

Submit Your Editorial Research to Science Editor

Another year of publication is ending. As it ends, I thank all who contributed to this volume: those listed on the masthead, our recent authors and interns, our printer, and more. And as the year ends, I think about future directions for *Science Editor*.

In doing so, I reflect on a question that sometimes arises: What species of publication is *Science Editor*? As I see it, *Science Editor* has a threefold identity and mission: as a journal, as a magazine, and as a newsletter.

To start from the back of the book, as publishers of popular magazines call it: The CSE News section of *Science Editor* functions much like an association newsletter: announcing Council events, presenting highlights of Board meetings, listing new members, providing a calendar, and serving related functions. The Features section, the Departments, and

such items as Annual Meeting Reports constitute the equivalent of a magazine for science editors. And the Articles section, containing peer-reviewed reports of science-editorial research, functions like a journal.

An Articles section? Peer-reviewed reports of original research? Yes, *Science Editor* contains them, although not in as many issues as we would like. One possible reason is that many *Science Editor* readers and others might not recognize that ours is a venue for publishing editorial research.

We welcome manuscripts that present research on editorial topics. Topics about which we have published research thus far include reasons for manuscript rejection, editors' role in promoting valid use of concepts and terminology in race and ethnicity research, content of article titles, quality of graphs in journals, the

publishing needs of non-native-English-speaking faculty and fellows, and fulfillment of



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readers' continuing-medical-education needs by a Turkish medical journal. In years to come, we hope to publish research on a wide variety of science-editorial questions and from a wide variety of disciplines and settings. The research may use any suitable method.

Manuscripts for our Articles section generally should follow the IMRAD format (Introduction, Methods, Research, and Discussion). Please use the style recommended in the CSE manual *Scientific Style and Format*, with references in citation-sequence

format. Manuscripts can be submitted to b-gastel@tamu.edu; please indicate that they are for the Articles section. Questions about potential submissions also can go to this e-mail address. (So can suggestions for feature articles, including conference reports—and, better yet, offers to write such pieces. But that's another Viewpoint.)

As you look ahead, I hope you will consider submitting some research to *Science Editor* or encouraging others to do so. End 2005 well by sending us a manuscript. (We would not want our peer reviewers to be too idle over the holidays.) Or begin 2006 well by doing so. We promise to give your submission careful review. And we look forward to developing the journal aspect of *Science Editor* further in the year ahead.

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