
Reports of meetings

The President's report on EASE Council activities 2016-2017

May 2017, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

This AGM has been organised in collaboration with the World Conference on Research Integrity (WCRI), where EASE will hold the symposium on predatory journals at the World Congress on Research Integrity. We thank Professor Lex Bouter and the team for their help with the organisation of the AGM.

2016 was a conference year for EASE and we had a great meeting in Strasbourg. We again thank Hervé Maisonneuve and the Programme Committee for an excellent programme and organisation of the Strasbourg meeting. We had strong competition for the poster awards this year, and special poster committees chose two posters from the biomedical field (Shelly Pranic from Croatia, and Abdolreza Norouzy from Iran) and one poster from a non-medical field (Valerie Matarese from Italy). We thank *The Lancet* and *The Annals of Botany* for providing prizes for the winners.

At the moment, we are intensifying our efforts in preparations for the 2018 conference in Bucharest. The conference committee, led by Joan Marsh, is working hard on the programme. The theme of the conference is "Balancing innovation and tradition in science editing". We welcome suggestions for sessions and promotion of the conference.

The EASE Council experienced problems with the bank account because of extensive legal documentation that needed to be provided, especially from non-UK directors. This caused problems for some of the Council members. Elaine Seery and Chris Sterken asked to step down from the Council because they were not willing to go through the complicated bureaucratic process. We thank them both for their excellent work. The Council decided to change to a different bank but will need to seek further approval from the 2018 AGM for the next steps that will ensure full financial functioning of EASE.

EASE currently has 412 members, with 24 new members since January 2017 (22 individual and 2 corporate).

We welcome our new sister organisation, Nordic Editors and Translators (NEaT), and look forward to future collaboration.

We continue to provide membership benefits in the form of the EASE Newsletter, for which we continue to receive very positive feedback, and the EASE Forum, which is a useful way for exchanging information and getting advice. We are currently working on replacing the EASE Forum, which has been hosted by the Helsinki University for a long time, with the EASE Listserve, which will have increased functionality for the members. To further improve the quality of the website we have instituted a paid position for a web editor for 2 hours per week, with the task of systematically updating and building the site on a daily basis. Duncan Nicholas, Council member, is the web editor for the next six months.

During the last two years, EASE has redefined its strategy and continues with its implementation. The Council is currently discussing how to best align its strategy with the needs of members. In this respect, we are looking into the options to increase the functionality of the website for the members, including the work of special interest groups, such as the Gender Policy Committee.

EASE has collaborated with other editorial organisations on educational and certification programmes for editors and has been currently involved in consultations on core competencies for journal editors, coordinated by David Moher from the University of Ottawa, Canada. EASE also maintains an active involvement in the REWARD Alliance on preventable waste in research, after the successful EQUATOR/REWARD conference in Edinburgh in September 2015, where EASE organised a workshop for editors in collaboration with EQUATOR. We nominated the Gender Policy Committee for the Cochrane-REWARD prize for reducing waste in research and supported the nomination of "Author Editor" by Valerie Matarese. We did not get the prize but the nomination created visibility for the excellent work of the Gender Policy Committee.

Ksenija Baždarić and the editorial board of *European Science Editing* continue to improve the most important EASE publication. ESE has a new website – <http://europeanscienceediting.eu/>, and is building its archive, which currently goes back to 2003. Rhianna Goozee has left the editorial board and we thank her for her excellent work. Hrvoje Jakovac has agreed to replace Rhianna in the Viewpoints section until the meeting in May 2017 – we encourage you to join this great group of editors!

ESE is a member of CrossRef and provides DOIs for all of its articles (the DOI prefix is 10.20316). ESE continues to be a part of the HINARI, AGORA, OARE and ARDI programmes of Research4Life, and to be indexed in the Scopus bibliographical and citation database. ESE is also active on Twitter (@Eur_Sci_Ed), with 299 followers. Finally, ESE is very visible through its blog – <http://ese-bookshelf.blogspot.fr/>, which continues posting interesting news from editing and publishing. We thank again all the contributors who keep this blog alive and attractive to EASE members and general readership.

The EASE Author Toolkit on the EASE website is regularly updated by Sylwia Ufnalska, as are the EASE Guidelines for Authors and Translators (in more than 20 languages). We would appreciate volunteers for more translations, so that we can reach more authors around the globe. This is particularly important in view of the fact that the Guidelines page is the most visited page at the EASE site.

Sylwia is also responsible for EASE Wikipedia pages – members are welcome to contribute and keep them growing.

Duncan Nicholas and Silvia Maina continue to manage the EASE and ESE website. Joan Marsh manages the LinkedIn group, which has 790 members (<https://www.linkedin.com/groups/2661379/profile>). Our Twitter account is @EASEeditors and has 927 followers. We thank Duncan Nicholas for managing the account and invite you to engage in this lively community with an average of 3610 tweets per month since January 2017. Cristina Vasiliu is in charge of the EASE Facebook group, which has 438 members. We now also have an EASE Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/EurSciEd/>, managed by Duncan Nicholas. From January 2016, the page has an average of 100 monthly page engagements.

The Regional Chapter programme continues to be a success. Training activities are going on in 6 chapters: Bulgarian, Croatian, Italian, Mexican, Russian and Peruvian. The latest regional chapter activity was the workshop for editors in Rijeka, Croatia, in April 2017. We thank Pippa Smart for the kind contribution of her time and effort to this important EASE activity. Croatia will also host the already traditional Summer School for Scientific Communication: Writing for Multidisciplinary Audiences in Split in June 2017, which has been supported by EASE since 2013.

The Gender Policy Committee, led by Paola de Castro and Tom Babor, has continued its excellent work in 2016, with a number of excellent publications and news pieces/commentaries – a detailed report is available here: <http://www.ease.org.uk/about-us/gender-policy-committee/>. A poster on the SAGER guidelines will be presented here at WCRI. The SAGER guidelines were translated into Portuguese and endorsed by the Brazilian Congress of Epidemiology. The SAGER guidelines were also presented at the Conference of Gender Medicine organised at ISS

in March 2017. Three members left the Committee: we thank Paul Osborn, Sera Tort and Mirjam Curno for their excellent contribution to the success of the GPC. GPC is looking for new members and we ask you to join this excellent and active EASE group.

Several members of EASE have organised or participated in training courses, representing EASE all over the world, from Italy to Peru.

Joan Marsh took over from Chris Sterken the representation of EASE in the UNCOVER programme on publication bias, at the European Forum of Independent Professionals, and as a member of the Advisory Board of Atomium Culture, which is an inter-sectorial platform promoting knowledge sharing on issues regarding the development of a European knowledge society.

EASE continues to support the AllTrials campaign, whose aim is to increase the accountability and availability of results from clinical trials.

EASE continues its collaboration with other editorial organisations. The EASE president is a Board Member of The Asian Council for Science Editors. EASE was also present at the May 2017 CSE meeting, where EASE Past President, Joan Marsh, participated in the session on gender issues “Mind The Gap II: Gender and Beyond”.

EASE has participated in funding bids for a variety of projects. Ana Marušić continues to represent EASE in a COST action on peer review (PEERE), which has organised a session at the Strasbourg Conference. EASE is also supporting an H2020 project HEIRRI – Higher Education Institutions and Responsible Research and Innovation, which started in September 2015.

Ana Marušić
President



Council members at dinner. Anticlockwise from the front: Ana Marusic, Cem Uzun, Joan Marsh, Liz Wager, Alf Neuner, Elise Langdon-Neuner, Moira Hudson, Roderick Hunt, Rhiannon Howe