

Editorial Policy Committee Issues White Paper

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The CSE Editorial Policy Committee, under the direction of Diane Scott-Lichter, has produced the *White Paper on Promoting Integrity in Scientific Journal Publications*. This 80-page white paper will help in developing and improving effective practices to promote integrity in scientific journal publishing. In producing the white paper and in other activities, the Editorial Policy Committee aims to open dialogue about ethical publishing practices and foster informed decision-making by editors.

In developing the white paper, the committee sought to create a document that could serve as a resource guide for new editors to acquaint themselves with the scope of their new duties and for new and experienced editors in their efforts to establish and benchmark their journals' policies and procedures. The composi-

tion and mandate of the committee were intended to ensure that the white paper would be pertinent to all science disciplines.

The first half of the white paper covers the roles and responsibilities of all parties involved in publishing: What are the roles of the editor, author, peer reviewers, and publisher? What are the various models of authorship and contributorship? How can editors ensure that they have a workable conflict-of-interest policy? When is a study sponsor behaving unethically? How should the relationship between journal editors and sponsoring societies or journal owners be structured?

The second half of the white paper covers research misconduct: What is research misconduct? How is it identified? What are the international models for responding to research misconduct? What is the best way to correct the literature? What is the difference between a retraction and a published expression of concern?

You can find the *White Paper on Promoting Integrity in Scientific Journal Publications* online in the Editorial Policies section of the CSE Web site (www.CouncilScienceEditors.org). The Editorial Policy Committee plans to keep this document updated. CSE members should encourage their societies and publishers to link to the white paper. Cadmus has generously provided a limited number of reprints to CSE. If you are interested in receiving a copy, contact CSE@CouncilScienceEditors.org and include "Editorial Policy Committee" in the subject line.