

Committee Roundup

Editorial Policy Committee

Michael Callaham, Chair

Contacts have been made with the National Library of Medicine about a link with the CSE Web site, but the link had not been completed when this report was submitted. The National Science Foundation has been asked about a survey of publication policies of scientific associations, but no reply had been received. Two large biomedical journals that are indexed in MEDLINE have been asked whether they would consider publishing

existing editorial policies (so that they might be more easily located by those not familiar with the Web site), but both have declined. Other journals will be approached.

A list of other sites and organizations to which the CSE Web site might be linked is being developed (examples



Michael Callaham

include the Peer Review Congress Web site, the European Association of Science Editors, the Society for Scholarly Publishing, the American Medical Writers Association, the Society for Technical Communication, and the Association of Earth Science Editors). No new editorial policies have been suggested, so none is being developed. The committee is encouraging *Science Editor* to seek indexing in MEDLINE because such indexing would facilitate access to CSE editorial policies.

Education Committee

Annette Flanagin, Chair

The Education Committee is planning to hold four short courses for editors, a new educational opportunity for short-course alumni, and a special session on authorship in conjunction with the annual meeting in May in Washington DC.

Short Courses Are Back: Nancy Taylor is continuing to direct the short courses with the following organizers: Joan Blumberg (Short Course for Journal Editors), Diane Lang (short course for manuscript editors), Cheryl Iverson (Short Course for Managing Editors), and Nancy Wachter (Short Course for Web Editors). Details are available on page 64 of this issue and on the CSE Web site.

Calling All Short-Course Alumni: This year alumni of short courses are invited to sign up for individual sessions of

any of the four short courses as part of an Executive Refresher option. More information about this opportunity is also available on page 65 and on the CSE Web site.

First CSE Regional Meeting for Science Editors Held: More than 50 editors, associate editors, and members of editorial boards of scientific journals from the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF), UC Berkeley, Stanford University, and the University of the Pacific (see p 51) registered for the first CSE Journal Editors Convocation, which was held on 18 October 2000 at UCSF. Led by Michael Callaham and Drummond Rennie, the live-



Annette Flanagin

ly exchange covered issues related primarily to peer review and authorship. Under the direction of Susan Eastwood, chair of the CSE Editors Network Regional Task Force, future regional meetings will be planned for other locations.

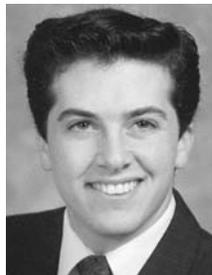
Authorship Task Force Holds Third CSE Retreat: Drummond Rennie, chair of the Authorship Task Force, and Margaret Reich, Vice Chair of the Education Committee, are planning a third CSE retreat on authorship to be held Monday, 7 May, during the annual meeting. The goal of this retreat is to educate authors, editors, scientists, officers of scientific societies, and administrators of research institutions about authorship issues and relevant policies and to promote the implementation of systems to encourage responsible authorship.

Membership Committee

Barry Davis, Chair

The CSE Marketing Task Force is pleased to announce the selection of Drohan Management Group as the new marketing group for CSE, in conjunction with consultant Marilyn Peterson, effective December 2000. After a long search marked by numerous setbacks, the task force (organized by CSE President Tad Parker and consisting of Barry Davis, chair, and members Barbara Meyers, Tom Lang, and Annette Flanagin) decided to

accept the proposal offered by Drohan in September 2000. We are especially pleased to be working with Marilyn Peterson in this initiative. Marilyn has over 20 years of experience in membership development, membership recruitment, and marketing for associations and societies. In



Barry Davis

the coming years we expect to prepare and implement plans to expand CSE's base to encompass a more broad scientific editing and publishing community, initiate a marketing presence for CSE publications, investigate synergetic options among allied societies in our fields, and create materials that will enhance CSE's image in the marketplace. The Marketing Task Force and the Membership Committee are excited about beginning the marketing initiative.

Program Committee

Ann Link, Chair by Jessica Ancker, Cochair

Planning a meeting that will be exciting, informative, and appealing to all of CSE's diverse members is always a challenge. An extra challenge this year—but a happy one—was posed by the arrival of Elise, daughter of Program Committee Chair Ann Link, in the middle of the planning process.

The Program Committee first convened on the final day of last year's annual meeting in San Antonio. The committee of journal editors, publishers, manuscript editors, managing editors, and others working in scientific publishing held a lively discussion and generated a long list of possible meeting themes, distinguished speakers, and session topics for the Washington DC meeting.

Ann established an e-mail discussion list right away and made us all feel welcome in this virtual discussion space. She solicited more ideas over the summer, then collated them and distributed them electronically to all Program Committee members so that we could vote on our favorites.

By August we had firmed up the session theme, "Serving the Readers of Scientific Publications". We each took responsibility for one or more sessions and started on the tough task of inviting possible speakers, trying to work quickly so that we could meet the deadlines needed to keep our planning on track.

Ann was anticipating a different sort of deadline, the birth of her second child, who was expected in September. I kept sending e-mail to her office at the *Journal of Immunology*, expecting to receive the message that she was off on maternity leave, but Elise showed no sign of wanting to be born, so Ann kept e-mailing right back.

Two weeks after her due date, Ann scheduled a date to induce labor, but a few days before the appointment Elise was born naturally. "We barely made it to the hospital in time", Ann said. Elise weighed



Ann Link

7.5 pounds and was 20 inches long (or, in SI units, 3.4 kg and 51 cm).

During the first few weeks of Ann's maternity leave, I took over some of her e-mail responsibilities.

However, my usefulness as cochair was limited because I had already scheduled a 3-week vacation in Australia to join my husband, a reporter for the Associated Press who was covering the Olympics in Sydney. By the time I returned and was developing my snapshots of kangaroos, kukaburras, and crocodiles, Ann had started working on CSE business through her home e-mail account.

Despite those extra challenges to an already challenging job, we believe the 2001 Program Committee has put together an outstanding program for you. We are all looking forward to seeing you in Washington DC and hearing your opinions about the meeting!



Jessica Ancker

*Committee Roundup continued***Publications Committee****Miriam Bloom, Chair**

As new chair of the Publications Committee, I will first suggest that you all log on to the CSE Web site and immediately order copies of CSE's most recent publications: F Peter Woodford's *How to Teach Scientific Writing* (which should be as useful to those seeking to improve their science writing as to those teaching them how) and the superb GuideLines series.

The GuideLines series is a unique enterprise for CSE. It comprises authoritative and attractive in-depth publications on single topics of interest to CSE members. Modestly priced and punched for three-ring binders, the GuideLines can be purchased individually and collected as a set tailored to your specific needs. Current titles are "The Publication Process at Biomedical Journals" (by Karen P Klein), "Levels of Technical Editing" (David Nadziejka), "Posters and Poster Sessions" (Shirley M Peterson and Susan Eastwood), "Editing Science

Graphs" (Shirley M Peterson), and "Editing Grant Proposals" (Karen P Klein). These are outstanding, down-to-earth works worthy of wide distribution. We plan to begin a second round soon, so if you have expertise in a particular field and would like to prepare a GuideLine yourself, please let me know.

Another endeavor in which we could use membership know-how is marketing. Now that a CSE-wide marketing effort is getting under way, we look forward to increased help and support in marketing CSE publications. We earnestly seek suggestions and assistance from members who are experienced in this field. Please get in touch with me if you can help, and I promise that you will have the pleasure of deal-

**Miriam Bloom**

ing with only the finest of products.

This year the committee has considered the implications of CSE's name change. Because the new name is likely to attract a broader membership, we believe that our publications should reflect the greater breadth of the organization and serve its needs. Here again I invite your participation. If you see the need for a publication in a field of science other than biology, please let me know; and if you want to do something about it yourself, let me know that too.

To summarize, the Publications Committee actively seeks your help. We invite you to (a) consider writing one of our GuideLines, (b) contribute to our marketing efforts, (c) help us fulfill our mission for all science editors, not just biology editors, and (d) order our publications (but that will be more of a favor to you than to the committee!).

Style Manual Subcommittee**Peggy Robinson and Robert Wilbur, Cochairs**

Activity has stepped up a notch or two as the time for publishing the seventh edition of *Scientific Style and Format (SSF)* approaches. Efforts have shifted this year from planning and organizing to the actual work of making revisions. Frequent conference calls are helping to keep the committee on track and focused. *SSF7* is taking its new form on a secure Web page, where committee members can examine the current draft of *SSF* and suggest changes for other members to review. We are also seeking advice, assistance,

**Robert Wilbur and Peggy Robinson**

and reviews from experts in and outside CSE.

The revisions to *SSF* will include new chapters (for example, on editorial ethics) and new sections in some existing

chapters (for example, on meteorology, limnology and oceanography, and copyright information). The committee is also adding a section on XML, the next-wave markup language.

The subject that continues to generate the most inquiries is the citation of electronic sources. This topic will form the core of a session on 7 May, during the 2001 CSE annual meeting, when we will be presenting an overview of the changes planned for *SSF*; we hope to see you there.