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From the Editors' Desks

Message from EASE's new President

As you will see from the report in this issue, the Pisa conference went extremely well. The presentations were excellent and, as is to be expected for an EASE meeting, there was plenty of discussion and debate from the floor. For those who could not attend, we plan to load copies of the overnight newsletter, *Indipendente*, on the website.

At the AGM, I was confirmed as President, a position that I am honoured to accept. We have a new Council and I would particularly like to welcome the new members appointed at the AGM: Ana Marušić, Petter Oscarson, Edward Towpik, and Sylwia Ufnalska.

On behalf of all of EASE, I would like to thank those Council members who have retired after several years' service, especially Linus Svensson, Ricardo Guerrero, and Mercè Piqueras. Special thanks go to Arjan Polderman, who has done a sterling job as President. I am fortunate that Arjan plans to be an active Past-President so that we can all continue to benefit from his experience and enthusiasm over the next three years. We have had our first Council meeting and I will outline our plans in an editorial in the February issue.

In this issue

Turn the page and it's not an editorial and article that you'll see – instead, the events of the 10th EASE conference in Pisa are reported by Dario Sambunjak and Richard Hurley. Also, on the inside back cover you'll find photographs taken at the conference.

New on the EASE website

Two posters are now available on the EASE website. One sets out the history of EASE and the benefits of being a member of the organization, and the other shows what EASE does – the new opportunities and initiatives it offers. We hope you will download and print these posters, to use for publicizing EASE.

Contributions for next issue

The copy date for the February issue is 15 December. To avoid the Christmas rush, please send contributions to the appropriate member of the publications committee (see the list on the left) by then.

EASE conference report

Integrity in science communication

Dario Sambunjak *and* **Richard Hurley** *report from the 10th EASE conference held in Pisa, 16-19 September 2009*

Dario's view

On a very wet day in September 2009, a number of editors had foregathered at Pisa and the particular occasion was a kind of symposium on integrity in scientific communication, held in the middle of one of the Italy's most beautiful towns. We sat in a hall while discussion raged on the application of the terms integrity, copyright and misconduct; the rain and the wind like the discussion, waxed in intensity, and under the unusual superincumbent weight, whether of mere flesh and bone or of intellect, the surface of the hall was slowly sinking until we were all half-way up to our knees in questions.

Something odd

Some readers of *European Science Editing* may have sensed that there is something odd with the first paragraph of this report. Perhaps the language is a bit old-fashioned? Or is it the style unusual for conference reports? The peculiarity of the introduction actually relates to the fact that the first author of this report, a poor non-native English speaker, was given a formidable task of writing a draft of the report from the 10th general assembly and conference of the European Association of Science Editors. The poor author did not know how to begin, so he just used a piece of text he found in a recent issue of *The Write Stuff*, the journal of European Medical Writers' Association, and modified it slightly. He did not provide a reference because he felt that would be unusual in a conference report. Moreover, the original text was written back in 1930s and the editor-in-chief of *European Science Editing* would probably not be very impressed with such an outdated reference, so the first author of this report decided that there is no point in referencing. The second author, an experienced native English speaker, did not have time to carefully look at the first paragraph before the report was submitted to this journal, so he failed to notice anything suspicious.

This small vignette exemplifies the kind of problems that were discussed among the participants of the 10th EASE conference, held in Galileo's home town. The inaugural speaker, Ele Ferrannini from the University of Pisa, reminded his colleague editors that they serve as traffic lights between the author and the public, both lay and expert, who rightfully expect research to be responsibly conducted and reported. Kirsty Meddings from CrossRef presented a helpful tool (CrossCheck) to detect possibly plagiarized bits of text, such as the one in the introduction of this report.

Just cultural differences?

But what if the author stands up and exclaims that he has done no wrong when he used the words of an illustrious predecessor writer? Do different cultures interpret the words "scientific integrity" differently? This question was discussed at an afternoon session on the second day of the conference. Eric Lichtfouse, the editor of French journal *Agronomy for Sustainable Development*, presented his experiences in dealing with authors from what he called "north" and "south" world, without being able to draw a clear geographical line between the two. Listeners might have concluded that there is a bit of both "worlds" in every country; perhaps even in every researcher. Lichtfouse said that a smart editor should be familiar with various cultures and adapt their communication to authors' origin.

Nevertheless, there are some universally accepted standards and rules of scientific publishing, and Karen Shashok, a freelance authors' editor from Spain, explained how she used the AuthorAID concept to bring those standards to researchers in Iran [see p106]. She pointed out that the goal of AuthorAID is to empower inexperienced authors, rather than just help them publish a manuscript.

A similar mission was taken by the *Journal of the International AIDS Society* (JIAS), as we heard from Shirin Heidari. By providing a free of cost, open access publishing platform, and training and mentoring to authors, JIAS is working to overcome the ethically dubious but still prevalent under-reporting of research from low and middle income countries.

Scientific publishing seems to be prone not only to biases related to the level of economic development or geographic position. The findings presented by Amber Budden from the US National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis show that the bias can also be gender related. Budden emphasised the importance of making and publishing journal statistics regularly, so that such biases can be identified.

Another possible threat to the integrity of scientific publishing is related to undisclosed conflict of interest. Thomas Babor from the journal *Addiction* proposed a common standard for disclosure of conflict of interest and suggested that non-financial conflict of interest, such as academic rivalries or political and religious belief, may be equally important to disclose.

Crime and punishment

With all the potential and real breaches of scientific integrity, a question naturally arises: how to punish the wrongdoers? In a soccer game, unfair play and rule–breaking can be dealt with by sending the player out of the game. Perhaps inspired by their nation's admirable soccer history, two French PhD students, Claire Ribrault and Thomas Julou, have

developed Scientific Red Cards, a website listing scientific publications for which misconduct has been assessed by legitimate institutions (www.scientificredcards.org). In the same session, Paul Evans from Elsevier explained how red cards work in the business world: employees involved in a recent scandal with Elsevier journals were fired, he said. Afterwards Christiaan Sterken, professor of astronomy at the University of Brussels, showed some examples of how poor supervision in academia can lead to scientific misconduct. The audience felt that the business model of red cards ("getting fired") should sometimes also be applied in the academic institutions.

On the last day of the conference, the presentation by David Vaux from the La Trobe University, Australia, was almost like a cold shower. He showed several examples of obviously falsified figures published in various biomedical journals, which could have been detected before publication if anyone had taken the trouble to look more closely. Vaux's presentation was literally, as one participant commented, "an eye opener".

Richard's view

"As theories age they become prejudice," cautioned the world-renowned professor of internal medicine Ele Ferrannini, in the first plenary, reflecting on his four year editorship of *Diabetologia*. He illustrated his point with Rembrandt's painting *The Anatomy Lesson of Dr Nicolaes Tulp*: only one of the seven students is watching the surgical teacher demonstrate the action of the forearm's tendon; the others are looking at a textbook (tinyurl.com/yz9g27j).

And so started the 10th annual conference of the European Association of Science Editors, in Pisa, Italy, on 16 September. In the shadow of the famous tower, which convinced Galileo Galilei to challenge the scientific beliefs of his time, more than 100 delegates from 14 countries met for four days to question the dogma that surrounds the communication of science. Most delegates were from Europe, but some came from as far as Australia, Russia, South Korea, Iran, and China to attend sessions on the theme of integrity in science communication.

Ferrannini, from the University of Pisa, went on to explain how the current information overload is the result of superspecialisation in science and the pressure on journals to publish highly citable papers to raise both impact factors and the chances of appeal to a sensationalist lay press. He went on to say that increases in openness, such as publishing authors' disclosure of conflicting interests and full datasets in medical science, represent a loss of privacy for authors—and patients.

Kirsty Meddings, from CrossRef, talked about the CrossCheck system for identifying plagiarized material, making use of Tom Lehrer's song: "Plagiarize/Let no one else's work evade your eyes/Remember why the good Lord made your eyes/So don't shade your eyes/But plagiarize, plagiarize, plagiarize/Only be sure always to call it please 'research.'"

Parallel sessions

In the first parallel session, Christiaan Sterken, from Vrije Universiteit, Belgium, spoke about the peer reviewed *Journal of Astronomical Data*, founded in an attempt to solve the problem of non-publication of full datasets in astronomy (www.vub.ac.be/STER/JAD/jad.htm). Without such attempts, data are lost when researchers die or the storage media becomes obsolete. Linus Svensson went on to ask whether journals should insist on full data being submitted with papers, citing advantages of data security but disadvantages of cost—and should it really be up to journals anyway?

Illustrating a theory: Rembrandt's "The Anatomy Lesson of Dr Nicholaes Tulp"

Amber Budden talked about bias in peer review, specifically bias related to the sex of researchers. She presented evidence that double blind peer review can reduce this bias. Thomas Babor, associate editor of *Addiction*, outlined the attempts by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors to introduce a common form for authors' reporting of potential financial and non-financial conflicts of interest, to encourage a consistent standard among journals. This might reduce the phenomenon of authors shopping around for a journal with less stringent policies. Babor's editorial on this has been recently published and is supported by several commentaries, all freely available (see *Addiction* 2009;104:1777-8, doi:10.1111/j.1360-0443.2009.02768.x).

In a further parallel session Linus Svensson asked delegates to reflect on what makes an author and whether the concept of authorship is obsolete. The record number of authors for a single paper may be 2512, in the discipline of particle physics (*Physics Report* 2006;427:257-454). A move to a statement of contributorship may be one solution, but would researchers accept a move away from the traditions of first and last authors? Lorna Fay, from Pfizer, talked about improving transparency in peer reviewed publications from her perspective, in industry. Guest authorship (naming an author who does not meet the authorship criteria) may affect as many as a fifth of articles. Ghost authorship, where an individual who meets authorship criteria is unnamed, may affect as many as a tenth of published articles. Pfizer is committed to following ICMJE guidelines on authorship, she said. Elise Langdon-Neuner went on to explain how authors disagree on what constitutes authorship and

that guidelines give a veneer of transparency but without enforcement are merely paying lip service. She went on to propose that ghostwriters should be named and that their pay should be published in the papers to which they contribute, because some astronomical sums suggest work that must go beyond writing and editing. Delegates who work for medical communications companies expressed unease at having their fees disclosed.

Reme Melero, Paola De Castro, Sylwia Ufnalska, and Françoise Salager-Meyer put on a little show to illustrate the problems of communication between speakers of different languages, and their parallel sessions went on to promote integrity through use of the Vancouver style for references and a project to standardize common editorial guidelines through translation.

In one of the last parallel sessions, on public perception of science, John Joyce of the Marine Institute, Dublin, explained how researchers and journals can get the lay media's attention, with his talk about scientific storytelling. Using the lay media to publicize scientific research can influence public opinion and funding. The hook is the catchy opening, which grabs the reader's attention; the line is the bulk of your article, including quotes for colour; and the thinker is a strong ending.

Outside the sessions

Outside the sessions, delegates enjoyed the pretty town of Pisa, the coffee and pastries, and the sumptuous conference dinner, with a menu chosen by Paola De Castro. The conference wouldn't have been the same without Sammi Jeffrey's working around the clock to deliver each day's conference newsletter, *Editorre Indipendente*. And many thanks and all best wishes to Sheila Evered, the powerhouse behind the conference, who announced that she is stepping down. The presenters' slides, subject to their approval, will be posted at www.ease.org.uk.

The Italian media reported the conference in print, online, and on local television (Telegranducato and Canale 50). See the "Rassegna stampa" section of the website of the Municipality of Pisa (www.comune.pisa.it) and www.pisanotizie.it/index.php/news/agenda_20090911_congresso_editoria_scientifica.html (http://tinyurl.com/yfd8hnr), http://eccolatoscana.myblog.it/archive/2009/09/16/pisa-editoria-scientifica.html (http://tinyurl.com/yjgj5eu), www.universy.it/universita/appuntamenti/i_professionisti_dell_editoria_scientifica_si_incontrano_a_pisa_al_convegno_internazionale_dell_ease-1673.html (http://tinyurl.com/ylhdd34).

Contributions: DS wrote the first draft of the report waiting at the airport on his way back home from the conference, while RH was still enjoying the sunny weather in Italy. Afterwards, RH had to use all his editorial skills to figure out what DS actually wanted to say and to make the article intelligible for the native English speakers (while making it unintelligible for the non-native English speaker, says DS).

Conflicts of interest: DS and RH are members of the EASE Publications Committee and had to attended the Committee meeting in Pisa under most difficult weather conditions. They got their travel expences reimbursed, but their mental anguish and physical suffering were not remunerated. They also received no honoraria for all the effort invested in the writing of this report, so don't even think about complaining about its quality.

Acknowledgments: We did not ask a permission to paraphrase a piece of text from R.L. Praeger's 1937 book "The Way That I Went: an Irishman in Ireland", Dublin: Allen Figgis; 1980, that we found in The Write Stuff, 2009, vol. 18, No. 2, p. 101. Still, we hope that our friend and colleague Elise Langdon-Neuner, editor of The Write Stuff, will not take any legal actions against us.

Apologies: We sincerely apologize to all the conference speakers that we failed to mention in this report. This failure is only due to our poor writing abilities, not to their presentations.

Speaker's corner: (left to right) Kirsty Meddings from CrossRef, Paola Gargiulo from CASPUR, and chair Anthony Watkinson

Amber Budden from the US National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis, chair Paul Evans, and Thomas Babor from *Addiction*

Essays in Editing

Morals and science publishing

Paul Evans
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Presented at the Tenth EASE General Assembly and Conference – Integrity in Science Communication, September 2009

Integrity of publishing embraces all aspects of the publishing cycle. Above all it requires the scientific community's professionalism and ethic of service to world development to ensure that the scientific method is best advanced. In addition subjective powers of judgement and prioritization, and dissemination itself, need to be made as accountable and sustainable as possible.

These concepts extend from ethical concerns related to the published works and professional behaviours of researchers as authors – including the use of services to help police this domain (for example, in preventing plagiarism), through issues such as preservation and the need to train researchers to maintain knowledge for future generations, to the role of editors and reviewers and how to guard against bias and ensure civility at all times. Then there is the role of the publisher, as a specialized outsourced function from the research world, and the need to balance benefits for producers with general benefits for consumers, including the wider public. Here the influence of politics and economics comes to the fore in the context of significant and continuing changes in technology. What is at stake is, on the one hand, sustainability and continuity of successful models from the past, and on the other hand the need to ensure vitality with investment and innovation. In order to maximize the output from the scientific process, a moral perspective is also important.

In this essay I will examine the roots of integrity and morals in relation to the practice of publishing. I will consider how to manage the gap between an ideal vision and current reality, and how to make improvements in the context of continuous improvement among stakeholders. I will analyze the significance of ethics across the publishing cycle for science and across the context of the scientific community and the wider public, and I will return to the fundamental significance of morals as embedded in individuals and within organizations and hypothesize that differences can be reconciled not through ideological debate but through development of the learning organization.

Morals, integrity and publishing

A non-commercial publishing source (though it is not likely to be any more valid because it is not commercial), freedictionary.com, defines "morals" in several ways:

- Rules or habits of conduct (a descriptive rather than normative definition)
- Concerned with the judgement of goodness or badness of human action and character (normative)
- Conforming to standards of what is right behaviour (clearly normative)

The same dictionary defines "integrity" in a sense of wholeness or "having everything that is needed" and also simply as "honesty". This seems more fundamental and plain.

Richard L Cravatts (lecturer in publishing, Boston, USA) described in January 2007 one of the key dilemmas facing the moral standards of publishing: "[Publishers] have been forced to transform the profession of publishing from one in which ideas were generated and preserved for society's good into a process where the pursuit of profits overshadows this primary, seemingly nobler purpose."[1]

Whether there was ever a golden age where the two tendencies were not counterposed is debatable. It could be argued that it is only through the development of copyright to protect the investment process that the publishing industry has flourished and made the generation and preservation of ideas effective. This is as true today as it was in the early days of moveable type when as a civilization we were able to emerge from the so-called Dark Ages. But this is not to say that there cannot be a tension in fulfilling the different needs of stakeholders in the publishing cycle.

Continuous improvement by individuals

Management guru Peter Senge has pinpointed the theme of continuous improvement and in particular the need for individuals in organizations to correct errors so that the organization may improve and be successful. He describes the need for improvement as a motivating force: "The gap between vision and current reality is also a source of energy. If there is no gap, there would be no need for any action to move towards this vision. We call this gap creative tension."[2]

Perhaps even more fundamentally, he sees the locus of change within the individuals in an organization: "People don't resist change. They resist being changed. ... When all is said and done, the only change that will make a difference is the transformation of the human heart."

In the context of morals and integrity, change is not based on having lofty visions but rather on implementation of detail at the individual level.

Ethics and the publishing cycle

Within the publishing cycle, ethical issues affect authors, editors, publishers and readers. This is as true in science as it is in many other areas, perhaps more so, as science feeds technology in areas as diverse as health, material prosperity, and even warfare.

Authors' issues such as plagiarism or the use of fraudulent data generally relate to individual career motivations and clearly transgress the norms of correct behaviour. These

Were the days of moveable type a golden age?

norms can vary between cultures, an example being copying methodologies, which in some cultures is regarded as emulation and is prized over individualism.

For editors, the need to maximize or optimize objectivity and remove bias is critical to scientific method. But in certain social sciences there is room for debate around whether objectivity is a real phenomenon. Where bias is possible, the least that can be expected is the maximization of transparency by, for example, revealing sources of research funding.

Professional codes of conduct already exist in the information world. For example, journalists in the UK have the code of conduct of the National Union of Journalists. Here there is an awareness of the potential for conflict between assisting the general public good and of profitability of an enterprise – for example in the way advertisers are treated in editorial copy. It could, however, be argued that such professionalism by journalists helps to ensure a quality product and thus also protects profitability.

Although there has been some consideration of whether a code of conduct could help authors to manage their professional responsibilities, regulation of publishers has been less overtly questioned; however, self-regulation is increasing. Organizations are now faced with publishing actions considered unacceptable in the community and usually also by the organization itself, and are increasingly setting clearer standards for employees to follow and to be judged by. For example, Reed Elsevier recently provided a one hour training module in business ethics to its entire workforce, to help clarify that doubtful practices are not merely doubtful, they are not sanctioned and could result in disciplinary action. Furthermore, practices such as sponsorship of special issues must be made completely transparent to the reading public; the requirement for transparency in the publication process and the declaration of stakeholders' involvement is made clear.

Is the "learning organization" a solution?

There is undoubtedly a clash of values and some ideological baggage in the current judgement of individuals acting on behalf of corporate organizations. Merely to show that an action emanated from a large multinational organization is enough for some people to invoke a set of preconceived notions, attitudes, and (worst of all) emotions. The concept that an entity such as a company is more than the sum of its parts does not take away the responsibility and motivation of individuals within an organization.

2009 has been a hard year – firstly, because of the overall downturn in the economic climate. Secondly, for publishers such as Reed Elsevier a succession of ethical publishing problems have been highlighted in the media. On each occasion the company has painstakingly examined the issue and determined where action or behaviour has transgressed acceptable norms. It has even, on occasion, challenged those norms in the industry. This has been an important year of learning for the entire workforce – the situations in question have been taken seriously by all.

Only through continuing to develop a learning organization founded upon ethical and committed individuals genuinely devoted to the corporate mission of contributing to science and health, can the lesson from these incidents be taken to heart and a company improved further. This process seems to be working, even as other stakeholders in the publishing cycle face their own problems. For example, scientists themselves often claim that the newer generations seem to feel less professional responsibility for processes such as acting as referees – which was previously an honour but is now often considered a burden.

Sustainability and ethics

Ideology can impede improvement and there is – to some extent – a clash of values within the science community as it affects publishing. In particular, it may seem curious that while profitability of suppliers of laboratory equipment, buildings, or computers is rarely questioned, this is not the case for information suppliers. Recent debate about business models in the science publishing arena that rival or even replace the dominant subscription model could be drawing on this clash of values to help support the case for change. Publishers have chosen to experiment with models such as sponsored access, author pays, and delayed access in order to be pragmatic and ascertain what will suit customers best while covering their costs and at least generating a reasonable rate of return for the stakeholders – whether this be in the capital markets or among scientific societies.

Critical for all of the players in this area is sustainability of the information system. Science publishing includes the very minutes of science for preservation and effective reference and reuse. Hence the ethics of the publishing cycle transcend the positions of the different players and encompass the evolution of the system itself and the risks of discontinuity, which itself could leave us at the mercy of an unqualified information jungle capable of damaging researchers' productivity and the very outputs we seek to support.

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Text-table: an underused and undervalued tool for communicating information

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Tufte writes: "The basic structures for showing data are the sentence, the table and the graphic… Often two or three of these devices should be combined." [1]

I do not intend to discuss whether it is a table or a graphic that should be used in any particular scenario. Let us defer this topic, quite an important one and often addressed,[1-4] to some other time. Focusing on sentences and tables, I would like to discuss a device which might be considered something between a sentence and a table: a text-table.

The text-table is a simple table with no graphical elements such as grid lines, rules, shading, or boxes (which table, without further definition, Harris calls the "basic table for reference" [5]); further, as the text-table is embedded within a text, no reference to it ("see Table 1") is needed. (Tufte recommends incorporating figures and tables within the text wherever they are referred to, even at the cost of repeating the item on different pages. His books on visualizing information[1,6-8] are all arranged in that way.) Tufte says: "The conventional sentence is a poor way to show more than two numbers because it prevents comparisons within the data. The linearly organized flow of words, folded over at arbitrary points (decided not by content but by the happenstance of column width), offers less than one effective dimension for organizing the data." [1]

Arranging the information in a classic table and referring to it where needed means that readers do not access the information as immediately as they would when reading the sentence. They have to find the table (which may be on another page), at cost of losing some time; this slightly decreases the strength of conveyance of the information. Such quick access to the information can be achieved within a sentence, but this is not too effective a structure if more than two numbers are to be compared. Here a text-table appears to be ideal for communicating information to the reader quickly and comprehensibly. Keeping the power of tabular arrangement, it immediately conveys the message.

Text-tables were used some time ago in scholarly publishing,[9,10] but to the best of my knowledge they are not used in modern publishing. In this essay I would like to rediscover text-tables, as a follow-up to Tufte's call for the use of this simple yet ingenious arrangement for communicating information. Below are several examples of how text-tables can improve writing, in which I paraphrase sentences and passages from scientific literature to make them contain a text-table. Then I propose rules for constructing such tables and discuss whether text-tables could become a standard—or even a non-standard—tool for communicating information.

Examples

In general, construction of text-tables is somewhat natural, and so the rules I present should support this natural way of creating text-tables. All of these examples originate from the scientific literature, and although they are taken out of context, in each case the context (and the sentences' message) is not required to show how the original sentences can be enhanced. Each example begins with an original sentence (sometimes with a comment), and this sentence is then revised to include a text-table.

Example 1

The original sentence: "Germplasm group lodging means were 28% for Northern Upland, 23% for Southern Upland, 9% for Northern Lowland, and 22% for Southern Lowland." (Source: Casler et al.[11])

The revised sentence with a text-table:

Germplasm group lodging means (expressed as percentages) were as follows:

Northern Upland	28
Southern Upland	23
Northern Lowland	9
Southern Lowland	22

Or, if this ordering based on germplasm group is not necessary, ordering by size will be better:

Germplasm group lodging means (expressed as percentages) were as follows:

Northern Upland	28
Southern Upland	23
Southern Lowland	22
Northern Lowland	9

The text in rows can be joined with a dot leader:

Germplasm group lodging means (expressed as percentages) were as follows:

Northern Upland.....28
Southern Upland.....23
Southern Lowland.....22
Northern Lowland 9

Example 2

The original sentence: "Germplasm group dry matter means were 470 g kg^{-1} for Northern Upland, 436 g kg^{-1} for Southern Upland, 396 g kg^{-1} for Northern Lowland, and 378 g kg^{-1} for Southern Lowland." (Source: Casler et al.[11])

The revised sentence with a text-table:

Germplasm group dry matter means were

Northern Upland	470 g kg^{-1}
Southern Upland	436 g kg^{-1}
Northern Lowland	396 g kg^{-1}
Southern Lowland	378 g kg^{-1}

The units can be moved to the preceding sentence:

Germplasm group dry matter means (g kg^{-1}) were

Northern Upland	470
Southern Upland	436
Northern Lowland	396
Southern Lowland	378

Example 3

In this example, no comparison is made among the rows, as is the classic aim of text-tables. Instead, the table aims to present the information more concisely and comprehensibly than the original passage, which has three sentences (577 characters); note the similarity in the construction of the sentences. So this use of a text-table deviates from the standard, showing that this structure can be helpful in various scenarios. (Note that the original wording was not optimal and could certainly be improved to create a shorter text. Still, the text-table would convey the information in a clearer and more efficient way.)

The original passage: "Hypothesis tests for the independence of the variables clustering I and II were not rejected, since the value of χ^2 statistics was 4.8, and the significance (p-value), computed by Monte Carlo method, was 0.57. In the case of the contingency table for the variables clustering I and clustering III, the hypothesis was not rejected, either; χ^2 value was 4.0 and Monte Carlo significance 0.507. The hypothesis test for the independence of the variables clustering II and clustering III was rejected, since the χ^2 value was 20.0, and the computed significance was smaller than 0.001." (Source: Kozak et al.[12])

The passage revised into one sentence and a text-table: The results of hypothesis testing for the independence of the following pairs of variables (clustering I, II and III) were as follows (p-values were computed by Monte Carlo method):

I and II	Not rejected	(χ^2=4.8, p=0.570)
I and III	Not rejected	(χ^2=4.0, p=0.507)
II and III	Rejected	(χ^2=20.0, p<0.001)

Although the table presents both qualitative ("Rejected" and "Not rejected") and quantitative (χ^2 statistics and p-values) information, it is the former which is of key interest in this table. This shows that text-tables are not limited to communicating quantitative information, provided that the information is simple and can be easily presented.

Example 4

The original sentence: "The estimations of σ_u parameters were highly significant (p<0.01) for pooled data in both years, being the values 1.31 mm (standard error: 0.37) for O'Neal, 0.49 mm (standard error: 0.13) for Cape Fear, and 0.69 mm (standard error: 0.16) for Herbert." (Source: Godoy et al.[13])

The revised sentence with a text-table:

Estimations of σ_u parameters were highly significant (p<0.01) for pooled data in both years, with the following values (in mm, standard errors in brackets):

O'Neal	1.31	(0.37)
Herbert	0.69	(0.16)
Cape Fear	0.49	(0.13)

Example 5

The original sentence: "The maximum LAI in variant PS was achieved by 72 DAP (3.7 units), in TS (3.8 units) and 0 (4.1 units) respectively by 73 and 76 DAP." (LAI stands for leaf area index, DAP for days after planting, and PS, TS and 0 are seed tuber treatments.) (Source: Eremeev et al.[14])

Clearly the sentence is poorly structured, which is why extracting the information it contains is so difficult. It presents six values: three DAPs to be compared, and three LAIs to be compared. The symbol 0 to represent the untreated variant is yet another problem because it resembles the zero value (especially when placed near other numbers). This information can be efficiently conveyed through a text-table structure.

The maximum LAI was achieved by the following periods:

TS	4.1	by 76 DAP
PS	3.8	by 73 DAP
Untreated	3.7	by 72 DAP

Arrangement of text-tables

A text-table can be of any size, but the larger it is, the less power it has. Its power derives mainly from the immediate accessibility of the data; the reader should be "attacked" by the data, as happens while reading a sentence. With a large text-table, the reader needs to stop reading the text to focus on the table and determine what it conveys; if the reader is to take a break in reading, a text-table is not required and reference can be made to a classic table. In addition, too large a text-table may create problems in "laying out" the text, perhaps introducing some untidiness. Although the number of rows can easily exceed three, the number of columns should not. Even three columns can weaken the text-table's message, so any third column should provide information that is less important for the visual comparison that the text-table intends to facilitate. Examples include statistical significance (see Examples 3 and 4), percentage change, some additional but simple qualitative information. There are exceptions, like in Example 5, where all columns present important information; note, however, that they all are narrow and the information can be easily grasped.

Text-tables should not have headings. The sentence that precedes the text-table acts as a heading that introduces the information the text-table represents, and it usually ends with a colon. Footnotes are undesirable, as they distract attention from the data; furthermore, the need for footnotes implies that the information is not simple, and should therefore be presented in a regular table.

Indentation of text-tables should fit the document's layout. If first lines of paragraphs are indented, then the whole text-table should be as well. One can use dot leaders to join table cells in corresponding columns, but they should help the reader grasp the information quickly; their purpose is not to "beautify" the text-table – in which case they would constitute "chartjunk".[1]

Other formatting rules are exactly the same as for regular tables.[4,5,15,16,17] For example, numbers should be given in two or three effective digits[15]; rows should be ordered by size and correctly aligned (the best one for numbers is alignment on the decimal point, although if values are not to be compared, this is not needed); space between columns should be neither too big nor too small.

Occasional changes in font (such as italics, bold, a different typeface) may be used, but with caution. The layout of the text-table is powerful because it carries a lot

of information; any embellishments aim to "beautify" the text-table rather than make it carry more information or to carry the same amount of information in a more efficient way (Is this "beautifying", or chartjunk? Hugo Steinhaus wrote, "The simplicity era has not gone by"[18] ; although he wrote that in the context of applied mathematics, it holds true for data presentation.)

Note that the rules of arrangement and layout of a text-table make it resemble a sentence, but one that is specifically structured and that has its own rules. The table-text replaces words with blank space, hence it may—though does not have to—shorten the sentence. Thereby it encourages concise writing, helping the author to make the sentence follow one of the most important tips of being comprehensible. Often this blank space tells a more detailed story than the corresponding sentence, long and full of unnecessary words. I will leave the reader to estimate how many of the rules given by Strunk and White[19] can be followed by means of text-tables.

Why not use text-tables, then?

No matter how useful text-tables are, this structure has been disregarded in scientific writing for some time. The irony is that its formal definition by Tufte[1] should have resulted in an increase in its application, but the truth is otherwise: I have not come across a text-table in any modern scientific works, and the only mention besides Tufte's book and webpage (http://www.edwardtufte.com/tufte/) was in Onwuegbuzie and Dickinson's recent paper.[20]

Text-tables are not free of drawbacks, but they are not big ones. First of all, using too many text-tables in one document will quickly bore the reader, and can be annoying. So, text-tables should not be overused – two text-tables on one page is too many. Text-tables must be small, which limits them to conveying simple messages. They may be difficult on the printed page: large text-tables might not fit the column width and small ones might not visually fit large columns (for example, in a one-column layout). This can make it difficult to decide whether to use them, especially in the first draft of a document, when the outlet for submission has not been decided (which is often the case).

I hope this essay has convinced at least some readers that text-tables are a powerful and elegant way of communicating information. I myself believe it and hope I will be able to use text-tables in my own writing. Why just "hope"? Because such non-standard tools are not always easily accepted by journals, for at least two reasons. One is strictly technical: this may require some alterations to standard production techniques and procedures; the second is psychological – editors, just like authors, may not be willing to accept this different way of communication.

If text-tables are to become popular, or at least used, then it is the task of editors (both journal and technical) to help this device to reach this aim. This can be achieved by recommending that authors use text-tables whenever desirable and possible. Journal guidelines might mention this technique as well. Authors, if not encouraged, will not use text-tables either because they are not aware that they exist or through fear of incorporating "new" techniques.

Text-tables exist, but at the moment on paper. Let us make them a living structure for efficient communicating information.

I would like to thank Dr Stuart Handysides for informing me of the historical context of text-tables and the two references cited (Young[9] and Featherstone[10]), and, together with the two anonymous reviewers, for constructive comments on this essay.

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Editing around the World

AuthorAID in the Eastern Mediterranean: a communication bridge between mainstream and emerging research communities

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Obstacles to research publication faced by non-native users of English from developing regions are a barrier to knowledge-sharing and community-building.[1] For example, articles that attract the attention of international readers are harder to publish for those whose first language is not English. Hooman Momen of the World Health Organization recently noted that "an array of editors (language editors, author's editors, copy editors, technical editors and manuscript editors) is valiantly bridging the gap by trying to harness the output of scientists, whose mother tongue is often not English, within the syntax and grammar of the English language. They often succeed brilliantly, but the demand is so great and is increasing so quickly for the small and stagnating number of editors, that change needs to occur."[2]

AuthorAID projects

AuthorAID projects (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AuthorAID) aim to help researchers overcome obstacles to participation in the international scientific community by helping them publish successfully in English, and by helping editors improve the quality of journals produced in developing countries. Initially, AuthorAID projects were conceived as systems in which both retired gatekeepers and working authors' editors would communicate with researchers by email. This is a useful way forward for journals that offer an online option to request manuscript editing assistance, such as *Epidemiology and Environmental Health Perspectives* (www.ehponline.org/international/resources.html).

AuthorAID volunteers also work on site. For example, Barbara Gastel, director of the AuthorAID@INASP project (www.authoraid.info), has travelled around the world to provide training for authors and editors. Other forms of collaboration with organizations involved in science publishing are being developed as opportunities arise—a positive outcome in light of increasing demands for assistance from emerging research communities and the advantages of consolidating resources. So far AuthorAID seems to be succeeding, and this is an important achievement for emerging research communities who wish to "be empowered to contribute to the international scientific discourse".[2]

At the ninth EASE conference in Krakow in 2006, Phyllis Freeman and Anthony Robbins, founders of AuthorAID, explained some of the problems faced by authors in developing countries who wish to publish in mainstream or "international" journals but have limited access to high-quality language and editing help.[3] These concerns are shared by many members of EASE, including editors who would like to publish more contributions from emerging scientific communities. According to Freeman and Robbins,[4] some of the challenges faced by researchers from developing countries are:

- Uncertainty about which journals may be suitable for a submission
- Unfamiliarity with editorial conventions
- Persistent pressure to write in English
- Conflicts with collaborators about authorship and order of authors
- Lack of scientific and statistical tools to analyse data as required by journals
- Editors' and publishers' inattention to development problems and topics relevant to developing countries.

AAEM in Iran

AuthorAID in the Eastern Mediterranean (AAEM), the newest of the AuthorAID projects, began its first on-site phase in January 2009 when I moved to Shiraz, Iran. This location was chosen because the intense research activity and high academic standards at Shiraz University of Medical Sciences (SUMS; www.sums.ac.ir/english/shiraz/university.html) create a receptive environment for capacity-building. Most students and staff at SUMS have a very high level of English proficiency, an important consideration given that I had no knowledge of Farsi when I arrived in Iran.

Dr Farhad Handjani, who has donated countless hours to AAEM as the local project coordinator, handled most of the local preparations. A physician and editor with extensive experience as a research mentor and trainer in Iran and abroad, Dr Handjani serves as advisor to the Chancellor of SUMS on international relations, and is also Secretary-General of the Eastern Mediterranean Association of Medical Editors (www.emro.who.int/emame/index.htm). In addition to facilitating communication with the host institution, he designed the overall workplan so that it met the needs of local users effectively, and liaised with colleagues at other universities who requested support from AAEM.

Thanks to his organizational skills and superb administrative support provided by Ms Ghaemi at the Office of Clinical Research Development, a home base for AAEM was created on the SUMS medical school campus, so I was

able to start work at full speed within 48 hours of arrival. It is hard to imagine a more welcoming and supportive work environment for a volunteer editor and trainer newly arrived in an unfamiliar country with no skills in the local language. Physician-editors Dr Rasekhi and Dr Motazedian were generous beyond the call of duty in sharing space and serving as occasional interpreters between myself and the few authors whose spoken English was not yet good enough for them to respond to queries about their manuscript. Because of their medical training Drs Rasekhi and Motazedian were able to facilitate editing sessions by explaining Iranian health care concepts and terms that have no precise equivalent in English. As observers of author editing sessions, they learned many things that will prove useful in their own work for their journal.

At the Center for Development of Clinical Research located in Namazee Hospital, Ms Gholami, a research expert and experienced authors' editor, coordinated AAEM support. She skilfully facilitated consultations with authors, and her drive to improve the capacity of the centre to provide high-quality editing to as many researchers as possible was inspirational.

During the initial on-site phase of AAEM, which lasted until mid-June 2009, dozens of manuscripts were edited and submitted to journals. Many of the difficulties identified by Freeman and Robbins[4] were encountered, yet authors were highly motivated to overcome them. Health science researchers wanted to learn not only about strategies for effective article writing, but also about publication ethics, accurate citation methods, and ways to decide which journals were the most appropriate outlets for their work. According to authors, the most important outcomes of these one-on-one sessions were manuscripts more likely to meet gatekeepers' expectations of quality, the acquisition of writing and editing skills, and increased confidence in the value of their research. Several manuscripts have already been accepted for publication, and the outcome of all submittals will be tracked to see how helpful AAEM is in increasing publication success.

Some manuscripts were sent to authors' editors in Europe and elsewhere, who worked with Iranian scientists via email. These highly-qualified AuthorAID volunteers responded positively to personal requests to get involved, and are an essential component of AAEM. As the project moves forward we hope to expand the email network so that as many authors as possible in the eastern Mediterranean region can benefit from personalized editorial aid provided by email. Meanwhile, the willingness of these busy colleagues to donate some of their time to AAEM is an encouraging sign that increasing numbers of colleagues wish to help close the geographic and cultural gaps in international science information transfer.

Biomedical journals published in Iran[5] are expected to meet high quality standards established by the National Commission on Medical Journals of the Ministry of Health and Medical Education. In Shiraz I worked for several journals published by the host institution, editing manuscripts, training editorial staff, and advising on current best editorial practice. There were also opportunities to advise editors in the region as a manuscript reviewer. Future plans include extending AAEM support to more journals in the region.

A breakfast meeting in Iran

Education and training events were organized for medical students and postdoctoral researchers, as well as for staff researchers, authors' editors, and journal editors. As an AAEM trainer I participated in the 13th Pan Arab Conference on Diabetes in Cairo (www.arab-diabetes.com/PACDHIGHLIGHTSCAIRO2009.pdf) and in several conferences and workshops throughout Iran. The most popular workshop topics were challenges faced by non-native-English-speaking researchers, strategies for successful publication, and ethical issues in research publication.

Support for AuthorAID in the Eastern Mediterranean

To keep administration and expenses to a minimum, AAEM was launched as a no-budget project designed to operate on a combination of work donated by volunteer authors' editors, infrastructure provided by the local host institution SUMS, and personal funds. For the first on-site phase of the project SUMS generously provided room and board for me, covered some travel expenses, and arranged for access to PCs and internet connections at various facilities. This vital support was possible thanks to the Chancellor's Office, headed at the time by Professor Mohammad Hadi Imanieh, and the Vice Chancellory for Research, directed by Doctor Mohammad Hossein Dabbaghmanesh. In addition Professor Mohammad Vasei, Deputy Minister of Health and Medical Education, was enthusiastic about the project and offered both financial and administrative support. Travel expenses to conferences and other universities were covered by local organizers. Neither I nor any of the volunteer editors receive any honoraria for AAEM work.

This economic model keeps costs and paperwork to a minimum, and ensures that researchers and journal editors do not have to pay for any of the support they receive. A potential drawback, however, is that the availability of volunteers for pro bono work depends on economic and personal factors, so variations in the project's capacity to respond to requests for assistance must be expected.

The key resource that has made AAEM successful so far is the determination of the two coordinators to make it work. Doctor Handjani and I are fortunate to share both

an understanding of the challenges and a focus on the potential benefits of AAEM for health and health research in the eastern Mediterranean region. The resulting synergy, together with freedom from the need to respond to inputs from an administrative superstructure, have allowed us to identify priorities and plan support efficiently.

Personally, I found that the satisfaction of working with highly-motivated researchers, journal editors, and authors' editors was an invigorating change from working in a developed country—a setting where access to many things that facilitate research publication is sometimes taken for granted. The editors and researchers I met did not shy away from hard work to meet the highest possible standards, were eager to learn as much as they could, and were clearly appreciative of the support AAEM has been able to provide.

But undoubtedly the most important personal benefit has been learning first-hand about a country, a culture, and a people frequently represented in western media in ways that do not reflect the cultural and intellectual diversity within modern Iran. Experiencing the Iranian culture provided opportunities to learn about world history and the origins of some now-universal institutions. The challenge of acquiring a new language was made enjoyable thanks to ceaseless encouragement and support from native speakers of Farsi (or Persian, as the language is also known).

This cultural learning process has been bidirectional, of course, marked by opportunities to dispel misconceptions about Spain, Europe, and other western societies. As builders of communication bridges, science editors from different cultural backgrounds are eager to participate in conversations about science and the world—as the increasingly diverse community of EASE members well knows!

I thank Dr Farhad Handjani for his useful comments on parts of the manuscript and the AAEM volunteer editors for their support.

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Correspondence

There are times when the bottom line should be the top line!

I enjoyed the Viewpoint by Carol Norris in the August issue (*European Science Editing* 2009;35(3):75-76), in which she suggested the rather radical move of rearranging the various sections of a poster presentation, such that the Conclusions would appear in a prominent position, at the top of the poster.

During my working life I am the captive scribe for a group of tumour immunologists at Oxford University (if this conjures an image of a caged, wild-eyed, pen-wielding maniac, then that is probably not too far from the truth). About twice a year we have "research" presentation days when we can all learn about the work being done by the department as a whole, and this takes the form of a day spent listening to presentations, a free lunch (and sometimes dinner in one of the colleges), and the obligatory poster session. This year, our day was in September, and there were 25 posters, all prepared by the DPhil students.

All 25 posters, to the very last one, were in the traditional layout – Introduction at top left, Conclusion at bottom right. As I worked my way along the boards and negotiated corners and other interested readers, I became increasingly irritated that the bottom line was indeed right down there at the bottom. I found myself stooping, and at one point – in front of a poster in portrait orientation – almost crouching to read what I regard as the take-away message.

Of course one must always guard against the possibility that some researchers may put a certain slant on their interpretation of the data, so an inspection of the Methodology and Results is a good idea, especially if conclusions seem to be controversial or revolutionary – but how good would it feel to be able to read 25 posters and not have a backache for the next two days?

So, would you care to join me in starting a revolution?

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Viewpoints

The tower that should not have been built; the paper that should not have been published

As I descended the steps from Pisa's most famous landmark I wondered whether EASE had chosen the city for its 10th general assembly and conference to make an analogy between a beautiful, albeit flawed, building and the gestation of a difficult paper.

The tower's construction began in 1173, but three stories and five years later, it had begun to lean – at that time to the south east. Its foundations were too shallow and the substrate was "a soggy mass of sand and silt".[1] Building work stopped for 100 years; apparently the Pisans were fighting neighbouring cities, but maybe the civil engineers could not agree on a plan.[2] It struck me as similar to an author putting a flawed paper away in a drawer after it receives unfavourable though not quite damning reviews.

Building of the tower resumed in 1272 and continued for 45 years, with one side of the upper floors made taller than the other. As a result the tower began to lean to the south west and acquired a curve.[2] By analogy, the author digs out the paper and struggles to meet the requirements of reviewers, then returns it to the editor.

Another fifty or so years went by before another architect added the bell chamber, for which the tower was built, and this architect had the presence of mind to set it at an angle to the tower's axis and closer to vertical, making it look like "a hat set at a rakish angle".[1] The journal's editor (who had made some commitment to the paper) has now been replaced; his successor wishes the paper had simply been rejected outright, but sighs deeply and asks for further amendments.

The tower acquired worldwide celebrity as a monument of beauty and curiosity, though it continued to cause anxiety and required major works between 1990 and 2001 to prevent it from toppling.[2] What of our paper? It is published eventually. The author is relieved, the editor hopes it will not be noticed (in an issue that draws attention to a more worthy paper, in summer, when readers may forget to take their journal on holiday), and it sinks without trace (or somehow, unaccountably, generates press interest and acquires notoriety).

Both stories are marked by determination. Why did the builders persist with Pisa's tower? Did no one – in all the generations of its construction – stop to think, perhaps this isn't such a good idea, let's build it somewhere else? Were they right to keep going? People love the tower: I lost count of the number of people who were being photographed appearing to stop it falling down. And our author and editors with the nightmare paper: we can probably all think of papers that we wish had been submitted elsewhere or had never seen the light of day. But they are at least the ones we remember, the ones on which we earn our money.

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Is my website working hard enough?

You have set up your website, perhaps revamped it, and you are adding updates whenever they are needed, but what more can be done? You could be interested in knowing how many people look at the site, how easily they find it and navigate through it, where are they are located, why they visit, if they come back after the first visit, and what can be improved to make their visit to your site more successful and satisfying.

Website analytics tools help answer these sorts of questions. They measure the numbers of visitors, their characteristics, and how they use your website, and generate reports that summarise data on visits to your website as a whole and to specific pages, during a specified time period.

A huge variety of such tools are available.[1] For example, GoStats (http://gostats.com/) and Google Analytics (www.google.com/analytics/) are free, but others charge fees for their products and services (Opentracker, www.opentracker.net; A1-Optimization, www.a1-optimization.com, for example).

If you prefer not to pay for sophisticated analysis, the free analytics tools can be simple to set up yourself and provide feedback that helps you tailor your website so that it meets its aims. Whichever route you choose, however, it is worth investing plenty of time in learning the jargon and interpreting your web stats reports.[2]

Analytics tools and services all differ in how they work but some basic principles – using Google Analytics as an example – illustrate what they can be used for and how they can help inform decisions on the future development of your website.

What do web stats tell me?

Often used for commercial purposes,[3] such as deciding on which pages to advertise products for sale, analytics reports are also useful for non-profit sites. Trends in resource usage on membership-driven sites can be monitored or the most popular content can be identified, allowing evaluation of how effectively members' needs are being served.

With Google Analytics, you select the dates for analysis, then the reports are generated automatically and displayed on-screen; data are presented in simple tables, graphs, and charts. Reports can be downloaded in user-friendly formats including CSV (for Excel) and PDF. Below are some examples of the types of information shown in the reports.

Visitors

As well as the total number of visitors to your site, you can see what countries they visited from, how long they spent on each page on average, and how many pages each user looked at per visit. It is not possible to identify individual visitors, their exact location, or their website usage patterns.

Content

A "top content" report identifies which pages were viewed the most and ranks all pages in order of popularity. The site overlay feature shows, on top of a copy of your site, the number of times that links were clicked on.

Behaviour

Other reports show how users navigated through your site, and how they reached it: search engines, direct visits, or links from other websites. You can also see which sites people were referred from and keywords used to find your site via search engines.

How to use web stats

Providing or selling products and services

How you use reports depends on the nature of your site. If you aim to increase journal or book sales, for example, you might look at the routes people followed through your site and the pages from which they left your site (exit pages), and analyse how easily people located products (do you need to make certain products more visible?) or whether you lost potential customers from a specific page, which therefore needs a redesign.

If your focus is on providing free information or services for members, you might explore which is the most and least popular content on your site, and examine whether the least popular material is hard to find or simply not of interest to visitors. Similarly, the content of online journals could be optimised following evaluation of the relative popularity of different article types or even articles by different authors.

User experience

Web stats can also be used for optimisation of your site's usability. The average visit to a webpage lasts 30 seconds[4] so don't be disappointed if users seem to move on quickly! It takes only 10 seconds for users to decide that a page is no good and leave.[4] If you have an unexpectedly high exit rate from a page where users can subscribe to a newsletter, for instance, you might need to make it clearer what the page is about or how to subscribe.

Search engine optimisation

A topic closely related to the analysis of how people find and use your site is search engine optimisation (SEO). How highly your site is ranked in the search results of search engines such as Google or Yahoo depends largely on the content and structure of your site. Analytics reports can show you what keywords people most often type into a search engine immediately before visiting your site. For example, most users who visit the EASE website via a search engine search for "EASE" and the next most frequent search term is "European Association of Science Editors"' To help the EASE website keep its high rank in search engine results, the website content can be edited to ensure that these frequently searched-for keywords are present and prominent (placed in headings, subheadings, and first paragraphs, where appropriate). A thorough discussion of SEO warrants a separate article … or look it up on a search engine if you're dying to know more!

Interpretation

Your web stats are only part of the overall picture, of course, and should be interpreted in context. Perhaps your newsletter needs improvement or is not relevant? If you want users to spend time reading journal content on a page, you might expect them to hang around for longer than 30 seconds. If they don't, is there another reason? Maybe people are printing the page and reading it on the train? Careful analysis of the analytics reports can help; for example, on the site overlay you might find that there have been lots of clicks on the "print this page" button in your online journal articles.

An extensive review is beyond the scope of this article, but the examples above demonstrate the kinds of insights that analytics can provide into how to improve your website. Take care over learning the terminology used by your website analytics provider (they all differ!) and expect to spend plenty of time interpreting the reports to get the best out of them. As with any kind of data, it can be misleading; however, a careful review can help you get the best out of your site.

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Reports of Meetings

The future of scientific publishing

University College London, 15 July 2009

Published with permission; available at http://blogs.bmj.com/bmj/2009/07/17/juliet-walker-going-beyond-journals

Scientific publishing is no longer just about printing journals but increasingly includes online publishing, broadcasting, and creating online communities. In his talk on the future of science publishing, Timo Hannay, publishing director at nature.com, demonstrated just how much scientific publishing has evolved and in how many ways it will still change.

The backdrop of this talk was the announcement on 3 June 2009 by UCL that it would implement an open access mandate for all research published by its staff.[1] All research will now have to be placed in the university's repository, where it can be openly accessed by all.[2] Although there has been some resistance and considerable indifference towards open access publishing in the academic community, mandates such as this will ensure that open access really does become part of the future of scientific publishing, particularly if other institutions follow suit.

Open peer review is another way in which the web is changing scientific publishing. Timo spoke about a four-month project run by *Nature* in which peer review was conducted openly online. Papers that were submitted to *Nature* were placed online, and anyone could make comments and conduct his or her own review. At the same time the papers were sent out to reviewers as usual. The trial had limited success: the participation rate was only 5–10% and more than half of the papers remained online without any comments. In no case did an online comment influence the editor's decision on whether to publish. Clearly this form of open peer review isn't going to be the future, or not at the moment anyway, but the principle of open peer review conducted online could be successful in a different form.

Keeping content online is increasingly not just about publishing content there for people to read. One of the key points is that journals are going to become more like databases. Journal websites will hold much more information than simply a research paper. There will be background data and additional information to supplement the research.

The web also will no longer be just a distribution channel but will enable discussions and create networks. This of course is nothing new. Blogs[3] and social networking are commonplace – for example, openwetware, an online scientific community,[4] and doc2doc, the *BMJ*'s social network.[5] The drawback of all of these developments is that a lot of discussion online is quite informal. Not all academics want to have discussions in public and have them documented for eternity. The print journal is highly regulated and difficult to be a part of. The web is all inclusive and consequently at times less academic.

The web also allows journals to branch out into different media. Most journals now produce videos[5] and podcasts[6] to go with their written material, allowing publishers to become broadcasters as well.

The next step is to personalise all of these data so that users receive only information targeted specifically at them. According to Timo, mobile phones are the future. Soon almost everyone will have a touch screen internet phone and publishers will be able to use them to send specific articles or content to each user.

Most of these developments are already happening or are in the works. The main barrier is how to make them financially viable. There is also the question of what the academic community wants. All of these technologies could become oppressive and counterproductive. Submitting a research paper used to be about putting a paper in an envelope in the post, whereas it now requires a researcher to submit online and post in an online repository, as well as participating in an online community and sorting through the overwhelming amount of information available online.

I left the talk feeling positive about the industry I work in. So often I hear news of paper being dead and publishing going out of business, but it seems to me that publishers are going to take on more and more roles. Publishing will still be about editing and creating content, but with supplementation with additional data and monitoring of comments. It will also be about broadcasting information via different media and nurturing communities online. As the amount of content online grows publishers will become more, not less, important as they will navigate users towards important information. Publishing will be about more than just producing journals. That will not necessarily be a bad thing.

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Book Reviews

Rédiger pour être publié ! Conseils pratiques pour les scientifiques (Write to be published! Practical advice for scientists). Eric Lichtfouse. Springer, 2009. 100 p. €25. ISBN 978-2-287-99395-4

Eric Lichtfouse, chief editor of the journals *Agronomy for Sustainable Development* and *Environmental Chemistry Letters,* has just published this manual for scientists who are faced with the imperative "Publish or Perish". "Yet another book on scientific writing," you may be thinking. However, the originality with this one is that it is based on Eric Lichtfouse's experience as an editor. It analyses the most common mistakes found in the thousands of articles that he has received, particularly mistakes made by French-speaking writers when they publish in English.

The major mistakes found in scientific articles include: the novelty of results is hardly ever explained clearly, the article does not focus on pertinent information, scientists write as if they are addressing a laboratory colleague. Half of the articles submitted do not fit the specific themes covered by the journal or are partly "disguised" so that they do correspond, and half of them do not respect the instructions to authors properly. In addition, French-speaking scientists like expressing things in a colourful, roundabout way, using stylistic effects, whereas a research article in English should give priority to rapid and precise communication.

The author explains, from the chief editor's point of view, why articles that do not conform to the format cause considerable loss of time for many people involved in processing articles, which leads to delays in publication and economic problems for the journal. Consequently, these articles have every chance of being rejected right away.

He proposes simple tools to correct these mistakes. One tool is the micro-article. This one-page document allows the author to select a single innovative result from numerous heterogeneous results and to focus the future article on this result. Lichtfouse also puts emphasis on how to write in the internet era and, particularly, underlines the importance of the title and the abstract in view of the new methods of bibliographic research on the internet.

In the second part of the book, the author reviews the most common mistakes in each section of the article: title, abstract, introduction, etc, and proposes a simple structure for each section. This part serves as a check list for the scientist to ensure that their article has no major mistakes. It is also useful to proofreaders responsible for evaluating articles.

This manual has been specifically geared to writing research articles. Nevertheless, the principles and advice given are applicable to most scientific documents. The book is not so much a pedagogical document for "learning" about scientific writing as a tool for trainers and for those responsible for providing editorial assistance in research units. Scientists who follow the advice in the manual will have every chance of being published.

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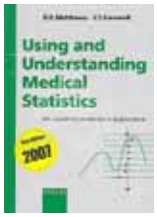
Using and Understanding Medical Statistics. 4th edition. D E Matthews and V T Farewell. Basel: Karger AG, 2007. £35. ISBN 978-3-8055-8189-9.



My education as a biochemist suffers from a serious deficiency in medical statistics. So I expected that if this book helps me understand the statistics that I encounter in pharmacological manuscripts, it must be a good book for me. This turned out to be partly true.

It's hard to tell what type of book this is. It certainly is not a textbook. The book seems to presuppose a sound mathematical background; for educational purposes one would need a more thorough discussion of the mathematics involved. It's not a reference book either. If one is looking for the essentials of, say, Poisson regression, one will not find many details. All statistical methods that I could remember are discussed in this book, but in many places the reader is advised to consult statisticians on the applicability of certain methods in their own research.

But the book is nice reading and it gave me the feeling that I have a much better understanding of what medical statistics can and cannot achieve. I gathered useful knowledge on regression models, analysis of variance, smallest clinically relevant difference, and the rationale for having three committees for clinical trials, among many other things. Now I understand how Kaplan-Meier curves are constructed when data are lost to follow-up. As stated in the preface to the fourth edition: a basic grasp of statistical concepts and a passing appreciation for what statistical analysis can and cannot do.

Still, I would have liked to have more guidance. For instance, in chapter 4 "Yates' continuity correction" is introduced without explanation of why this correction is useful. Also the probability curve for the Student's t

distribution comes falling out of the blue. Throughout the book, test statistics are compared with the chi squared distribution, but the book does not explain what chi is, why it is squared, and when we should use this distribution instead of, eg, the normal one. Remarkably, the normal Gauss distribution is not discussed until chapter 8, but this is quite natural in the set-up of the book.

The basic question that pervades the book is: what is the chance that the differences found between groups are compatible with the null hypothesis that there is no difference. This made me well aware that we have to find major differences to conclude significance.

An important question concerns the value of this book for science editors. As an editor I would like to know whether authors/researchers have chosen the right statistical method to reach their conclusions. The end of chapter 2 tells that often "all that a researcher must do in a particular circumstance is to select an appropriate test, evaluate the prescribed test statistic ...". But this book does not say what test is appropriate and what test statistics is prescribed, nor does it provide algorithms of the kind IF this type of research, THEN this type of statistics (log-rank test or Wilcoxon test, for example). Also there is no guidance on checking whether a distribution is normal or not. After mastering the information of this book, I can see whether the statistical method used is sensible for the purpose of the authors, but I still have too little knowledge to spot flaws in the methods.

The book would certainly have benefited from some italics, for variables like i and n in the first place, but also for names of tests etc. From an editorial point of view the use of different scales for the same parameter in one figure is inappropriate.

In conclusion, this book is useful for researchers who want more than only elementary statistical knowledge: it helps them understand what statisticians do and why. At the same time the authors make very clear that this book is not a substitute for a statistician in the research team (or in the peer review team).

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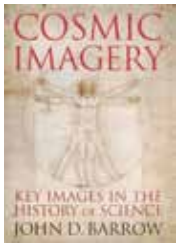
Cosmic Imagery: Key Images in the History of Science. John D Barrow. Bodley Head, 2008. Hardback, 607pp. UK£25. ISBN 9780224075237.



Imagery means pictures, and each chapter has pictures and diagrams from the historical archive of science, from discovery or creation to the present. However, imagery also refers to "what is imagined" – that is, a conceptual understanding. These concepts Professor Barrow employs as the foundation of each chapter, with a short but brilliantly written précis of the subject and the scientists and mathematicians involved.

Each theme is enriched with asides that manage to be both informative and entertaining. For example, John Venn, the originator of the Venn diagram, also constructed a cricket bowling machine capable of bowling out many of the 1909 Australian touring team. The chapter 'Dice' refers to the origins of dice as knucklebones of domestic animals, and we learn that "the Arabic for dice is the same as the word for knucklebone, from which we derive our word 'stochastic.'"

The book goes beyond western science and sources. In the chapter on Pythagoras' Theorem ('The Square on the Hypotenuse, page 285) an ancient stone from the Babylonians that shows the square root of two computed to three places in base 60, and later in the chapter we learn that the oldest known proof of this theorem is found in the oldest text of ancient Chinese mathematics that survives, dating back to perhaps 600 BC.

The book is divided into 89 chapters, with titles that draw in the curious: Gravitational Anonymity – Black Holes Have No Hair; Perfect Pitch – Hubble's Tuning Fork Diagram; Rockin' all Over the World – Smith's Strata; World Without End – The Mandelbrot Set; and so on. It is nicely produced, with excellent reproductions and the best quality paper.

This beautiful book is a real bargain at £25 – an excellent gift for a budding scientist as well as a great addition to your own bookshelf.

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EASE-Forum Digest: June to September 2009

You can join the forum by sending the one-line message "subscribe ease-forum" (without the quotation marks) to majordomo@helsinki.fi. Be sure to send commands in plain text format because only plain text is accepted by the forum software; HTML-formatted messages are not recognised. More information can be found on the EASE web site (www.ease.org.uk). When you first subscribe, you will be able to receive messages, but you won't be able to post messages until your address has been added manually to the file. This prevents spam being sent by outsiders, so please be patient.

"Confusion" sums up the exchanges and topics discussed on the forum over the summer months. But out of confusion comes enlightenment – at least for those who follow the forum.

Concordance programs mean different things to different people

Linda Free asked if anyone on the forum knew of a concordance program that ran on Macs or with Windows. Linda is also a member of the Society for Editors and Proofreaders' (SfEP) forum, from which she understood that concordance programs were used to search a document or book and produce an alphabetical list of the words in the text and their frequency of use in the text. However, she soon realised from the EASE forum that concordance programs are used for different things by different people. They are used by translators and by linguists to create and analyze a corpus of texts for word and phrase usage for reference purposes. With this in mind, several program suggestions came from the EASE forum. Those suggested in the first two responses are known as concordancing programs, whereas those in the third and fourth serve some similar functions:

- Mary Ellen Kerans said that the Mediterranean Editors and Translators association has run two workshops which showed how to use the freeware concordance program AntConc, developed by Laurence Antony (see figure). The program had been produced for writers to guide their writing and could also be used with Linux, Windows, and Macs.
- Francoise Salager-Meyer used Wordsmith Tools by Michael Scott (but this is not freeware).
- Reme Melero mentioned TerMine, developed by the National Centre for Data Mining and the University of Manchester, which has term extraction and acronym recognition.
- Lorna O'Brien said that she had found PerfectIt useful for checking hyphenation and abbreviations.

The SfEP discussion, which Linda kindly summarised on the EASE forum, highlighted the usefulness of the word frequency list function in concordancers, applied to a single manuscript, for alerting editors to inconsistency in spelling and hyphenation – for example, environment-friendly and environmentally-friendly. A few caveats were raised:

- Inconsistency should be checked to take account of the sentence and broader context(hyphen use can depend on context, for example)
- Multi-author books may follow US English in one chapter and UK English in another
- Where inconsistency in authors' names in references is found, the original citations still need to be checked for the correct spelling.

Hyphenation

The example of the inconsistent hyphenation in environment-friendly and environmentally-friendly that Linda had given in her concordance topic interested Carol Norris because she had learnt never to hyphenate a pair of words, by which she meant ones normally not hyphenated, unless they were pre-modifiers of a head-word/headword. By this rule either you can write "environment-friendly habits" or that the habit is environment friendly. Editors who avoid using hyphens and print – for instance, "the six year old boy arrived", caused her to hesitate, and in these hectic times, causing reader hesitation is a major sin. She argued that hyphens in pre-modifying pairs usually are essential.

Figure. Two outputs from the Word List tool of the concordancing program AntConc (available as freeware for research and educational purposes: http://www.antlab.sci.waseda.ac.jp). The application is potentially very useful for analyzing consistency in very long texts like books. (top) The default frequency count for a single article analyzed here unsurprisingly shows that four of the five most frequent words are so-called function words of English grammar (*the, of, and, to*). The peculiar item *bo* is an editorial symbol denoting a box in a questionnaire appended to the article. (bottom) After sorting the output by word (alphabetically), an editor can scan the list for inconsistencies. Here, an incorrect spelling (*commonalities*) has been used once instead of the correct term in writing about principal component analysis.

Her favourite invention was "lemonade containing beer" versus "lemonade-containing beer" – a shandy?

As for hesitation, Paul Beverley suggested that if Carol had made her example "the six year old boys arrived" it would have given even more cause for hesitation. This prompted Carol to present a nice explanation of the evolution of hyphenation: "most word pairs, even a word and its prefix, are born separate, then eventually earn a hyphen, and finally unite in holy unity – with impatient Yanks choosing unity sooner (UK 'per cent' and 'co-operation', versus US 'percent', 'cooperation'). I doubt anyone ever saw 'per-cent'?"

Malapropisms in statistics used by psychology researchers

Copyediting articles reporting research in psychology would seem to be far from easy, as became clear from Mary Ellen Keran's question to the forum. The article she was copy editing used principal component analysis (PCA) on a questionnaire. This type of factor analysis, she wrote, analyses "communality" or "commonality" during the process. Mary Ellen was curious about the history of the two spellings and wondered whether "commonality"could be a malapropism. A malapropism is the misuse of a word, especially by confusion with one of a similar sound. George Bush's speeches provided the world with many examples – for example, "I am mindful not only of preserving executive powers for myself, but for predecessors as well."

The general consensus from forum participants was that "commonality" is indeed a malapropism for "communality". John Taylor suggested that the error could have derived from the definition: "'communality' is the sum of all the common factor variance of a test, that is the variance shared in common with other tests. Ref.: Child, D. (1990), *The essentials of factor analysis*. London: Cassell. p. 30." Mary Ellen had nevertheless found that a number of authors use "commonality" and thought that perhaps the approach of "following common usage" may be dangerous in this instance.

But this was not the end of the affair. Marcin Kozak pointed out when he returned from "far away from anything that had access to Internet" that principal component analysis and factor analysis are in fact two types of analyses, despite what the sentences Mary Ellen had quoted might suggest.

At that Mary Ellen resorted to Wikipedia and found an article explaining why authors seem to have begun thinking of PCA report factors as factor analysis. She quoted from the article "PCA is closely related to factor analysis; indeed, some statistical packages deliberately conflate the two techniques. True factor analysis makes different assumptions about the underlying structure and solves eigenvectors of a slightly different matrix." Elsewhere, the Wiki article said this about the language of PCA: "The results of a PCA are usually discussed in terms of component scores and loadings (Shaw, 2003)." Notwithstanding Mary Ellen found that many authors call what PCA gives them "factors" rather than "components".

Marcin agreed that both the misunderstanding between PCA and factor analysis and using the term factor for a principal component is common. Indeed, he has co-authored a paper on the topic: Kozak M, Scaman CH. Unsupervised classification methods in food sciences: discussion and perspectives. *Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture* 2008;88:115–127.

How to cite loose-leaf pages

Jonathan Taylor asked how loose-leaf pages in a handbook such as the EASE Science Editors' Handbook should be cited when different versions might exist according to whether or not the owner had inserted the pages of the latest edition. The publishing company Andrew Davis used to work for gave version numbers to update pages for loose-leaf material (eg, p44, ver 2:2). Any page citation would then also give a version number. This could also be achieved by giving dates (eg, p44, 2009 Aug 21). The date used for the complete work would then be given as that of the last update. (But this does not accommodate those who only insert some updates and not others.) A new edition occurred only when the entire work was repaginated (as is ultimately necessary) and reprinted. Titles do not need to change unless there is a large deletion or addition of different subject matter (for example, the inclusion of radioimmunology methods in a work previously confined to fluorescence methods). When the title changes the version gets reset to 1 or 0.

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Correction

In the May issue (p 51), in the section on use of personal pronouns in academic writing, Carol Norris was incorrectly quoted. She said that clever writers could avoid a plethora of "we's" through use of the inanimate [not innate] agent.

My Life as an Editor

Ele Ferrannini, Professor of Internal Medicine at the University of Pisa, first came to the notice of the EASE membership when he gave a most informative and entertaining talk at the opening ceremony of the conference in September 2009. His *Reflections of an Editor* form the basis for this interview.

About Ele Ferrannini

Ele was the editor of *Diabetologia*, the journal of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes, from 1993 to 1997. Even in those (relatively recent) days everything was still printed and, as the journal received 600 manuscripts per year, they were literally piled on desks. Each and every one of those manuscripts was sent to two referees, more if opinion was divided. By the end of Ele's tenure in 1997 the annual number of submissions to *Diabetologia* had reached almost 1200.

Ele's experience as an editor was by and large positive. His first action was to appoint two good associate editors to cover areas in which he knew he was not "strong". Appointing these two associates, one to deal with more clinical manuscripts and the other to deal with the basic science papers, proved to be a very successful strategy.

How does Ele view the role of editor?

The role of an editor is that of a "go-between", a mediator between authors and referees. It is amazing how some people appear to undergo a personality transformation from the mild mannered and charming person one meets in real life, to academic assassin on paper and when protected by anonymity. Of course, the reverse may also be true; other referees may be abrasive in person but rather "softer" and extremely helpful when reviewing. Ele appreciated the insight that his role as editor gave him into the complexity of human interactions.

As a journal can only be as good as its referees, it is very important for an editor to maintain an extensive network of personal contacts, who can be called on for their expertise.

Information flow and overload

As well as a go-between, Ele also described the role of the editor as resembling that of a traffic light – controlling the flow of information from the research laboratory to the public. This flow of information follows Fisher's law of diffusion: information expands exponentially – whether the flow represents facts, viruses, or gossip (incredibly, there has in fact been a quantitative analysis of the transmission of gossip!).

The number of manuscripts submitted annually to *Diabetologia* has quadrupled over 10 years, to the point that the journal is now suffering from information overload. A search on PubMed for "diabetes" identifies over 336,000 papers. Adding the terms "cardiovascular disease" and "human" reduces this to 1145: still far too many for anyone to read. Further restriction to reviews, in English, in core clinical journals, narrows the list to 13 – which would still require several days to read thoroughly. The consequences are multiple: reviewers have less time for, and are thus less thorough in, their assessment of manuscripts; editors and readers are less thorough, which results in superficial reading, superficial recall, and then repetition of work that was published more than a few years ago and has passed beyond active memory. This is a huge waste of time, money, and human resources, and the end result is a reduction in the quality of publications.

Advice for our future editors?

While Ele ably drew attention to the many problems facing editors today, he refrained from recommending many solutions – cleverly deferring to his audience as the true experts. A top rate scientist who could also have done well in the diplomatic service!

Ele Ferrannini arrives at the EASE Pisa conference

News Notes

News Notes are taken from the EASE Journal Blog (http://ese-bookshelf.blogspot.com)Please email items for inclusion to Richard Hurley (rhurley@bmj.com), with "News Notes" as the subject.

TinyURLs are given to save space and aid reading; full URLs (clickable links) can be found on the EASE Journal Blog.

UK government advises on Twitter
The UK government has released 20 pages of advice for government departments on how to use the microblogging site Twitter, which limits messages to 140 characters, the *Guardian* reports (tinyurl.com/krcr69). The author of the report, Neil Williams, recommends that tweets are edited by humans (without overuse of automation), are frequent (2-10 a day,with at least 30 minutes' gap), are timely (about events today or coming soon), and are credible. He admits that he "was surprised by just how much there was to say, and quite how worth saying it is." The 5382-word template would need about 260 separate tweets to disseminate.

Chemistry publisher online-only
The American Chemical Society will be turning most of its academic journal into online-only publications, reports *Nature*. The move has been prompted by declining print subscriptions and diminishing financial returns from the print format. From July, most of the publisher's journals will print two pages of reduced text sideways on each page, and subscribers will be offered incentives to switch to online-only access. (*Nature* 2009 Jun 17, doi:10.1038/news.2009.576)

Dawkins attacks libel law
Richard Dawkins has criticised UK libel law because of the "atmosphere of fear and uncertainty" that it creates for scientists who challenge claims about health products, the *Guardian* reports (tinyurl.com/nvwgvq). The evolutionary biologist and author said that the law could have "disastrous consequences" for the public interest. He backs reform of the law to provide "a better balance" in favour of free speech. "If Simon [Singh, a writer being sued by the British Chiropractic Association] loses it will have major implications on the freedom ... to engage in robust criticism of scientific and pseudoscientific work," he said.

Oldest Bible online
The full oldest surviving Bible in the world, the *Codex Sinaiticus*, has been published online (www.codexsinaiticus.org). A four year project has brought together scans of the book's more than 800 pages of animal skin parchment, which are divided among the British Library, Germany, Russia, and Egypt. Researchers, academics, and the public can search and study all the surviving Greek text, which contains information not found in the modern Bible. The British Library held an exhibition in September to mark the launch of the reunited codex, with a range of historic items linked to the manuscript. (tinyurl.com/mqnlrz)

Paper's contributor sued for libel
The journal *Circulation* has printed a correction to a paper on a clinical trial at the centre of a libel trial, the *BMJ* reports (2009;339:b3659). The correction says that a trial of an intervention for migraine had "a number of errors and omissions". The lawsuit was brought by the manufacturer against Peter Wilmshurst, a consultant cardiologist, following comments he reportedly made on a website. The case shows the way libel law is being used in scientific debate. Dr Wilmshurst said that the correction is inadequate and that "the published paper is not a complete reflection of the trial."

Most papers find a home
Ninety per cent of papers rejected by the *New England Journal of Medicine* are eventually published elsewhere, showed research presented at the sixth international congress on peer review, the *BMJ* reports (2009;339:b3777). Researchers identified all papers that the journal rejected in 1995 and 2003 from their databases and searched for them on PubMed in 2008-9. In 1995, 1431 papers were rejected after peer review, of which 1273 (89%) had been published by 2009, in 384 different journals. About 20% of the papers that were rejected ended up in other general journals and 75% in specialty or subspecialty journals.

Medical ghostwriting is rife
Authors published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* who responded to a survey presented at the sixth international peer review congress reported a 10.9% rate of ghostwriting, the *New York Times* reports (tinyurl.com/yc4r28a). Six of the top medical journals published many articles in 2008 that were written by ghostwriters. Among authors of 630 articles who responded anonymously, 7.8% acknowledged contributions to their articles by people whose work should have qualified them to be named as authors on the papers but who were not listed. Writers sponsored by industry may introduce bias, affecting treatment decisions by doctors and ultimately patient care.

Journal or blog?
Researchers need better guidance on the value of different communication channels, the Research Information Network has concluded in a report based on literature review, bibliometric analysis, focus groups, interviews, and an online survey (tinyurl.com/ydumxyt). Conferences, blogs, and social networking tools are competing with scholarly journals for researchers' work. "If funders and policymakers want to encourage researchers to publish and disseminate their work through channels other than scholarly journals, they need to give stronger and more positive messages about how they will be valued," states a briefing on the paper, *Communicating Knowledge: How and Why Researchers Publish and Disseminate Their Findings*.

Ghostwriting documents released
A US federal court has forced the release of about 1500 documents detailing how articles that include marketing messages written by ghostwriters but attributed to academics are strategically placed in the medical literature. *PLoS Medicine* acted in the litigation against hormone manufacturers by women who developed breast cancer, arguing that documents identified during preparation for the case should be made public. The journal's editor, Ginny Barbour, said that ghostwriting "gives corporate research a veneer of independence and credibility" and may "substantially distort the scientific record ... threaten[ing] the validity and credibility of medical knowledge." (See www.plosmedicine.org/static/ghostwriting.action)

Find the phoniest formula
Newspapers often feature mathematical formulas that purport to calculate the perfect biscuit, the perfect marriage, the perfect joke, and so on, complains the science writer Simon Singh in the *Guardian* (tinyurl.com/laeztv). These pseudoequations are usually thinly veiled public relations activity, which "demeans mathematics and science by giving the impression that academics waste their time on frivolous topics and are willing to come up with the appropriate answer if someone is prepared to pay them enough money." Singh is looking for the most appalling equation to appear in the UK national press in the next year—email articles to voys@senseaboutscience.org (see tinyurl.com/n86o7n).


Can Dec anally match Ant?

Headline is a bum job
The subeditors on the *Daily Express* newspaper must have cringed when they saw that a headline on a two page feature in one edition read "Can Dec anally match Ant?" the *Guardian* reports (tinyurl.com/l86z24). The slip occurred because when the original headline, "Can Dec finally match Ant?" was changed to "Can Dec at last match Ant?" only one side of the spread was changed, leaving the "a" of "at" on one page and the "nally" of "finally" on the other. Ant and Dec are UK television presenters.

Professor faces censure over data
A UK doctor who wrote a paper about an osteoporosis drug is to face a General Medical Council hearing over accusations that he falsely declared that he had seen all the data, the *BMJ* reports (2009;339:b3990). Richard Eastell was research director in Sheffield when the study was submitted to the *Journal of Bone and Mineral Research*. The university carried out measurements on blood and urine samples that had been taken during trials of Procter & Gamble's osteoporosis drug Actonel. The data were provided to Procter & Gamble, which carried out analyses, and only these results were sent back for interpretation.

Scientist sued over missing data
A company is suing a researcher who it accuses of committing research fraud for more than five years, it said in a lawsuit filed in a US federal court, reported in the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review* (tinyurl.com/y8fpvuz). The company is suing Pittsburgh University for failing to properly supervise the research. Onconome, a private biotechnology company, says that it spent millions of dollars funding prostate cancer research based on a patent held by the university and Robert Getzenberg, and on preparing to produce and market tests based on the patent – only to find that the patent was based on breakthroughs that "are imaginary."

Plagiarist chairs conference
Doctors have called for a boycott of a conference that is to be chaired by a proven plagiarist, the *BMJ* reports (2009;339:b3545). The fifth annual meeting of the International Academy of Perinatal Medicine is being chaired by Asim Kurjak, who was found guilty of scientific misconduct in 2007. Zagreb University did not sanction him. Harvey Marcovitch, former chairman of the Committee on Publication Ethics, said that speakers who choose to attend "threaten the integrity of science." Iain Chalmers, who originally exposed Kurjak, finds it "extraordinary that the perinatal research community is prepared to lionise a man guilty of scientific and professional misconduct." See *BMJ* 2006;333:594-7, doi:10.1136/bmj.38968.611296.F7.

BMJ reforms research publishing
From January 2010 the *BMJ* will publish all original research articles online first, with no word limit and open access to the full text. The print journal will contain only an abridged, single page abstract of about 550 words, called "*BMJ* pico" – supplied by authors using templates according to study design (tinyurl.com/kp5c7o). For randomised controlled trials, the template has prompts for study question, summary answer, design, outcome, main results, bias and confounding, and potential competing interests. In a pilot survey of readers, 66% said that reading *BMJ* picos encouraged them to read the full versions on bmj.com (tinyurl.com/ycuz96k).

Journals should police citations
Journals should require corresponding authors to formally acknowledge that they take responsibility for the completeness, accuracy, and interpretation of a manuscript's references, a *BMJ* editorial argues (2009;339:b2049). Inappropriate citation in articles can be replicated, leading to "bias, amplification, and invention," disrupting scientific progress. A linked study gives examples of serious consequences of bad citation (2009;339:b2680). In medical research the result can be harm to patients. When writing a paper, researchers should go back to the primary studies that have been cited to ensure that any later interpretation is valid, and primary data to support claims should be included in every paper.

Live chemistry peer review
An organic chemist commented "WTF is going on here?" on an unrelated post in the blog Totally Synthetic, after seeing a paper in a respected chemistry journal that didn't make sense (http://totallysynthetic.com/blog/?p=1896). The paper, in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, claimed that the strong reductant sodium hydride could act as an oxidant in converting an alcohol to a ketone (2009 Jul 21, doi:10.1021/ja904224y). Less than a day later several chemists replicated the experiment live on the blog, showing that the chemistry was right but that the paper's authors had probably made a mistake in their mechanism (http://totallysynthetic.com/blog/?p=1903). See tinyurl.com/y8m3xq4.

***Nature* v *Science* in cartoon**
The site PhD Comics (www.phdcomics.com) has two comic strips devoted to the rivalry between the top science journals *Science* and *Nature*. The first compares the journals, joking at the way they express impact factors to multiple decimal places (tinyurl.com/lsvbrj). The second is a cynical take on the financial aspects of publishing at the pinnacle (tinyurl.com/krxecg).

***JAMA* revises without correction**
An editorial in *JAMA* published online by its editors that outlined the journal's revised policy on investigating conflicts of interest was replaced by a milder version, without an erratum or notice of retraction, reports Udo Schuklenk on his ethics blog (tinyurl.com/yzn5s7u). The editorial was also changed in all biomedical databases. This follows heavy criticism of the way *JAMA* dealt with a complaint from Jonathan Leo about the journal's handling of undisclosed competing interests in a paper. The original editorial had the DOI 10.1001/jama.2009.480; the revision has the citation 2009;302:198-9. (See tinyurl.com/ykk5qdr.)

Green frog for Nobel laureates
Since 1976, winners of Nobel prizes in physics and chemistry have been inducted into the Order of the Ever Smiling and Jumping Little Green Frog on 13 December. In the hall for the festivities (food, drink, and singing Swedish songs) is a two metre tall paper mâché frog. The laureates are awarded a small metal green frog to wear around their neck. At the end of the night the party get on the tables to hop like frogs, before carrying the mascot through the streets. Students started the tradition in 1917. The Swedish word for "frog" also means "blunder." (tinyurl.com/yllloox)

viXra takes on arXiv
viXra.org is an open repository that will post all papers regardless of quality or size, *Physics World* reports (tinyurl.com/p52tze). arXiv.org, the popular physics preprint server run by Cornell University, screens submissions "to ensure that all the uploaded preprints are of at least 'refereeable' quality". Authors must have approval of a recognised endorser, and unamed moderators check for quality. arXiv has been accused of bias in its selection processes. viXra says that it is "a parody of arXiv.org to highlight Cornell's unacceptable censorship policy" as well as a serious and permanent archive for all scientific work.

Iranian minister's articles retracted
Three journals will retract papers coauthored by Iran's science and education minister, Kamran Daneshjou, *Nature* reports (2009;461:578-9, doi:10.1038/461578a). *Nature* found that substantial text of a paper in *Engineering with Computers* (2009;25:191-206, doi:10.1007/s00366-008-0118-x) were identical to a paper by South Korean scientists in the *Journal of Physics D* (2002;35:2676-86, doi:10.1088/0022-3727/35/20/331). Papers by the same coauthors in the *Journal of Mechanical Science and Technology*, the *Taiwanese Journal of Mechanics*, and the *Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering Journal* contain duplication. The co-author, Majid Shahravi, is reported to have refuted the charge of plagiarism (www.tabnak.ir/fa/pages/?cid=65586 and http://alef.ir/1388/content/view/54040).

Cliché police reveal hit list
"Holy grail" is "the mother of all bad science clichés, the worst offender," according to wired.com, which reports that *Nature* has banned the saying. These cliché police found 2.6 million Google hits for the overused phrase in articles related to disciplines such as physics, climate change, cancer research, and plant biology. They also abhor the use of "silver bullet"—and "magic bullets". "Shedding light" is high on their hit list, as is "missing link." And last but not least is "paradigm shift," which Google finds 1.9 million times. What can we add to this list? See www.wired.com/wiredscience/2009/07/blackholescience.

Thanks to Margaret Cooter, Joan Marsh, Moira Johnson, Elise Langdon-Neuner.

The Editor's Bookshelf

Please write to paola.decastro@iss.it or pennylhubbard@gmail.com if you wish to send new items or become a member of the EASE journal blog (http://ese-bookshelf.blogspot.com/) and see your postings published in the journal.

ECONOMICS AND FUNDING

Reidpath D, Allotey P. **Opening up public health: a strategy of information and communication technology to support population health.** *Lancet* 2009;243(21):1050–1051.
Information saves lives because it is fundamental to public health practice. But the volume and complexity of knowledge and information has outstripped the capacity of health systems to function at their best without the support of information management systems. Therefore, electronic information and communication technology has become indispensable to cope with the overload of information. The author supports the cautious use of free and open source software to manage the bulk of information and save precious money with particular regard to resource poor settings.
doi:10.1016/S0140-6736(09)60315-9

Shieber SM. **Equity for open-access journal publishing.** *PLoS Biol* 2009;7(8):e1000165. Neither readers nor authors would in principle disagree with the open-access approach, having articles available online without any access fee. But who should pay for the process? Commercial publishers, who have to sustain costs of editing, peer-reviewing, staffing, and marketing, could be sceptical about converting their journals to an open-access model, and could turn to "author-pays" approach. To improve efficiency and sustainability of the open-access process, Shieber suggests a "compact model" strategy, in which universities and institutions provide funds to pay open-access processing fees for articles based on grant-funded research. The aim of the proposal is to stimulate open access, improve equity, and make the process more competitive with subscription-fee journals. Will institutions and granting bodies be happy to pay?
doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1000165

EDITORIAL PROCESS

Crescentini A, Mainardi G. **Qualitative research articles: guidelines, suggestions and needs.** *Journal of Workplace Learning* 2009;21(5):431–439.
The paper discusses the design of qualitative research and the structure of a qualitative article, giving some methodological suggestions to make it better for the reader and the reviewer. If these guidelines are followed the review process of articles will be smoother and the number of rejected papers should decrease.
doi: 10.1108/13665620910966820

UNESCO. **UNESCO Publication guidelines.** 2009.
These guidelines have been created as a handbook for UNESCO staff, but are free for all online. They provide information on what constitutes a UNESCO publication, how to plan the project, and how best to undertake its production. They are not a guide to editorial style, which is set out in the UNESCO Style Manual. They may be useful to all staff involved in publications, but, as indicated in the introduction, are more specifically targeted towards the programme specialists who are responsible for publication projects.
http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018/001816/181619e.pdf

ETHICAL ISSUES

Alberts B. **Scientific publishing standards.** *Science* 2008;321(5894):1271.
The editor-in-chief says that scientists are obliged to be honest, and comments on the need to guarantee clear, truthful presentations of data, results, and methods which are essential for enabling the findings of one scientist to be confirmed, refuted, or extended in new ways by other scientists. "Authors, reviewers, and editors of scientific manuscripts should therefore constantly ask themselves whether the reader has been provided with everything needed to both understand and reproduce the results." Journals should set a higher bar for the clarity of presentation in the manuscripts that we publish. The final comment is that "As scientists and as journal publishers, we can and we must do better."
doi: 10.1126/science.1165268
http://www.scienceonline.org/cgi/content/full/321/5894/1271

Brandon D; Santic B. **Reflections on the Schön affair.** *Physics World* 2009;22(7):19.
Two separate letters commenting on this case of fraud. Brandon discusses earlier cases such as "Piltdown man" and points out that false accusations are not uncommon, quoting a particular case that ruined a scientist's career. Santic discusses the position of co-authors and suggests four categories - writer, worker, provider, and leader - to help avoid some of the pitfalls of the Schön case.

Editorial. **The insider's guide to plagiarism. Scientific plagiarism—a problem as serious as fraud—has not received all the attention it deserves.** *Nature Medicine* 2009;15:707.

A little creative writing might be all you need to sail through the financial crisis, says the author of this editorial on plagiarism, which is full of humour and sadness at the same time. "Tweak the data so that the numbers are not identical but remain realistic; and, when you're ready to write it all up, paraphrase the original paper *ad libitum*. Last, submit your new manuscript to a modest journal in the hopes that the authors of the paper you used as 'inspiration' won't notice your 'tribute' to their work." The conclusion is that the community needs to set appropriate standards and penalties to fight plagiarism.
doi:10.1038/nm0709-707
http://www.nature.com/nm/journal/v15/n7/full/nm0709-707.html

Pointon T. **Fraud, misinformation and the open culture.** *Physics World.* 2009;22(8):20.
The questions opened by the Schön case of scientific fraud are much broader than just science. The plea by Michael Nielson (*Physics World* 2009;22(5):30-35) for a more "open" culture on science might lead to an overload of unchecked information. The author of this letter questions why the devices Schön claimed to have made were not checked for their existence or if they worked

LANGUAGE AND WRITING

Harley J. **Writing an introduction to the introduction.** *Journal of Technical Writing and Communication* 2009;39(3):321–329.
Many authors give advice to students about how to write the Introduction section of their articles. Some give examples of different ways of doing this in general, and a few discuss the opening sentence in particular. This paper outlines 13 types of opening sentence and their usage in British and American journals in the sciences and social sciences. Implications for teaching are considered.

Langdon-Neuner E. **Scientific writing.** *The Write Stuff* 2009;18(2):69–72.
This editorial relates to an entire issue of *The Write Stuff* dedicated to scientific writing. It is an extra large issue of a valuable journal that in itself represents a reference point for editors and translators at different levels, both experienced and novice. It discusses current practices of writing and gives guidance on improving writing styles, but it also contains provocative view points on controversial issues and a rich and updated bibliography.

PUBLISHING

Bailey CW Jr. ***Google Book Search Bibliography. 2009.*** Version 5: 9/14/2009
Selected English-language articles and other works useful in understanding Google Book Search, from the evolution of Google Book Search and the legal, library, and social issues associated with it. Where possible, links are provided to works that are freely available on the internet, including e-prints in disciplinary archives and institutional repositories.
http://www.digital-scholarship.org/gbsb/gbsb.htm

Cartwright J. **Fledgling site challenges arXiv server.** *Physics World* 2009;22(8):9.
A new website called viXra has been set up in the UK for sharing preprints with no restrictions on the sort of papers that can be posted, following criticisms about the way the arXiv site is moderated. The history of arXiv and its refereeing process are described and the nature of the concern is examined.

Hartley J, Betts L. **Publishing before the thesis: 58 postgraduate views.** *Higher Education Review* 2009;41(3):29–44.
A draft questionnaire was submitted to 58 postgraduate students (English, American, and Australian) on the topic "Publishing before or after completing the thesis". The results showed the importance of publishing articles before completing their thesis for postgraduate students but also reflected on the changing role of the supervisor. Early publishing of articles encourages and gives self-assurance to the student, and the supervisor becomes a coauthor. Students received significantly more help from their supervisors before submitting their thesis than after, and 55% had had papers accepted for publication before submitting their theses.

Moher D, Liberati A, Tetzlaff J, Altman DG. **Preferred reporting items for systematic reviews and meta-analyses: the PRISMA statement.** *PLoS Medicine* 2009;6(7):e1000097.
The PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-Analyses) statement is a new revised guideline for reporting systematic reviews and meta-analyses (http://www.prisma-statement.org). It should replace the QUOROM statement; journals and other organizations should update their instructions and resources and refer to these new guidelines. The PRISMA statement consists of a 27-item checklist and a four-phase flow diagram. Papers on PRISMA guidelines have been published simultaneously in several journals (in short and long versions) including *BMJ, Journal of Clinical Epidemiology, Open Medicine, Annals of Internal Medicine*.
doi:10.1371/journal.pmed.1000097
http://www.plosmedicine.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pmed.1000097

Wieland G. **Globalizing science publishing**. ***Science*** 2009;325(21):920.
Publishing in scientific journals is the most common and powerful means to disseminate new research findings. But visibility and credibility require publishing in journals that are included in global indexing databases such as those of the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI). The central question of this editorial is

how to expand the global reach and the potential impact of scientific research of developing countries, since most scientists in developing countries remain at the periphery of this critical communication process, exacerbating the low international recognition and impact of their accomplishments.
doi: 10.1126/science.1178378

RESEARCH EVALUATION

Allen L, Jones C, Dolby K, Lynn D, Walport M. **Looking for landmarks: the role of expert review and bibliometric analysis in evaluating scientific publication outputs.** *PLoS ONE.* 2009;4(6):e5910.
Relying solely on bibliometric indicators can lead to evaluation bias: articles that were not highly cited during the first three years after publication were rated highly by experts. The importance of single papers or small groups of research should be assessed with a complementary method that links expert peer reviews to quantitative measures.
http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0005910

Bollen J, Van de Sompel H, Hagberg A, Chute R. **A principal component analysis of 39 scientific impact measures.** *PLoS ONE.* 2009;4(6):e6022.
An interesting analysis on 39 different kinds of indicators to assess scholarly impact in science. Apart from traditional citation counts and the impact factor (which should be used cautiously), new methods like log usage data and social network analysis are reported. But there is a universally accepted, golden standard of impact for calibrating any new measures.It is difficult to define "scientific impact" precisely - it can be understood and measured in many different ways. The issue thus becomes which impact measures best express its various aspects and interpretations. Scientific impact is a multi-dimensional construct that cannot be adequately measured by any single indicator, although some measures are more suitable than others.
doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0006022
http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0006022

Bourne PE, Fink JL. **I am not a scientist, I am a number.** *PLoS Computational Biology* 2008;4(12):e1000247.
The idea of having our scholarly output properly characterized is not out of reach, since the articles we write are already identified uniquely by a Digital Object Identifier (DOI). A book or journal is identified by an ISBN, citations are identified by PubMed identifiers, and so on. This identification process for individual publications and citations can be taken to the point of providing unique descriptors for each author and to uniquely identify all of each author's scholarly work.
doi:10.1371/journal.pcbi.1000247
http://www.ploscompbiol.org/article/info:doi/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1000247

Safer MA, Tang R. **The psychology of referencing in psychology journal articles**. P*erspective on Psychological Science* 2009;4(1):51–53.
How important is citation in research papers? Forty nine psychology articles, randomly selected, were submitted for ratings to their authors (psychologists) with regards to the importance of references in their own work, on a scale of 1 (slightly important) to 7 (absolutely important). Location of references (method, results, discussion section), citation frequencies, citation length, reasons for citations, and depth were also examined. The weight of citation of own and others' work was compared, and citation for credibility, appearance rather than substance, self-citations in relation to location, and frequency were also taken into account. A more complete evaluation of citation metadata (frequency, location, treatment, etc) would give more information to the user.

Zhang C-T. **The e-index, complementing the h-Index for excess citations.** *PLoS ONE* 2009;4(5):e5429.
A new indicator is proposed: the e-index. It is complements the h-index since it represents ignored excess citations; they can be used together for accurate and fair comparisons, as they are independent of each other. The e-index is useful to compare groups of researchers having the same h-index, or to evaluate highly cited scientists.
doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0005429
http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0005429

Thanks to John Glen, James Hartley, Daniela Marsili, Renata Solimini, and Massimo Antonucci.

Publicity Officer

EASE continues to require a Publicity Officer. Though this is an unpaid post, think of the glory of having it on your resumé!

You would liaise with Council and other Committees to obtain news of EASE activities, then send press releases to relevant newsletters and websites. Assembling a list of relevant newsletters would be a first task – starting with all those free e-bulletins to which people subscribe so that they can fill up their inbox. If you are interested, please contact Joan Marsh (jmarsh@wiley.com)

Forthcoming Meetings, Courses, and BELS Examinations

10th EMBO and EMBL Science and Society Conference: "Food, Sustainability and Plant Science: A Global Challenge"
6–7 November 2009, Heidelberg, Germany
http://www.embo.org/events

11th Latin American Colloquium of English for Specific Purposes and 1st Latin American Colloquium of Languages for Specific Purposes
9–13 November 2009, Mérida, Venezuela
http://eventos.saber.ula.ve/coloquiolfe2009

29th European Medical Writers Association Conference
12–14 November 2009; Frankfurt, Germany
http://www.emwa.org/conferences.html

Editing medical journals: a short course for editors-in-chief, editorial board members and managing editors
18–20 November 2009; Oxford, UK
http://www.pspconsulting.org

5th International Digital Curation Conference: "Moving to multi-scale science: managing complexity and diversity"
2–4 December 2009; London, UK
http://www.dcc.ac.uk/events/dcc-2009

Publishers Association: Annual International Conference
10 December 2009; London, UK
http://www.paevents.org.uk/

Academic Publishing in Europe: APE 2010: "Researchers, Librarians & Publishers"
19–20 January 2010, Berlin, Germany
http://www.paevents.org.uk/

American Association for the Advancement of Science: "Bridging Science and Society"
18–22 February 2010; San Diego, USA
http://www.aaas.org/meetings

British Society for Literature and Science (BSLS) 2010 conference
8–10 April 2010, Newcastle-on-Tyne, UK
http://www.bsls.ac.uk/?page_id=714

UKSG 33rd Annual Conference and Exhibition
12–14 April 2010, Edinburgh, UK
http://www.uksg.org/event/conference10

Council of Science Editors (CSE) annual meeting: "The changing climate of scientific publishing–the heat is on"
14–18 May 2010, Atlanta, USA
http://www.councilscienceeditors.org/events/annualmeeting10/index.cfm

IEEE Professional Communication Society: International professional communication conference (IPCC 2010)
7–9 July 2010, Twente, Netherlands
http://ewh.ieee.org/soc/pcs/

National Association of Science Writers: Annual meeting
4–9 November 2010, New Haven, USA
http://www.nasw.org/meeting/

COURSES

ALPSP training courses, briefings and technology updates
Half-day and one-day courses and updates.
Contact Amanda Whiting, Training Coordinator, Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers, Tel: +44 (0)1865 247776; training@alpsp.org; www.alpsp-training.org

Publishing Training Centre at Book House, London
Contact: The Publishing Training Centre at Book House, 45 East Hill, Wandsworth, London SW18 2QZ, UK. Tel: +44 (0)20 8874 2718; fax +44 (0)20 8870 8985, publishing.training@bookhouse.co.uk
www.train4publishing.co.uk

Society for Editors and Proofreaders
SfEP runs one-day workshops in London and occasionally elsewhere in the UK on copy-editing, proofreading, grammar, and much else.
Training enquiries: tel: +44 (0)20 8785 5617; trainingenquiries@sfep.org.uk
Other enquiries: SfEP, Erico House, 93-99 Upper Richmond Road, Putney, London SW15 2TG, UK. Tel: +44 (0)20 8785 5617; administration@sfep.org.uk; www.sfep.org.uk

Society of Indexers workshops
The Society of Indexers runs workshops for beginners and more experienced indexers in various cities in the UK.
Details and booking forms can be found at www.indexers.org.uk; admin@indexers.org.uk

University of Chicago
Medical writing, editing, and ethics are among the many courses available.
Graham School of General Studies, The University of Chicago, 1427 E. 60th Street, Chicago, IL 60637, USA. Fax +1 773 702 6814.
http://grahamschool.uchicago.edu

University of Oxford, Department for Continuing Education
Courses on effective writing for biomedical professionals and on presenting in biomedicine, science, and technology.
Contact Leanne Banns, CPD Centre, Department for Continuing Education, University of Oxford, Littlegate House, 16/17 St Ebbes Street, Oxford OX1 1PT, UK.
Tel: +44 (0)1865 286953; fax +44 (0)1865 286934; leanne.banns@conted.ox.ac.uk
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/cpd/personaldev

BELS - Board of Editors in the Life Sciences examination schedule

www.bels.org/becomeeditor/exam-schedule.htm

14 May 2010, Atlanta, GA (CSE meeting); register by 17 April 2010

EASE Business

New members of the EASE Council

CVs were published in the May 2009 issue of European Science Editing (2009;35(2):61-2)

Petter Oscarson, Lund, Sweden

Ana Marušić, Split, Croatia

Edward Towpik, Warsaw, Poland

Sylwia Ufnalska, Poznań, Poland

Membership Changes

New Members

Individual

Mrs Sonia S T Cutler
Barnet, UK

Ms Edith Gruslin
International AIDS Society
Geneva, Switzerland
Journal of the International AIDS Society, Monitoring editor
edith.gruslin@iasociety.org

Dr Arshad Makhdum
Abingdon, UK
Freelance, STM editor
arshad.makhdum@googlemail.com

Dr Armen Yuri Gasparyan
Yerevan, Armenia
Archives of Medical Science, Executive editor
a.gasparyan@gmail.com

Mr Nambirajan Govindarajan
European Neuroscience Institute, Göttingen, Germany
n.govindarajan@eni-g.de; mpigovind@gmail.com

Miss Kate Wilson
British Society of Rheumatology
London, UK
Rheumatology, Editorial assistant

Corporate

Professor Tim Benton
Faculty of Biological Sciences
University of Leeds, UK
Oikos

Mr Thomas Brennan
ScienceEditors, Cape Town, South Africa

Ms Elloise Du Toit
ScienceEditors, Cape Town, South Africa

Dr Hayden Eastwood
ScienceEditors, OTE Cape Town, South Africa

Ms Marte Lundberg
Norwegian Polar Institute
Tromsø, Norway

Professor Constantin Polychronakos
McGill University Health Center
Montreal, Canada
Editor, Journal of Medical Genetics

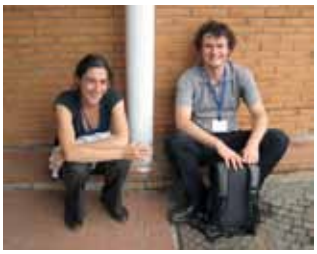
Professor Peter Tyrer
London, UK
British Journal of Psychiatry, Editor

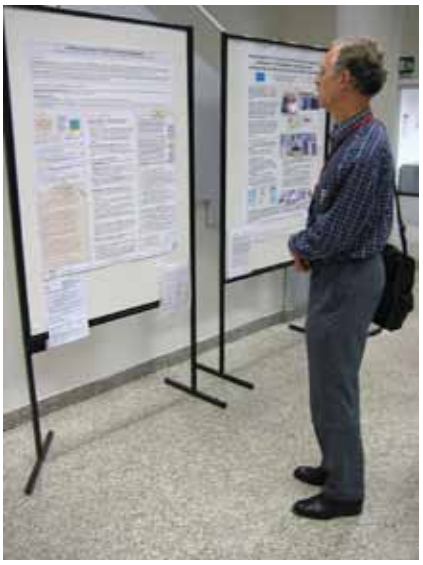
Changes in membership details

Judith Shaw
info@judithshaw.co.uk

Deaths

Dr Morris Cooke
Died 2 August 2009





Snapshots
from
Pisa, 2009