Reflections and a Farewell

The 2014 annual meeting held in San Antonio has taken its place in CSE history, but the memories of sharing knowledge and networking with colleagues in the field of scientific editing linger. We are challenged daily to solve issues related to technological, geographic, and cultural shifts that affect scientific publishing. The meeting’s engaging sessions addressed concerns that editors encounter routinely and provided information on a variety of topics to help both seasoned attendees and novices to acquire a more thorough understanding of their craft.

This issue of Science Editor documents many of the presentations intended to sharpen our thinking and send us home with heightened knowledge, enhanced skills, and ideas for innovations for our own publications. We’ve also included a few photo highlights that reflect the energy of the members and the networking opportunities abounding at CSE’s annual meetings.

Along with the reports and articles related to the 2014 annual meeting, we’ve provided an article on data-mining services for researchers and publishers. You’ll also find an article on the first peer-review project from a participant in CSE’s certificate program as well as news from CSE and other organizations. The issue is rounded out with profiles of two remarkable members—our executive director and our meeting photographer.

As I announced earlier, this is my final issue as editor-in-chief as I am retiring from this position to take a more active role on the CSE Board of Directors. This change will not only allow me to concentrate on fulfilling the responsibilities of the presidential track but is essential to separate the organization’s voice from that of Science Editor, a necessity of editorial freedom. The role of editor-in-chief has been challenging and fulfilling, and I am sad to be leaving it.

As I was preparing this final issue for the press, I found myself reminiscing about some of the items published during my tenure, including topical issues on publication ethics, open access, and going mobile. Other articles addressed numerous issues facing editors today: semantic tagging, apps and devices, social media, and research articles on media coverage, supplemental data, postpublication peer review, and the effect of data on the behavior of editors. To inform readers about continuing and new initiatives in publishing, I have solicited and published articles on ORCID, CLOCKSS, the Sunshine Act, CHORUS, the EQUATOR Network, the African Journal Project, the CSE style manual and Web site updates, and others. Editorial Board members have been instrumental in writing or soliciting authors to write book reviews, member profiles, Ethical Editor columns, the Solution Corner, Correct Terminology in Science, the Marginalia (changed to The Infovore in this issue) columns, and, of course, the annual-meeting reports.

As a member of the CSE Board of Directors, I plan to work with the newly-appointed editor, Tracey DePellegrin, to (continued on page 75)
2014 Annual Meeting: 4D Publishing

Kristi Overgaard and Christine Casey

The 2014 CSE annual meeting convened 2–5 May in San Antonio, Texas. The meeting theme, “4D Publishing: Data, Decision, Difference, Direction,” sought to capture the broad array of issues facing journal editors and publishers today. We hope that you learned something new and took home practical solutions that can be applied to your organizations.

We were fortunate to have benefited from an engaged and energetic program committee and to have hosted the meeting in such a great location. The program included 32 concurrent sessions, a keynote, and a plenary. A new networking event, “Dinner Conversations,” gave speakers and attendees the opportunity to socialize in a relaxed and informal setting. The location of the Marriott Rivercenter, the meeting hotel, gave attendees the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful San Antonio Riverwalk, the vibrant shops and restaurants, and the historic Alamo.

The meeting opened with our keynote speaker, Siva Vaidhyanathan, chair of the Department of Media Studies of the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, who gave an insightful and engaging talk billed in the program as “Big Data and Publishing—the Legal, Ethical, and Intellectual Implications for Editors.” His remarks illustrated some of the misconceptions regarding big data, beginning with an attempt to define it and then highlighting its limitations and promises.

The next morning, Howard Bauchner, editor-in-chief of the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA), discussed the evolution of JAMA and the JAMA Network during his plenary talk, “Evolving Issues in Scholarly Publishing: Open Access, Data Transparency, the Digital World”. Bauchner described how his journal has embraced risk and adapted in the digital age.

At the core of the 2014 annual meeting were the numerous concurrent sessions, developed and organized by moderators with the guidance of the program committee. The program committee and moderators worked tirelessly to create thought-provoking and educational sessions with expert speakers. Much of the success of the meeting is owed to these moderators.

The success of the program also relied on the support of the CSE Board of Directors, particularly the president during our tenure, Heather Goodell. Her guidance was invaluable throughout the meeting planning. Andrew Van Wasshnova and David Stumph, of the Kellen Company, helped to organize our efforts throughout the year and managed the meeting logistics. They did a superb job, and we thank them for their kindness and inexhaustible enthusiasm.

Last but not least, thanks to all those who attended and participated. We hope that you found the experience intellectually stimulating, engaging, and rewarding. We look forward to seeing you for another great CSE meeting in Philadelphia, 15–18 May 2015.

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streamline the journal’s editorial processes and production workflow to ensure the continuity and high quality of Science Editor and to lead a task force to increase the functionality of the online version. Tracey will have the benefit of having a managing editor and a new manuscript tracking system, as well as unpublished content in the hopper: annual-meeting reports for which there was not space in this issue and some research articles that are still undergoing peer review.

I wish to thank the CSE Board for entrusting me with this role and to express my respect and appreciation to the Editorial Board members and Science Editor staff, especially Norman Grossblatt, Leslie Neistadt, Caroline Simpson, Roxanne Young, and Dana Compton for their valuable contributions. I also thank each of our readers and hope that during my tenure as editor-in-chief, Science Editor has provided you with content relevant to your particular sector of publishing or editing and helped you to enhance your professional career.

Kristi Overgaard is a publishing consultant, Barrington, Illinois, and was program chair for the 2014 CSE annual meeting; Christine Casey is deputy editor, Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, and was program vice chair for the 2014 CSE annual meeting.

The Alamo, San Antonio, Texas. Courtesy of Special Collections, University of Houston Libraries.