

Acoustical Society of America

Fall 2017 Meeting Agenda for Committee on Publication Policy New Orleans, LA

Date & Location: Wednesday, 6 Dec. 2017, 7:00-8:30 am, Studio 8

Members attending: Keith Wilson (Chair to 2018), Diane Kewley-Port (2018), Andrew Morrison (2018), Roger Waxler (2018), Tim Duda (2019), Erick Gallun (2019), Michael Haberman (2019), Alan Wall (2020), Jim Lynch (Ex officio, Editor-in-Chief), Lily Wang (Ex officio, President-Elect)

Members not attending: Jennifer Miksis-Olds (2019), Carolina Abdala (2020), Alex Case (2020), Laura Kloepper (2020)

Guests attending: Kent Gee (Editor, POMA), Charles Church (Editor, JASA EL), Art Popper (Editor, Acoustics Today), Fred Kontur (AIPP), Jason Bardi (AIPP), Liz Bury (ASA Managing Editor), Kat Setzer (Editorial Coordinator, Acoustics Today), Vladimir Ostashev

Committee Charge:

37. COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION POLICY

37.1 Charged with reviewing and suggesting changes in the policy, contents, and format of the Journal and other Society publications, but excluding the book-plus program and Standards, for consideration by the Editor-in-Chief and the Executive Council, and proposing new publications.

37.2 Composed of the Chair and members appointed by the President, and the Editor-in-Chief and President-Elect as ex-officio members.

1. Introductions, new nominations for Committee (Wilson)

Recommendations were requested for new Committee members to be voted upon by the EC at the Spring meeting.

2. Publication Policy Committee web page (Wilson)

The PP web page has been upgraded to include ASA member suggestions for meeting topics, summaries of past meetings for ASA members, and full minutes of past meetings (for PP Committee members only).

3. Important journal metrics and JASA performance (Kontur)

AIPP presentation on key JASA performance metrics. These data were also presented at the Editorial Board luncheon. Revenues are important to maintain the journal health, and are tracked on a quarterly basis. JASA revenues are holding steady. AIPP also tracks metrics for author experience some based on direct polling, and others collected from the publishing process (processing time, etc.) JASA's current time from receiving a manuscript to publication is around 140 days; competitors are generally around 100-120 days. Authors rate JASA at 8.8 on a 10-pt scale for satisfaction, which is slightly better than the AIP average (8.6 to 8.7). Abstract and paper downloads are showing healthy increases. Marketing activities are having demonstrable effectiveness. Haberman asked about the

effectiveness of AIPP marketing for TCs outside of traditional physics. Kontur explained that ads are targeted based on subject matter of special issues

Many authors indicate a desire for a higher impact factor, which has been fairly steady around 1.5 for several years. Recent data indicate the factor could go up to 1.7 or higher when results for this year are finalized. There was general discussion of importance of impact factor and need to boost it. This continues to be a point of emphasis for the EiC. Waxler asked whether we should help educate the community about problems with impact factor.

4. AIPP Public relations activities (Bardi)

AIPP has two new campaigns that are being rolled out for ASA, Science Counts and Scilight. Full implementation planned in 2018. Science Counts focuses on public information to help guide decisions regarding public support for science. Newspapers often link back to original articles. AIPP writes up a story, sends to journalists, and posts on third-party sites. Aimed more at a professional audience. Scilight provides summaries of journal publications for general audiences. Recommendations for topics are desired. Bardi indicated that timing is an important logistical issue – the announcement must coincide with publication of paper. **AIPP would like to identify a group or sub-committee to make a plan for how AEs can help identify interesting papers.** Popper asked if it would be possible to promote some of the *Acoustics Today* articles as well.

5. Update on thesaurus, naming of abstracts and meetings (Kewley-Port)

Keywords help readers find articles related to the ones they are reading. Also important for Google searches, since they are part of the article metadata. A mechanism will be implemented to get information back from authors on how happy they are with keywords. Authors might also be surveyed on whether they agree with keywords. This feedback will be used to update thesaurus. It is important to note that keywords specified by authors used in the review process only. For publication, automatically generated words from thesaurus are used.

Kewley-Port also discussed concerns with inconsistent meeting names, which make it difficult to search for meetings. Consistent usage of the format “Acoustical Society 20XX [city] Meeting” was suggested. Various opinions were expressed about how this would be applied to joint meetings, and whether the meeting number should be dropped. Popper pointed out that citations to meeting proceedings should be consistent. **Haberman, Duda, and Gee noted that Scitation does not currently have a mechanism for downloading citations in text format (eg something like (Author, A., Title, JASA, vol, pp, year), which can be very useful for writing articles.**

6. Self-plagiarism and Similarity Checker (Bury, Lynch)

The Similarity Check software is being implemented as a way of monitoring self-plagiarism. The software identifies potential articles of concern and calculates the degree of overlap. A 6-month trial period is planned. The resulting data will help facilitate discussions for what is ethical and what the thresholds should be. The software will be integrated into Editorial Manager such that AEs will see the results. Questions were asked about whether it is okay to self-plagiarize non-copyrighted work, technical reports, and pre-print archives. EiC: more experience would be desirable before attempting to address these issues comprehensively.

Plans for utilizing the results from Similarity Checker will be discussed in more detail at the next PP meeting.

7. Conflicts of interest with AEs/reviewers (Bury, Church)

How do we deal with AEs who know the authors of papers they are handling? Given the smallness of the community, it can be hard to avoid such situations. There was support for allowing AEs to manage potential conflicts, although no motion was taken. Haberman suggested that there should be an ethics policy that AEs agree to each year. **The EIC indicated that a proposal will be ready for next meeting.**

8. Other matters arising:

EiC: For quality initiative, JASA is looking at statements concisely describing why JASA is a strong publication and authors should be encouraged to submit there. Also, impact factors are being broken down by TC – this may help authors who publish in areas with a relatively high impact factor.