on “Unmasking a Predator: predatoryreports.org”

Joe Winston
JANUARY 19, 2024 AT 3:40 AM

We have faced the same issue, they classified as Predatory and then I send them a message asking on what Basis they did this, and Bingo same David Writes to me from the same email, they are Scamming and extorning people , its time we unmask them

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REPLY

Pinback: [Predatory Journals: Brauchen wir noch mehr Negativlisten? - TIB-Blog](#)

samirhachani
FEBRUARY 5, 2024 AT 9:49 AM

It is just mind boggling and how much brazen and shameless these people are !!!! As serious and moral reserachers , we should do anything to denounce them !!! Shame on you !!! 50 000 \$!!!

★ Loading...

REPLY

Pinback: [Viruses | Free Full-Text | The 15th Anniversary of Viruses: An Unwavering Commitment to Serving the Virology Community - Inderguy](#)

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PREDATORY CONFERENCES: A → LESSER-KNOWN (BUT NO LESS DANGEROUS) PREDATORY PUBLISHING SCAM

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