Committee Roundup continued

Style Manual Subcommittee

Peggy Robinson and Robert Wilbur, Cochairs

The Style Manual Subcommittee was confirmed as a standing subcommittee of the Publications Committee after the publication of the sixth edition of the style manual, Scientific Style and Format (SSF). The subcommittee is responsible for producing new editions of the style manual and is working toward publication of the seventh edition in about 3 years. In addition to seeking out updated recommendations in various fields covered by the manual and incorporating this information in later editions, the subcommittee fields inquiries from CSE members and others concerning scientific style. The subcommittee periodically informs members of important changes in style or format recommendations that it feels should not await the next edition, for example, the revision of the recommended number style, published in 1998.1

Since publication of the sixth edition, the number and types of electronic resources available to scientific researchers have increased exponentially. The SSF guidelines for citing such resources were appropriate when they were written but are no longer adequate, and we receive many inquiries on this topic. As indicated in chapter 30 of SSF, the formats for references given there are based on the National Library of Medicine Recommended Formats for Bibliographic Citation.2 NLM has now established comprehensive recommendations for citing electronic resources, which are available in a supplement to the earlier NLM publication. The supplement was slated to be posted at the NLM Web site early in 2000 (to access it, go to the publications page at www.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/pubcat.html, select “R”, choose “Recommended Formats for Bibliographic Citation”, and follow the link to the supplement). Subcommittee member Karen Patrias, of NLM, plans to describe the rationale for the recommendations in a future issue of Science Editor.

In November 1999, SSF was reprinted by the copublisher, Cambridge University Press. This reprinting, the fourth since the initial run of 10,000, brings the total number of copies printed to 21,000. Users have continued to send suggestions for corrections and changes, and another batch of typographic corrections was included in the November reprinting (see list in the next issue of Science Editor).

References


News About Members

Margaret Hoppenrath, president, Hoppenrath Publishing, has moved. She can now be reached at 1962 Country Club Drive, Escondido, CA 92029; telephone 760-746-8191; fax 760-746-8190. Her e-mail address remains mail@hoppub.com.

Julie Ann Miller has been elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The election recognizes her “outstanding contributions to science communication that include professional scientists as well as more general audiences and for leadership in the science writing community”. Miller is editor of Science News.

Diane Scott-Lichter has joined Elsevier Science as an associate publisher in the Clinical Medicine Department. Publications with which she works include the American Journal of Medicine, the Journal of Pain and Symptom Management, and the Journal of Emergency Medicine. Previously, she was managing editor and associate publisher of Cancer and then director of journal services, Carden Jennings Publishing Co Ltd. She can be reached at 655 Avenue of the Americas, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10010-5107; telephone 212-633-3939; fax 212-633-3913; e-mail d.scott-lichter@elsevier.com.

Florence M (Flo) Witte received the Golden Apple Award from the American Medical Writers Association (AMWA) at its 1999 annual conference. The award recognizes consistently outstanding leadership of AMWA workshops. Witte directs the scientific editing department at St Jude Children’s Research Hospital, Memphis, TN.