SCIENCE EDITOR

A Publication of the Council of Science Editors

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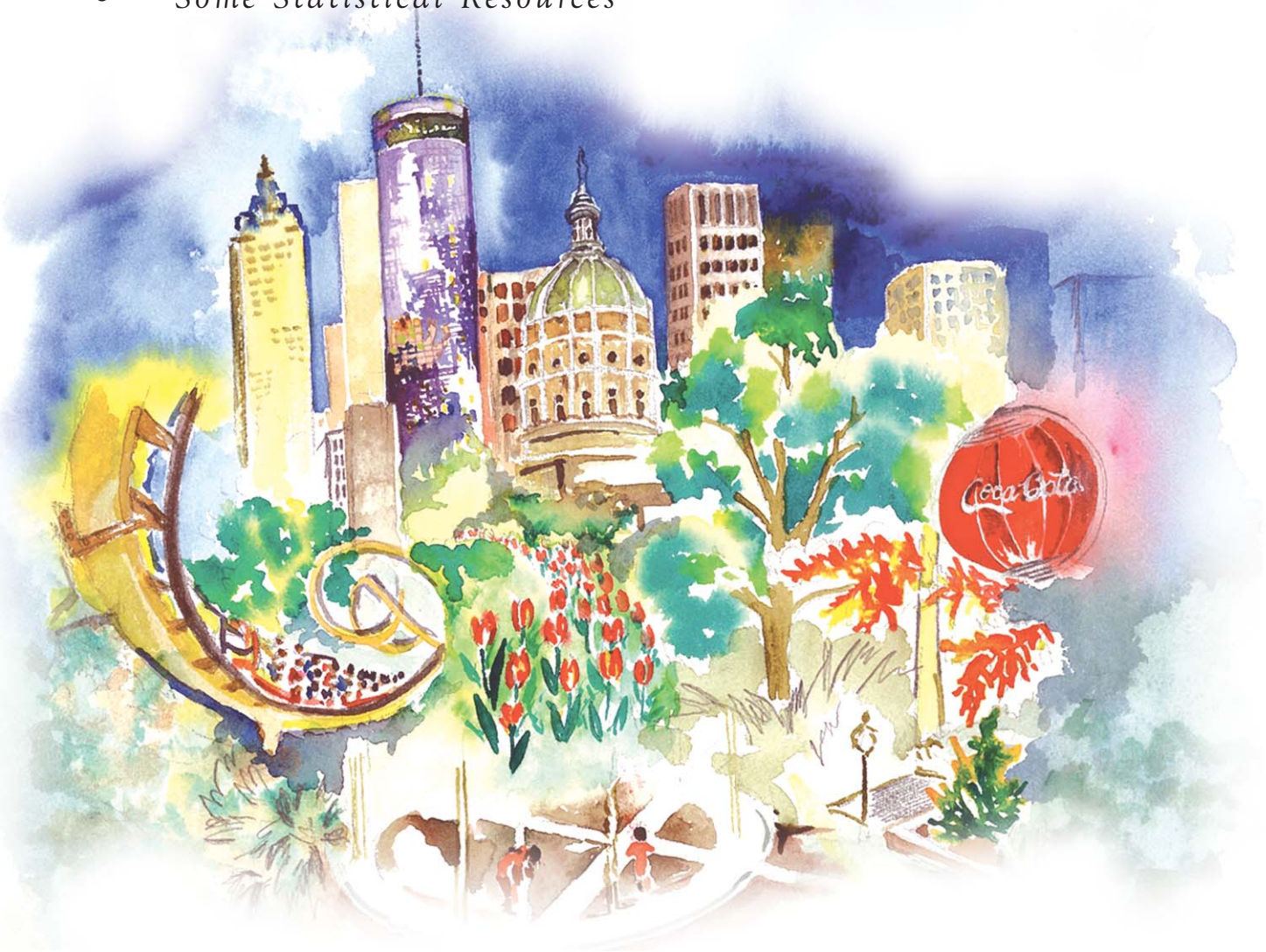

MARCH – APRIL 2005 • VOLUME 28 • NUMBER 2

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Science Editor (ISSN 1535-5365), formerly *CBE Views*, is published bimonthly by the **Council of Science Editors Inc, 12100 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 130, Reston VA 20190**. It serves as a forum for the exchange of information and ideas among professionals concerned with publishing in the sciences. Articles, letters to the editor, news about CSE members, and other items of special interest to our readers are encouraged. For more details about submission, see "Information for Contributors".

Bulk mail postage paid at Bryan, Texas. For information about CSE, including membership and publications, visit our Web site at *www.CouncilScienceEditors.org* or contact Executive Director Kathy Hoskins at (703)437-4377; fax (703)435-4390. Membership dues, including subscription to *Science Editor*, are US $130 per year, non-US $160. Nonmember subscriptions, US $55 per year, non-US $68. Single issues, US $12, non-US $15.

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Cover image: A watercolor image of Atlanta by Abhihshek Bhor.

Words, Numbers, and More

For science editors, words and numbers are crucial elements of the craft. The current issue of *Science Editor* offers pieces focusing specifically on words and on numbers. It also offers much more, including a synopsis of the recent CSE retreat.

Readers who crowd the language sessions at the CSE annual meeting may be especially pleased to learn that *Science Editor* once again has a language columnist. The new columnist is Bob Johnson, and the first installment of his column, The Word Hawk, appears on page 59.

Johnson's recruitment as columnist attests to collaboration among CSE members. Last year, Grace Darling, former publication manager of *Science Editor*, called my attention to an especially eloquent item on the BELS listserv. Johnson, who had written it, agreed to develop it into a Guest Editor column—which appeared, under the title "I Call Myself an Editor", in the July-August 2004 issue.

On reading the column, our associate editor, Cheryl Iverson, saw in Johnson a candidate for author of a regularly appearing language column—something *Science Editor* had lacked since Lorraine Loviglio retired as The Word Watcher in 2000. Fortunately, Johnson accepted our invitation to become a *Science Editor* columnist. We hope you will like his current column and those to come. For more about Johnson, please see page 50 of this issue.

Numbers, as well as words, are important to science editors. Recognizing this importance, CSE is offering this year for the first time a short course on statistics. (For more about this short course and the others preceding the annual meeting, please see page 65. And for information on the annual meeting itself, please see page 64.) Likewise, the current issue contains two pieces about statistics resources: The Views Afield piece describes three articles or sets thereof that can increase editors' statistical savvy. And the Net Results piece profiles several Web sites that provide instruction in statistics. Thanks for preparing those two pieces go to the fall 2004 *Science Editor* intern, Claudia Clark, a science and mathematics writer with a graduate degree in mathematics.

Barbara Gastel

Clark's experience as a *Science Editor* intern also included attending the CSE Retreat on Conflicts of Interest in Scientific Publication, held in October 2004. Her synopsis of the retreat appears on pages 39-43 of this issue. We hope readers will enjoy and learn from the account of the thought-provoking retreat. We also hope readers will gain from the other conference reports in this issue, including reports of international conferences held in China and Mexico.

Other offerings in this issue include our annual CSE committee roundup (my thanks to the committee chairs for contributing reports), a profile of editor and fly-fisher Bruce Dancik, and reviews of some noteworthy books. Whether words or numbers or other aspects of science editing interest you most, we hope you will enjoy this issue.

Barbara Gastel
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Conflict of Interest and Scientific Publication: A Synopsis of the CSE Retreat

A retreat by the Council of Science Editors with funding from the Greenwall Foundation, the American Heart Association, and the American Society of Clinical Oncology

29-31 October 2004

Hyatt Lodge at the McDonald's Campus, Oak Brook, Illinois

Retreat cochairs: Jessica Ancker and Annette Flanagin

Claudia Clark

In science, *conflict of interest* (COI) refers to "situations in which financial or other personal considerations may compromise, or have the appearance of compromising, an investigator's professional judgment in conducting or reporting research",[1] according to guidelines of the Association of American Medical Colleges. The Council of Science Editors,[2] the World Association of Medical Editors,[3] and others also have defined and delineated COI. Researchers, reviewers, editors, journals, institutions, and funders all can have COI.

To address COI in scientific publication, the Council of Science Editors held a retreat on 29-31 October 2004. The Greenwall Foundation, the American Heart Association (AHA), and the American Society of Clinical Oncology supported the retreat with $20,000 in grants. The grants made the attendance of four international editors possible and helped to fund the speakers.

The goal, as stated in the program, was for participants to discuss "the effects of financial conflicts on scientific research and editorial and publication decisions, and to review and debate current strategies for managing conflicts of interest in scientific publication". The 78 attendees—including editors, researchers, representatives of private and government funding agencies, representatives of pharmaceutical companies, legal experts, and journalists—discussed and debated such questions as the following: What constitutes a COI for an author, reviewer, editor, or institution? What are the effects of COI on scientific research and publication? What policies and procedures are in place for managing COI? Are they sufficient? Can we draw any conclusions from current practices and come up with better strategies?

After the keynote address on Friday evening, other presentations started the following morning and continued until about noon on Sunday. (The retreat program can be viewed at *www.CouncilScienceEditors.org*.) Presentations ran consecutively and lasted 10 to 25 minutes. A 10-minute question-and-answer session followed each presentation or group of presentations. To promote open discussion of the issues, all participants were guaranteed that what they said would not be quoted or paraphrased without their permission. That made for thought-provoking presentations and lively discussions. Speakers and other participants discussed study results, recounted anecdotes, and expressed a variety of opinions.

FRIDAY, 29 OCTOBER

Evening Session: Keynote Address: Conflict of Interest Policies in Science and Medical Journals
Presented by Sheldon Krimsky, Professor of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning, Tufts University

Sheldon Krimsky provided an overview of the topic of COI in science and medical journals. Krimsky has been studying the interface between science and technology, ethics, and public policy for more than 30 years. He is the author of more than 140 reviews and essays and seven books on the subject. His most recent book, *Science in the Private Interest: Has the Lure of Profits Corrupted Biomedical Research?* published in 2003, focuses on COIs in biomedical research.

Through examples and published studies, including some of his own, Krimsky posed a series of questions, such as the following, and offered some partial answers:

- How have journals responded to COIs? One of Krimsky's studies showed that 16% of the 1396 high-impact journals that he and his coauthor selected had COI policies in 1997.
- What types of COI policies do journals have? Journals' COI statements to authors vary widely. They include one-sentence requests for information (for example, "The journal requests information about the authors' professional and financial affiliations that may be perceived to have biased the presentation."), lists of COIs that the authors must check off, and more complex statements with multiple questions.
- How well do authors comply with COI policies? In a study of 181 peer-reviewed journals with COI policies, authors of 0.5% of the articles had something to disclose. In a study of 192 writers of a total of 44 clinical guidelines, 90 of the 100 writers who responded "had financial ties to companies whose drugs were either considered or recommended in the guidelines they wrote". However, a COI was reported in only one of the 44 guidelines written.
- Why is disclosure of COIs important? It is especially important because of the increasing financial links between for-profit corporations and the research

CLAUDIA CLARK, *a 2003 American Association for the Advancement of Science Mass Media fellow and a science and mathematics writer, prepared this report while a* Science Editor *intern*.

community and because journals are the "gatekeepers of certified knowledge".

Krimsky concluded his remarks by drawing an analogy between COIs in scientific publishing and the Enron affair, in which the energy giant Enron Corporation, in collusion with its accounting firm, Arthur Andersen, released false financial reports that hid serious problems. He noted that "we no longer tolerate disclosures of auditing companies that audit financial houses [but] have other financial relationships with those houses. . . . So we have to decide in the publishing arena when disclosure is enough and when prohibition is appropriate."

Retreat cochair Jessica Ancker and participant Anju Sharma

SATURDAY, 30 OCTOBER

Morning Session: Evidence and Experiences of Researchers and Institutions
Moderated by Faith McLellan, North American Senior Editor, *The Lancet*, and President, Council of Science Editors

The morning began with a presentation by Cary P Gross, associate professor of internal medicine at the Yale University School of Medicine, who discussed the prevalence and seriousness of financial COIs. He said that the existence of a COI doesn't necessarily lead to bias. He did, however, describe how COI can lead to bias at each step in the bench-to-bedside process of clinical research: during study design, participant recruitment, study conduct, data analysis and interpretation, publication and dissemination, and interpretation and synthesis of evidence. He illustrated with such examples as the Celecoxib (Celebrex) Long-term Arthritis Safety Study of 2000. A paper on the study, submitted to *JAMA* with 6 months of data, indicated a lower incidence of "ulcer complications" among Celebrex users than among users of other nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs. In fact, 12-month data showing a less favorable result were not made available to *JAMA* by the paper's authors, all of whom were either employees of the drug's manufacturer or paid consultants.

Lisa Bero, professor of clinical pharmacy and health policy at the University of California, San Francisco, gave the next presentation, which focused on how academic institutions manage their faculties' financial disclosures. She noted that disclosure (as opposed to restrictions or bans) is the most commonly used means of dealing with COI in universities; this is not surprising, she said, given the culture of academic institutions, where "bias is considered to be conscious" and therefore manageable. Bero discussed work in which she found that studies funded by private sponsors were about five times as likely to have favorable results as studies funded by nonprivate sponsors. And these, she noted, were the results of studies in which there was disclosure! She also discussed a 1981 study that demonstrated an association between second-hand smoke and lung cancer and the tobacco-industry–funded study created to refute it. To hide the connection to the tobacco industry in the second study, not all authors were disclosed, and the disclosures that were published were misleading. Bero concluded that disclosure does not prevent bias.

Drummond Rennie, deputy editor of *JAMA* and a professor in the Department of Medicine in the Institute for Health Policy Studies, University of California, San Francisco, gave a thoughtful presentation titled "Why What We Think Works Doesn't". He said that we need money to flow to inventors and developers of new drugs. The problem comes when that money flows from the manufacturers of the new drugs to those who *test* them by conducting trials in humans. The public must be able to trust those who test drugs to conduct the most appropriate tests and to report their results faithfully. But in this new world, because of the direct influence of money, the trust between the public, scientific journals, and clinical researchers has been repeatedly broken by monetary interests competing for the loyalty and attention of the researchers. A basic problem was exemplified by what happened when *JAMA* published, in 1990, an editorial calling some postvaccination neurologic problems "a myth". First, a newspaper pointed out that the researcher had worked for a vaccine manufacturer, but there was no disclosure of that. The researcher then admitted that he was wrong to sign the *JAMA* forms stating that he had no such conflicts. And finally, none of those who wrote to protest his failure to disclose his financial conflicts declared any financial conflicts themselves, although almost all, when pressed, admitted to having testified on this very issue for money on numerous occasions. That episode and others show

Conflict of Interest continued

that we are simply unable to see our own conflicts, although we are quick to see them in others: "You have a conflict, but I don't. I'm pure, but you're not." Rennie discussed a problem with disclosure: the burying of the receipt of one huge sum of money from one sponsor among pages listing relatively trivial connections. To reestablish trust, Rennie said, he has long supported the creation of an independent agency to do drug testing and supports a publicly accessible registry of all clinical trials initiated.

The final speaker of the session was C K (Tina) Gunsalus, adjunct professor and special counsel at the University of Illinois. Gunsalus presented examples of COI problems that cropped up repeatedly in university settings over a 20-year period and concluded that universities have not been and are not likely to be able to solve the problems as they present themselves in our current funding and policy environment. Unless journals take a stand, she concluded, we will not see much substantial change; the actors with the ability and the will to make changes are journal editors, ideally acting collectively.

Retreat cochairs Annette Flanagin and Jessica Ancker, participant Anju Sharma, and CSE president Faith McLellan

Midmorning Session: The Experiences, Concerns, and Policies of Funders
Moderated by Catherine D DeAngelis, Editor-in-Chief, *JAMA*

After a short break, the discussion moved on to funders' experiences, policies, and concerns. The first speaker was Rita Redberg, professor of medicine and director of Women's Cardiovascular Services at the University of California, San Francisco, School of Medicine. As a member of the AHA Scientific Publishing Committee and chair of the AHA COI working group, Redberg discussed the AHA COI standards for research funding, scientific publishing, scientific statements, and professional education. She noted that over the last few years, the COI working group has been "working on tightening COI standards"; for example, it has "better defined what is conflict, in terms of levels of money", and verified that COI disclosures are being gathered. She recalled the summer 2004 publication of the updated National Cholesterol Education Program (NCEP) guidelines—endorsed by AHA—which was followed by mass-media criticism of the NCEP's failure to reveal the financial ties of guideline-committee members. Upon becoming aware of the situation, the AHA focused on ensuring that its COI standards—which include publishing disclosures with guidelines—were being applied and increased the amount of formal discussion about COIs.

Paul T Antony, chief medical officer of Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA), presented a pharmaceutical-industry perspective. He noted that pharmaceutical companies recoup research and development costs on only three of 10 medicines. He also expressed industry concerns about clinical-trial registration proposals that weakened intellectual-property protection. Antony talked about the "implied contract" between the individual and the pharmaceutical industry: In exchange for industry's accepting regulation and sharing innovation to the extent that it is financially feasible, the pharmaceutical industry has a right to treat some information as proprietary and to achieve a "reasonable" profit. In response to a question about bringing the PhRMA Principles on Conduct of Clinical Trials up to date, Antony said that PhRMA had revised the document in June 2004 and that future revisions could be expected.

The final speaker of the session was Joan P Schwartz, assistant director of the Office of Intramural Research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She indicated how COI is addressed in the NIH intramural-research program. She also presented a draft of new guidelines for preventing financial COI in human-subjects research at NIH. The draft outlined prohibited activities of scientific staff and their immediate families, such as receiving honoraria from commercial sponsors of their research, and listed guidelines for handling NIH intellectual property and royalties. She finished by outlining the NIH rules established to safeguard the objectivity of NIH-funded research.

Afternoon Session: Regulatory and Legal Concerns
Moderated by C K (Tina) Gunsalus, Adjunct Professor and Special Counsel, University of Illinois

The afternoon sessions began with three speakers discussing regulatory and legal issues. Steven Nissen, of the Section of Clinical Cardiology at the Cleveland Clinic, spoke about the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulation process. As a member of the FDA Cardiovascular and Renal Drug Advisory Committee, Nissen has had opportunities to compare actual trial data submitted to FDA with data reported in scientific journals. He listed some ways in which researchers have manipulated their results to report more favorable results to journals: serious adverse effects are incompletely reported, inappropriate emphasis is placed on nonprespecified subgroups, and unfavorable results are not reported. Nissen made a number of suggestions: Researchers should give editors and reviewers the study protocol and statistical analysis plan; in industry-sponsored studies, editors should demand an independent data analysis (by an academic coordinating center, for example); and editors should require commercial sponsors to place data into the public domain in 5 years. Also, Nissen said, editors should be aware that some of researchers' "real conflicts" are not financial; for example, the researcher's ego might be involved, the funder of the study may be a potential employer, or the researcher may want to please the sponsor.

James R Ferguson, partner in the law firm Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw, spoke about the growing use of patents in biomedical research, in particular DNA patents held by universities. Although patents can serve as an incentive for research, he recognized some people's concern that patents can impede rather than promote biomedical research by preventing use of the results of the research; several observers have noted that as universities have become more aggressive in enforcing their patents, they have also become more vulnerable to patent-infringement claims.[4] Still, Ferguson said, "we shouldn't be quick to eliminate the patent system" without replacing it with a better one. He noted that the Federal Trade Commission and other government agencies have proposed changes to improve the system, such as having the Patent and Trademark Office apply a higher burden of proof for granting patents or providing alternatives to litigation to those who would challenge the validity of patents.

Richard Painter, professor at the University of Illinois College of Law, began by addressing an issue raised earlier in the day: whether and, if so, under what conditions a journal has the right to sanction an author who has violated its COI policy. He noted that one approach to misconduct is to refuse to publish work by an author for some period, after which the journal editor might exercise higher scrutiny when reviewing the author's work. Painter stressed that he would not publish a notice of such action and that the less said to other people, the better, from the standpoint of reducing liability exposure in a possible action for libel or restraint of trade. The editor, however, could respond to another journal's inquiry about the author with such a comment as "we don't feel comfortable publishing that author's work". Furthermore, because truth of the matter asserted is a defense against an action for libel, Painter said that a journal should keep documentation of the author's violation and be able to prove it.

Painter then turned to the issue of insider trading. This, he said, is a potential problem for journals that either have embargo policies for journalists or send out prepublication information to a select group of subscribers. In either case, if the material is used for financial gain, the journal is exposed to charges of facilitating insider trading; therefore, Painter does not favor embargo policies. With respect to prepublication materials sent out to some subscribers, his solution, which drew an appreciative chuckle from the audience, would be to send out any of this material to the largest base possible, essentially getting the information into the public domain.

Midafternoon Session: Journal Policies and Experiences

Moderated by Annette Flanagin, Managing Senior Editor, *JAMA*

A session on journal policies and experiences followed. The retreat cochairs, Annette Flanagin, managing senior editor at *JAMA*, and Jessica Ancker, of the Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, began the session by presenting some data on current journal COI policies. Of 84 high-impact-factor journals they reviewed, only 28 (33%) publish COI policies in or with the instructions for authors.

After Flanagin and Ancker's presentation, editors of six scientific journals spoke about the COI policies of their journals. The speakers were Faith McLellan, senior editor of *The Lancet*; Catherine D DeAngelis, editor-in-chief of *JAMA*; Juan Carlos Lopez, editor of *Nature Medicine*; Katrina Kelner, deputy editor, life sciences, of *Science*; Rita Hanson, managing editor of *Environmental Health Perspectives*; and Martin Blume, editor-in-chief at the American Physical Society (APS). Most gave examples of COIs at their journals. Although a few editors, particularly Blume, noted nonfinancial COIs, the discussion centered on financial issues. Highlights of the discussion included the following:

- Most editors noted that their journals had either created or updated their COI policies in recent years. But differences in addressing COIs were notable, in part because different journals face different issues. Blume noted that APS has both the means and the time that medical journals do not have to replicate questionable results and publish corrections: "No lives are at stake."
- Journals owners differ in their attitudes toward accepting funding. For example, Lopez noted that, to fund special supplements for which no money is appropriated in the annual budget, *Nature* approaches commercial and noncommercial funders. *JAMA* does not.
- Another issue was access to original data. *JAMA* requires that at least one author without any commercial funding have full access to the data.
- Differences existed with respect to disclosure, the focus of much of the discussion. All six editors agreed that some type of disclosure was necessary,

perhaps to inform readers and let them decide for themselves, as Lopez noted, or to act as a deterrent. Disclosure may also help to establish trustworthiness, which DeAngelis said is critical: "The heart of research lies in altruism and trust. Without that we're doomed." But there the policies parted ways. What was to be disclosed varied. Most of the six editors agreed that employment by a funder or stock held in a funder's company was a COI that a researcher should disclose. But, McLellan asked, is it a COI for a researcher to own, or apply for, a patent for a product related to his or her research if the researcher's institution requires this (as an increasing number do)? Who was to disclose COIs also varied: *The Lancet*, among others, requires reviewers, as well as authors, to disclose COIs. In addition, it was noted that editors are expected to disclose conflicts of interest or recuse themselves.

- Where should the line be drawn? Again, it depends on whom you ask. For example, during his keynote address, Krimsky had noted that in 2002, the *New England Journal of Medicine*, after 10 years of not accepting review articles and editorials from authors with financial ties to industry, began doing so from authors who earn up to $10,000 annually in speaking and consulting fees from a company that manufactures a product written about in the article. (Editors of the journal found that it had become difficult to find experts who had no financial ties.[5])
- Methods differed for encouraging compliance: When submitting papers to *Science*, authors must complete an online form that requires them to answer questions about COI; some other journals still require submission of a paper form with a signature. Deterrents to nondisclosure also varied: Some journals publish a retraction and an online notice if prepublication disclosure of a COI would have resulted in the article's being rejected. Of the journals represented at the session, only *Environmental Health Perspectives* prohibits researchers guilty of willful failure to disclose COIs from publishing in its pages; the prohibition lasts for 3 years.
- Is disclosure sufficient? Most of the editors agreed with earlier presenters in saying that, although necessary, it is not sufficient. Many examples attest to that, as the speakers demonstrated. At the very least, they said, systematic research should be performed on the effectiveness of disclosure and other methods in discouraging noncompliance; the methods could include prohibiting the publication of papers for which COIs exist. Kelner stated that the peer-review process and the replication of data might be more powerful than disclosure in validating data. And, as Rennie noted, "naming and shaming" researchers who fail to disclose can be more effective than more severe measures, which may not be warranted. Not all researchers, it was noted, fail to disclose out of bad intent; they may do so out of ignorance. (For example, guidelines may be too vague or too narrow or may lack examples; it is not always obvious what a "relevant" conflict is.) It was observed that editors have some responsibility for educating authors about COI.

SUNDAY, 31 OCTOBER

Morning Session: Policies, Experiences, and Interests of the News Media
Moderated by Annette Flanagin, Managing Senior Editor, *JAMA*

Sunday began with presentations by two journalists on COI issues and the media. Lindsey Tanner, a medical writer with the Associated Press who covers about a dozen journals in the Chicago area, began by speaking about the standards of integrity in the news media. Although editors want every financial tie reported, she said, not all such ties are equal—for example, earning a small one-time fee from a company differs from owning stock in a company—and the reader may find long disclosures boring. She feels that a consensus among science journal editors as to what constitutes a COI would be helpful, along with full disclosure of COIs. That information would help newspapers to decide what to publish.

Noting that "the appearance of conflict is as big as the actual thing", Snigdha Prakash, a reporter with National Public Radio, spoke about how journalists approach and manage COIs. She noted that some COIs are obvious and others are not. In any case, "not only must [journalists] be fair and balanced; the public must believe they are." Why does COI in scientific publication interest her? As a journalist, she said, she has the job of understanding the issues and asking tough questions. "We know that money talks", she said. "But what is it saying? . . . If [scientific-journal editors] don't know or try to know, how can I?"

Midmorning Session: Wrapup Session
Moderated by Drummond Rennie, Annette Flanagin, and Jennifer Ancker

The final session was devoted to refining a list of questions, generated by Flanagin and Ancker, that science editors could ask themselves when updating or creating COI policies for their journals. The resulting "consensus document" is ultimately to serve as a framework, not a prescription. It will appear in a forthcoming issue of *Science Editor* and on the CSE Web site.

Acknowledgment: I am grateful to the speakers for feedback on their sections of this report.

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International Conference Explores Future of Book; e-Books, Chinese Book Market Receive Attention

ZHANG Zhongli

In the capital of China, there was brilliant sunshine and fine early autumn weather for the Second International Conference on the Future of the Book, held at the Beijing Friendship Hotel on 29-31 August 2004. About 80 people took part in the conference. They came from the United States, Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, and elsewhere. The conference included six plenary sessions, eight sets of paper presentations and workshops, and five scenario cafes (subgroup discussions based on scenarios). Participants analyzed trends in book publishing from various disciplinary and other perspectives and speculated on future developments. Of particular note at the conference were the diverse communication methods, including presentation, discussion, and music.

Topics of particular attention included e-books (electronic books). Among the many aspects addressed were future technology and economic considerations. Questions that were considered included the following: What is the future of the book? How should the quality of e-books be controlled? How do we create sustainable business models?

Participants considered the development of the e-book thus far and looked to the future. e-books have already come quietly into our lives. They have many advantages. For example, they cost less than conventional books, take less space and are easy to carry, are easy to transfer, are of high quality, can be published fast, are better for the environment, and last a long time. e-books, and other e-communications, play important roles in distance learning.

How to prepare a good e-book deserves serious consideration. No matter what new technology may offer to the editor-author relationship, technology cannot substitute for imagination, good taste, and skillful use of language and illustrative materials in making a good book. Those are not technical skills, nor do they depend on technology, either hardware or software. Editors had well-established skills and practices long before computers entered the picture. Although new technology can facilitate rapid communication among editor, author, and publisher, it cannot judge quality of language and illustrations. So far, no computer can replace an editor.

Some people at the conference said that e-books in English are the future of the book. I can't agree with that view. I think the world is multicultural. English cannot express a diversified world perfectly. Many professors at the conference analyzed the present and future of the book market in China. They told us that there is great potential in China. Chen-chung CHEN, a participant from Loughborough University in the United Kingdom, said that Japan and Korea have plans for extension into the Chinese market. According to statistical reports, the book market in China has been of great importance to China's economy for several years. The Chinese government supports research and development of software and hardware for publishing. Therefore, I believe that the e-book may be the future of the book but that the languages will vary.

ZHANG ZHONGLI (BECKY ZHANG) *is assistant president, director of distribution, and an editor at the Peking Union Medical College Press.*

"Gateway to Knowledge": AMWA's 64th Annual Conference

Karen Potvin Klein

In sight of the shiny silver arch that dominates the St Louis riverfront, more than 800 attendees participated in the 64th annual conference of the American Medical Writers Association (AMWA) on 21-23 October 2004. For biomedical communicators, the record-setting 93 workshops available for professional education may have been just as exciting as the Cardinals' winning the National League pennant a few blocks away. Regardless, it was a high-energy, information-packed conference.

Robert Webster, an internationally known expert on the influenza virus, delivered a riveting (and perhaps frightening) keynote address. Webster presented an overview of the natural history, epidemiology, and characteristics of influenza—its leapfrogging from species to species, its remarkable facility at mutation, and its potentially deadly implications for its ovine and human hosts. He shared news regarding the expansion of the host range that had not been announced yet by the World Health Organization. He also gave some recommendations for treating influenza. Finally, Webster issued a call to action for biomedical communicators to help health officials and other decision-makers address the "worldwide crisis" in influenza-vaccine development, production, and deployment.

Another high point of the meeting was the lyrical talk by M Therese Southgate, senior contributing editor of *JAMA*, at the McGovern Medal Award luncheon. This year's McGovern Medal winner, Cheryl Iverson (managing editor and director of copyediting of the *Archives* Journals of the American Medical Association), could not attend the luncheon, and Southgate spoke in her place. Southgate, who selects the artwork for each week's cover of *JAMA*, asked Iverson, her long-time friend and colleague, to name her top 10 covers of *JAMA* and to explain why she chose them. The beautiful artwork displayed and the conversation between Southgate and Iverson as excerpted in Southgate's remarks were thought-provoking, sometimes witty, and moving.

Those who have read Loretta LaRoche's syndicated columns or seen her PBS television specials know how funny she is and how true her insights can be about stress, coping, and finding what's important in one's life. Illness prevented LaRoche, this year's Alvarez Award recipient, from coming to St Louis in person, but she did the next best thing: she sent a video of one of her television specials. Few at the Alvarez Award luncheon could stop chortling, chuckling, or guffawing. The importance of keeping one's life from becoming a "stress rehearsal" (as LaRoche says) was a valuable message to remember.

"They don't make them like they used to" could have been the introduction for Guy Whitehead, recipient of the Harold Swanberg Distinguished Service Award. Whitehead spent his entire career in medical editing at Mayo Clinic, and his gentle vignettes about his early days of training in Rochester and his mentors and co-workers there were snapshots of a kinder and perhaps gentler era.

The conference also included 23 open sessions and 64 breakfast roundtables, as well as the 93 workshops. As in the past, registrants packed the open session on the results of the latest AMWA salary survey. Poster presentations, exhibits, creative readings, and tours rounded out the conference offerings.

The next AMWA annual conference will be on 29 September-1 October 2005 in Pittsburgh. For information about it, please watch the AMWA Web site, *www.amwa.org*.

KAREN POTVIN KLEIN, *of Wake Forest University Health Sciences, is a long-time CSE member and the AMWA administrator of publications for 2004-2005.*

SSP Annual Meeting Emphasizes Economics

Della Mundy

The Society of Scholarly Publishing (SSP) 26th annual meeting (San Francisco, 2-4 June 2004), arranged by Program Committee Cochairs Amy Brand and Diane Scott-Lichter, addressed the theme "Toward New Economies of Information Access". The meeting explored challenges facing scholarly publishers in the rapidly shifting socioeconomic and technologic climate by discussing changes in researcher behavior, in business models, in how information gets disseminated and preserved, and even in who serves as publisher.

Changes in researcher behavior were addressed by Carol Tenopir, of the University of Tennessee, in a plenary session on how researchers gather their information, not how they say they get it. Scholarly journals in their fields remain their most valuable resource, especially for medical professionals, who also rely most heavily on books. For engineers, reports are the best source. Scientists are the heaviest e-mail users. Nonscientists prefer print. Searching by content rather than browsing by title has increased. Medical faculty read about 322 articles a year at a mean 22 minutes per article; engineers read 72 articles a year at a mean 81 minutes per article.

Changing business models were described in nearly every session of the SSP meeting, including a session on the current state of the academic-library market. John Cox Associates Ltd International Publishing Consultancy finds that the US share of the world library market may be as high as 60%. The economic downturn in the United States and Europe, reflected in reduced budgets for higher education, has affected Western serials-purchasing power but is offset by rapidly expanding library holdings in Asia. Academic institutions in the developed world have reacted by forming purchasing consortia of various models. COUNTER (Counting Online Usage of NeTworked Electronic Resources) released a code of practice early in 2003 that defines data elements for measuring remote use of institutionally licensed products.

Heather Joseph, of BioOne, commented that publishers are being driven to experiment with open access because of current market pricing policies. She discussed financial risk assessment based on Crow and Goldstein's *Open Society Institute Guide to Business Planning for Converting a Subscription-based Journal to Open Access* (*www.soros.org/openaccess/oajguides/business_converting.pdf*). Publishers should evaluate a move toward an open-access model by considering three indicators—cost structure, revenue, and operating margin—before replacing subscription charges with publication charges. To set such fees, publishers must calculate prepress processing costs, number of submissions (or acceptances) expected, whether partial or full payment of processing costs is desired, and how well authors' fees are accepted in a journal's field. Joseph also presented a sample article-fee calculation. Possible supplementary sources of income she mentioned included article-processing fees, reprint and offprint sales, advertising, and sponsorship. Joseph recommended preparing three sets of revenue-projections (best- to worst-case scenarios). She showed a useful template, "Sample Forecast for A[ny] Journal", and recommended repeating use of the template for each scenario.

Michael Clarke, of the American Academy of Pediatrics, told how AAP journals had passed from print-only institutional subscription to print rebundled. He talked about pricing by type of institution, emphasizing scalable pricing based on a simple tier system that is rational and fair. Clarke also discussed the HighWire Open Collection, begun in 2003, by which institutions can choose which titles to subscribe to, according to standardized pricing structure and licensing guidelines with titles processed by any subscription agent. The HighWire system had 29 participating publishers as of June 2004.

Libraries and Publishers

In the premeeting session "Libraries, Licenses, Institutional Budgets, and Consortia: What's a Publisher to Do?" Will Wakeling, of Northeastern University, described academic-library funding and collection decision-making. Collection money comes from an operational budget allocation, endowments and gifts, and other sources, including dowries for new faculty, seeding funding for new programs, and cost-sharing with departments. Operational funding comes from a state source to any public university, from endowments and gifts or sponsored projects, and from capital campaigning. Formula-based budgeting for standard monographs vs serial components of the collection is changing as more electronic materials alter the traditional balance. Subscription cancellations are based on quality review, changing faculty priorities, use data, interlibrary-loan volume, and potential open-access issues.

James Mouw, of the University of Chicago, spoke on managing digital collections and user expectations, detailing how the library budget had increased in the last 15 years. Electronic serials made up 15% of the budget in 1998 but 87% in 2004. With increasing titles available electronically and reliance on e-access, the library is canceling print subscriptions to afford continued access. Increasing access is supported by open URL technology, federated searching, and citation software, all viewed as collection expenses. The problem of many (redundant) access mechanisms is

DELLA MUNDY *is principal editor in the Kaiser Permanente Department of Medical Editing. This report is condensed from a longer account she submitted.*

SSP continued

being addressed by a National Institute of Standards Organization (NISO)/Editeur working party. Disentangling the various means of access will be the solution despite resource limitations. Currently, measuring use of the components of the collection is the only way to know what patrons want. Use is being tracked as never before—annually, monthly, at renewal, and ad hoc. Reference transactions are counted, as well as borrowing statistics. Use cannot be the only factor, however, because "turnaways" of nonserved patrons remain troublesome. Suppliers can help by providing a clear contact point, aiming for stability (don't change URLs), announcing changes in advance, and making renewals easier (contact the library before automatic expiration occurs and adopt the concept of "graced issues").

Carol James, of the Genentech Library in Oakland, California, noted differences and similarities from a corporate-library perspective. Key factors in success include producing an excellent product, fair pricing, ease of use, rigorous peer review, and on-time production and delivery. She asked that publishers' practice of creating tiered pricing as a response to tight economics be kept fair and simple—that changes in price structures be announced early and through multiple channels. She asked publishers to help in producing accurate use reports for budget-holders and to provide FAQs about their products for patrons. She also requested that publishers keep their Web-site design simple. Subscription agents must be in the loop on changes so that they can pass on information to their clients, the libraries. Ways to contact new users and match products to their information-gathering habits are needed, as are ways to help "old-timers" work through procedural and organizational change. Although libraries, wanting perpetuity of e-access and coagulation of resources into "big deals", are more assertive about pricing, few consider publishers to be foes.

Rick Burke, of the Statewide California Electronic Library Consortium (SCELC), gave an insider's view of consortia. He described how consortia form for many reasons: to network, to purchase, to share technology, to enhance staff development, to share resources, or a combination thereof. Most consortia are composed of academic libraries; some are multitype consortia with academic, public, K-12, or corporate components. Consortia are organized either informally or formally. Burke described various aspects of the functioning of consortia, including funding sources and the processes of product selection, licensing, and pricing.

John Tagler, of Elsevier, outlined from the megapublisher's perspective what works and what doesn't and what can be learned from holding the largest share of library expenditures. Elsevier's *Science Digest* e-platform holds 1800 journal titles. Elsevier also operates the Web search engine Scirus. Those products are marketed to corporations and individual users. Libraries have difficulty in keeping pace with information access, and the publishers can help. The problem for publishers is that the Internet is perceived as free by users. The value added by publishers is organization of material. Awareness of publishers' value added is realized through licensing with libraries for their collection development and management.

The panel addressed the role of aggregators by asking whether librarians cancel print subscriptions when the material is available digitally from aggregators.

Researcher Perspectives

Another session, "Researcher Perspectives on Publishing", was opened by Robert Simoni, of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, who described peer review as a "chancy business".

Trudy Forte described her experience as editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Lipid Research* during the journal's technologic transition between 1999 and 2003. Forte's goal during her reign was to get out important information, and she felt that slowing the process was unacceptable because grants depend on publication. Rapid publication of more articles leads to increased visibility. Electronic versions of the journal became necessary as space was lost to laboratories. Time to publication was reduced from 1 year to 3 to 5 months. Through a variety of measures, peer-review time was also decreased. Editorial decisions were then made within 48 hours. Ease of author use of the online-submission process was enhanced. Forte believes that science is for the public and that editorials can fulfill this expectation. Commenting on the journal's impact factor, Forte noted that researchers tend to publish in journals held by libraries, and this indirectly reflects on a journal's reputation. Forte endorsed the need for selective science-writing and editing assistance for postdoctoral fellows, students, and researchers whose first language is not English.

From a research administrator's perspective, Richard Havel, professor emeritus of the University of California, San Francisco, Cardiovascular Research Institute, made it clear that publishing original research is required for biomedical-career advancement—that the cycle of passing peer review to get grants and publishing to get more grants continues. A record of publishing in high-impact journals is important for academic advancement. Havel cited how Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* received a bad review when presented at the Linnean Society. He recommended to the audience the book *Retrospectoscope* on the topic of publish or perish, in which are discussed "indolent scientists" or "geniuses with no time to write or publish". Edison, for example, published little. Havel described a process similar to that experienced at the *Journal of Lipid Research* as the *Journal of Biological Chemistry* moved from print toward electronic publishing only.

IFSE-12 Meets in Mexico; Public Perspective Included

Luis Benítez-Bribiesca

The 12th International Conference of Science Editors (IFSE-12) was held in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico on 10-14 October 2004.

The organizing committee included distinguished science editors from Mexico and other countries: Luis Benítez-Bribiesca, president; Gladys Faba, secretary; Homero Martínez, treasurer; Jorge Flores, for international affairs; Onofre Muñoz-Hernández, for national affairs; Zhiying QI, for Asia; Lewis Greene, for Latin America; and Miriam Balaban, for Africa and the Middle East.

There were some 200 registrants for the conference. Participants came from Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, China, Kenya, Spain, France, Switzerland, Israel, Canada, Argentina, and the United States.

The organizing committee, aware of the need to discuss and face new challenges in scientific editing, prepared a program of eight panels and three plenary lectures with invited lecturers who were experts in their fields and who represented a number of nations worldwide. Among topics addressed were the drawbacks of publishing science in developing countries, the benefits of open access and electronic publishing, aspects of publishing in the social sciences, and the increasing problems related to ethics in scientific publication. For perhaps the first time in these conferences, the problems of bringing science to the mass media and the role of editors in translating science for the public were discussed.

The poster sessions served as an open forum for presenting a variety of experiences related to scientific editing. We witnessed lively and intense discussion from the audience at the conference, which enriched the conference and promoted the emergence of new ideas.

We were proud to see that during the 3 days of our conference there was great attendance and active participation by the public. When the current report went to press, it was expected that all presentations would soon be available at *www.ifsemex.org*. Because of the great interest in the presentations, a book with full-length manuscripts is being prepared. We expect the book to be ready by about the middle of 2005.

The social program was no less interesting. The local authorities rolled out the red carpet and provided all the facilities so that our guests could witness the richness of Yucatan folklore and experience the grandeur of the Mayan ruins, some of the most spectacular remains of Mesoamerican civilizations.

LUIS BENÍTEZ-BRIBIESCA *is editor of* Archives of Medical Research.

Peer Review Congress to Convene

JAMA and the *BMJ* will present the Fifth International Congress on Peer Review and Biomedical Publication. The congress, which has been held at 4-year intervals since 1989, features 3 days of presentations of original research in editorial peer review and its role in scientific publication and information exchange. Additional information and reports of research presented at previous congresses are available at *www.jama-peer.org*. The congress will be held on 15-17 September 2005 at the Fairmont Hotel, Chicago, Illinois. For more information, please visit the above Web site or contact Annette Flanagin, phone: (312) 464-2432, e-mail: *jama-peer@jama-archives.org*.

Science Editor *Welcomes The Word Hawk: Language Column by Johnson Debuts*

With this issue, *Science Editor* welcomes a new columnist, CSE member Bob Johnson. His column, the first installment of which appears on page 59, focuses on language and the editor's work. The column bears the title The Word Hawk, in keeping with Johnson's e-mail moniker and the name of his editorial service.

Johnson brings to the column a rich array of experience—in the armed services, in marine biology, in real estate, and on quiz shows, as well as in science editing.

Reared in Washington State, Johnson has degrees in biology and French. While in college, he notes, he "appeared on CBS's old black-and-white, live-TV *GE College Bowl* as part of a four-person team".

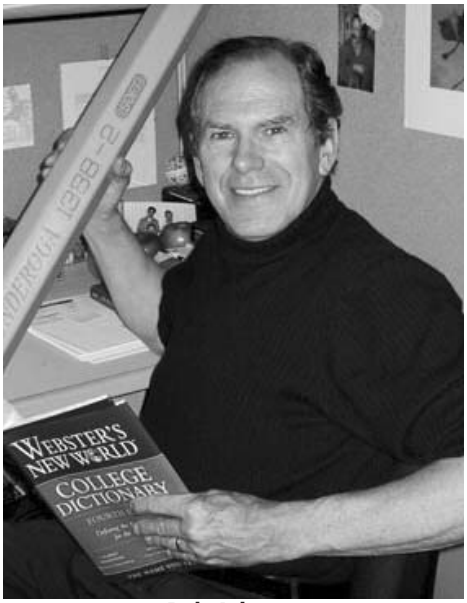
After his junior year of college, Johnson taught high school in Alaska. Then "I entered the Jesuit seminary for a while but left when I realized it was not a match for me", he says.

Johnson returned to college. After graduating, he entered the air force, in which he served as commander of a Titan missile launch crew. He then worked in the Pentagon as a civilian employee of the Department of the Army. "My office", he notes, "was 300 feet from where the plane went in during the 9/11 attacks."

Wanting to apply his biology background, Johnson joined Mardela Corporation, "a California-based international marine-biology and aquaculture development consortium", in 1972; he and his wife have lived in California since. Mardela's president was Charles Black, the husband of Shirley Temple Black, Johnson says. "It was a fascinating job, and I got to travel to some pretty exotic places around the world."

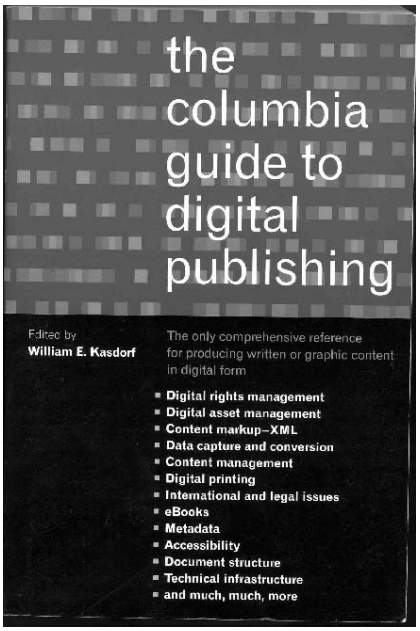
When Mardela closed in 1975, Johnson, unable to find other jobs in marine biology, entered real estate. "It was a good living, all in all, but I always knew I wanted a bit more of a challenge", Johnson says. "The moment of truth for me occurred when I appeared on the 30 September 1988 *Jeopardy!* TV quiz show, and Alex Trebek asked me what my occupation was. When I answered, I noticed that I hesitated a bit before telling him that I was a manager of a real-estate office. It got me thinking—at age 48—about what I really wanted to do with my life."

In 1990, Johnson returned to school and obtained a certificate in technical writing. "Pretty soon, I was editing the writing of others, which I'm still doing 14 years later", he says. Johnson, a member of the Board of Editors in the Life Sciences (BELS), has been an editor at Frost & Sullivan, Annual Reviews, SRI International, and Applied Biosystems. His freelance work has included serving as language-arts editor for the California High School Exit Examination.



Bob Johnson

Johnson also is an avid amateur photographer. But for his *Science Editor* column, he'll concentrate on words. Welcome, Word Hawk!



THE COLUMBIA GUIDE TO DIGITAL PUBLISHING. WILLIAM E KASDORF (EDITOR). NEW YORK: COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS; 2003. 816 PAGES. HARDCOVER. $65.00. ISBN 0-231-12498-8.

The Columbia Guide to Digital Publishing is the *War and Peace* of digital-communication resources. It is epic in scope and exhaustive in detail, historic and prophetic. An original. A universe. It's long, but it's all substance.

This 750-page guide is the only comprehensive reference for producing written or graphic content in digital form, the cover states. It is continually updated for online subscribers, of course.

The editor, William E Kasdorf, is a past president of the Society for Scholarly Publishing, president of Impressions Book and Journal Services, and vice president of IoFlex, Inc. The book's 20 contributors paint the wide landscape and fill in the details with precision—more than precision, really: any dictionary is precise, but some are more artful than others, and some are more functional than others.

Kasdorf leads us across the span from discovery to practical application. True, some of us may feel as though we are groping our way through a tunnel, while others sprint ahead on the information highway. Either way, the *Columbia Guide* has plenty to offer.

How the collaborators tapped digital technology's potential to create a new and better reference format is definitive in itself. In the preface, Kasdorf spells out how the project team developed and produced the *Guide* and explains the special indexing process they used. The publisher, Columbia University Press; the compositor, Impressions Book and Journal Services; and the developer of the content management system, Open Book Systems, together demonstrated how to do a digital publication right the first time. With maximal efficiency, they created a work of maximal utility.

The table of contents startles—at 40 pages (I counted twice to be sure), it includes every subhead, each with its page number. The magnitude is not the point, however; the format saves the user's time. It is one of numerous innovations that expedite the pursuit of information, whether one is browsing or hurriedly seeking a fact. The table of contents also *instructs* by clearly showing what the new field of digital publishing consists of, what the outstanding questions are, and where all the pieces fit.

The table of contents provides an informative abstract for each chapter, not a fanciful blurb intended only to entice. Some abstracts define the topic ("Markup: XML & Related Technologies"), and some identify the compelling issues ("Content Management and Web Publishing").

Inside, the copyright and trademark section is a notable example of specialized information translated with the noncognoscenti's level of understanding in mind. The authors graciously designed it to "help the reader be more alert to legal issues that may arise, and be a more informed consumer of legal services". This section includes interesting cautionary tales from litigation.

The book is unadorned, graphically, as a reference should be. The four-level hierarchy of sections and subsections is clear at a glance, enabling you to distinguish instantly what you *are* looking for from what you are *not* looking for.

There's a complete, concise glossary of terms and abbreviations. The nine-page bibliography includes the URL (Uniform Resource Locator) for virtually every citation. Cross-references in the index are used generously but not to the point of annoyance. Glossary terms and cross-references are in boldface in the text and linked in the online version.

The broad topics are digital rights management, digital asset management, content markup—XML, data capture and conversion, content management, digital printing, international and legal issues, e-books, metadata, accessibility, document structure, technical infrastructure, multimedia publishing, Web publishing, and archiving; also, organizing, editing and linking content; and composition, design, and graphics.

Overwhelming? Despite its mass, it is handy. And it is an interesting read—an unexpected bonus for an encyclopedic tome. Kasdorf's understanding of the book's audience is evident from the start.

He picked expert authors whose passion for the subject adds a dimension of energy, even excitement, which one just doesn't hope to experience when consulting a guidebook.

This book's utility alone lifts it above the average reference work. But its insight and direction offer a sense of support and encouragement. One feels as though one has attended a particularly interesting, informative seminar and can now forge onward with more confidence.

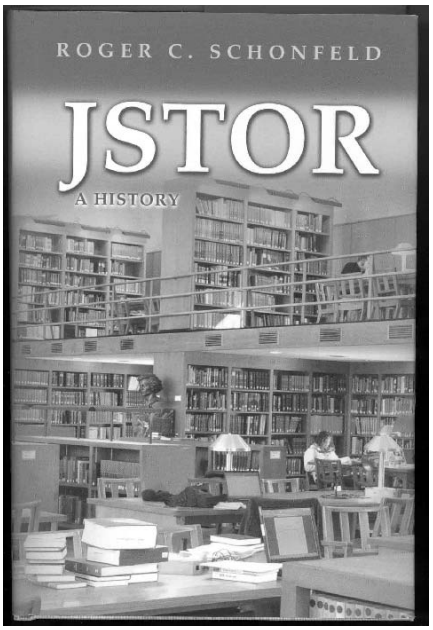
In the editor's words: "Digital technology in publishing is here to stay—but it won't stand still. Although it may seem daunting at first, it's both exhilarating and empowering. We can accomplish so much more in the digital world: digital technology enables us to publish much richer content, in so many more ways, and to do so more effectively and efficiently than ever before. Certainly, it's possible to stumble and go astray; not every experiment works, not every venture pays off. But when digital technologies are implemented well, they make life easier, and when they are exploited to their full potential, they pay off handsomely in the long run. This Guide is here to help you along the way."

Out of curiosity, I checked reviews of *War and Peace* on *amazon.com* and noted that some characterizations of the Tolstoy classic do seem to parallel those of the *Columbia Guide to Digital Publishing:* "It has the ring of truth . . . it strips away glorification . . . it depicts the metamorphosis of a culture . . . so much is contained in the book, yet it never loses track of the characters and how they are evolving."

The Columbia Guide may be new, and it may be the first of its kind, but it has the makings of a classic.

Linda Hengstler

LINDA HENGSTLER *is editorial director of the Journal Group at Dowden Health Media in Montvale, New Jersey.*



JSTOR: A HISTORY. ROGER C SCHONFELD. PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY: PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS; 2003. 412 PAGES. HARDCOVER. $34.95. ISBN 0-691-11531-1.

A detailed account of the development of an online database seems an unlikely subject for a book, at least for an engaging book. However, *JSTOR: A History* is much more than a story about developing a database, and portions are quite absorbing.

For those unfamiliar with JSTOR, the database contains more than 16 million full-text pages, the result of digitizing 110,000 back issues of nearly 450 journals. Experts consider many of these journals to be core to their respective fields. As of October 2004, 2160 libraries in 86 countries had licensed access to this digital archive, and use has been high. During 2003, users searched JSTOR 132 million times and printed nearly 16 million articles.

The story of JSTOR contains lessons for many audiences. Those interested in costing or managing large-scale digitization projects, marketing electronic resources to academe, or creating a self-sustaining, not-for-profit entity will find much to consider. I was particularly struck by how one well-placed person with vision, enthusiasm, and a large measure of diligence could persevere to create this digital archive of global prominence. When I first read the foreword by Hal Varian (dean of the School of Information and Management Systems, University of California, Berkeley), his comment "clone Bill Bowen" (p xi) seemed curious. By the end of the first few chapters, I understood that without Bill Bowen there would be no JSTOR.

William G Bowen is the president of the Andrew W Mellon Foundation, a trustee of Denison University, president emeritus of Princeton University, and an economist who has studied and written about nonprofit organizations. Bowen theorized that academic libraries could save space and possibly avoid or delay expensive capital expansion projects if back issues of important journals became available through a digital archive; it would make it possible to remove the print counterparts from library shelves.

As he developed his idea for a digital archive, Bowen took some uncommon steps for the leader of a grant-making organization. He spearheaded the project himself for well over a year, at times devoting one-third of his work life to JSTOR development (p 69). For project planning and management, Bowen drew heavily on the talents and time of Mellon Foundation employees and advisers. During the first 1 ½ years, JSTOR was a Mellon Foundation project, an unusual role for an entity used to making awards and providing oversight.

As the complexities of the JSTOR project grew, Bowen led it successfully to organizational independence. In doing so, he believed that it could be "both self-sufficient and also perceived by the library community as fair in its business practices" (p 100). To take over the nascent not-for-profit JSTOR organization, Bowen hired a uniquely suited leader in Kevin Guthrie. (Guthrie's contribution to JSTOR's success is quite noteworthy as well.)

JSTOR: A History begins with JSTOR's conception in late 1993 and ends at the close of 2001, by which time JSTOR had become a very successful and unique online resource. That period of JSTOR's development parallels the ascent and much of the decline of the dot-com industry and illustrates the progression of technology during those years. In 1993, Web servers numbered in the hundreds (p 58). While these increased in quantity exponentially, Internet bandwidth lagged, so in 1997 printing an article from JSTOR could take 15 minutes (p 257). By the end of 2001, technology had reduced the printing time substantially and delivered JSTOR to 1200 libraries (p 328) in 53 countries (p 333) through a US facility and European mirror site.

The story of JSTOR is told through the book's introduction, extensive timeline, 14 chapters, a conclusion, and an interesting epilogue. Chapters 1 through 3 chronicle JSTOR's early evolution, including the Mellon Foundation's partnership with the University of Michigan to develop software and oversee scanning of the journals by a company based outside the United States. Chapter 4 details the challenges faced and decisions made during the pilot project of scanning 750,000 pages. JSTOR becomes an independent not-for-profit organization in Chapter 5. The central theme of Chapters 6

through 9 is getting organized. Steps include reexamining JSTOR's mission, constructing a business plan, professionalizing operations, and determining the relationship that JSTOR would have with journal publishers. Chapters 10 through 14 focus on scaling up operations, both in the number of journal collections available through JSTOR and in the number of library participants.

Because of the complexity of the project and the detail with which the story is told, some of the chapters overlap in time. This makes it somewhat challenging to keep track of events happening in similar periods, but referring to the detailed timeline before Chapter 1 does much to alleviate the difficulty. The epilogue is another useful aid for those wishing to get the most from their reading. It provides a well-organized overview of the lessons learned from several vantage points. In addition to lessons of mission, organization, and operation, there are those categorized specifically for grant-makers, libraries, and publishers.

As a member of the Mellon Foundation's research staff, Roger C Schonfeld, the author, appropriately identifies himself as an insider. It is difficult to imagine anyone other than an insider writing this book so well. Many of the nearly 1000 footnotes refer to interviews, personal notes, e-mail messages, and files that may not have been made available to others.

Schonfeld treats the story thoughtfully by carefully pointing out the challenges faced by those involved and where decisions could have been made earlier or more completely. *JSTOR: A History* is a reflective, scholarly, and readable story of the development of JSTOR, the database—an excellent account of a noteworthy endeavor.

Greg Pratt

GREG PRATT *is a dentist turned systems analyst who works in the Research Medical Library of the University of Texas M D Anderson Cancer Center and has been searching databases, such as JSTOR, for more than 15 years.*

Book Note

HEAVENLY ERRORS: MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE REAL NATURE OF THE UNIVERSE. NEIL F COMINS. NEW YORK: COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY PRESS; 2001. 232 PAGES. HARDCOVER $59.00. ISBN 0-231-11644-6. SOFTCOVER $15.95. ISBN 0-231-11645-4.

Heavenly Errors: Misconceptions About the Real Nature of the Universe sets out to correct not only errors in astronomical perceptions but also errors in everyday thinking. Comins begins the book with a delightful chapter that debunks many commonly held wrong ideas about astronomy, such as that the Sun burns gas to produce light (light is produced as a byproduct of nuclear fusion) and that seasons are caused by a change in Earth's distance to the Sun (the tilt of Earth causes the seasons). As the book evolves, however, Comins extends his corrections not only to "heavenly errors" but to the entire universe of human thought.

At times, Comins's crusade to promote scientific thinking can be practical and useful. For example, he shares some teaching tricks he has used to help students replace incorrect concepts. At other times, Comins seems to be preaching scientific thought as the only valid way to understand the universe. He devotes a number of pages to quantifying how difficult life was for our forebears without the benefit of science as he tries to explain why science is important for improving quality of life.

Overall, *Heavenly Errors* presents an interesting perspective on how personal cosmology can affect perceptions of science. The engaging descriptions of scientific phenomena with their clear logic and light-hearted tone, however, become scarce after the first chapter. Anyone interested in how people develop mental reference frames will find *Heavenly Errors* an intriguing read. Those who are more interested in astronomical phenomena may want to pass.

JAMIE DE GREGORY *prepared this book note while a* Science Editor *intern.*

by Claudia Clark

Statistical Savvy

In a recent study, researchers found statistical errors in 38% and 25%, respectively, of articles in *Nature* and the *BMJ* (Garcia-Berthou E, Alcaraz C. Incongruence between test statistics and P values in medical papers. *BMC Medical Research Methodology* 2004;4:13. *www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2288/4/13*. Accessed 20 Oct 2004). Although the types of errors detected generally appeared to have little or no impact on the studies' conclusions, the researchers concluded that "statistical practice is generally poor, even in the most renowned scientific journals, and . . . quality of papers should be more controlled and valued".

How can science editors increase their statistical savvy? The following articles offer help.

Lang T. Common statistical errors even you can find. Part 1: Errors in descriptive statistics and in interpreting probability values. AMWA J 2003;18(2):67-71. Part 2: Errors in multivariate analysis and in interpreting differences between groups. AMWA J 2003;18(3):103-7. Part 3: Errors in data displays. AMWA J 2004;19(2):9-11.

This series of articles provides Lang's list of the 24 most common statistical errors appearing in biomedical journals. Lang, senior author of *How to Report Statistics in Medicine: Annotated Guidelines for Authors, Editors, and Reviewers* (Philadelphia: American College of Physicians; 1997), notes that "most errors concern basic statistical concepts and can be easily avoided by following a few guidelines". He begins by presenting five errors often found in descriptive statistics. These include defining variables improperly and using statistical measures inappropriate for the type of data used. Lang lists five more errors that often occur in using probability (*P*) values and interpreting statistical significance, such as equating statistical significance with biologic significance. In the second article, Lang provides a primer on multivariate analyses and describes errors associated with their use. He also identifies mistakes commonly found in presenting and interpreting differences between groups, such as providing estimates but not confidence intervals. The third article focuses on data displays that are confusing. Lang notes, for instance, that a column chart can be deceptive if the baseline does not start at zero, a difficulty known as the "suppressed-zero problem". Lang also emphasizes that tables should convey information, not just hold data. Throughout these papers, statistical terms are italicized and defined when introduced, and simple examples clarify concepts. The reference lists for these articles and those discussed below are valuable in themselves.

Greenhalgh T. How to read a paper: statistics for the non-statistician. I: Different types of data need different statistical tests. BMJ 1997;315:364-6. II: "Significant" relations and their pitfalls. BMJ 1997;315:422-5.

Although overlapping somewhat with Lang's list—for example, noting the importance of selecting tests appropriate to the data—these articles also present other topics. For example, paired and two-tailed tests and outliers are discussed in the first article. In the second article, Greenhalgh includes a discussion of correlation, which she stresses does not necessarily imply causation. Greenhalgh also discusses the importance of calculating and properly interpreting confidence intervals. Examples clarify new concepts in both articles.

Utts J. What educated citizens should know about statistics and probability. Am Statistician 2003;57(2):74-9.

This article, written by the author of *Seeing Through Statistics* (third edition, Belmont, CA: Thomson/Brooks/Cole; 2005), contains "seven ideas . . . that every student who takes elementary statistics should learn and understand". These include recognizing that a statistically significant relationship is not necessarily causal and that a lack of statistical significance may reflect the insufficient size of the sample. Although statistics teachers were the original audience, editors can benefit from this article, which includes examples of errors commonly made by researchers, reporters, and readers. These often familiar and occasionally humorous examples—from fields as diverse as health care, science education, and transportation safety—validate the author's position.

CLAUDIA CLARK *prepared this column while a* Science Editor *intern.*

Net Results

by Claudia Clark

Pliable or Viable Statistics?

According to Mark Twain, Benjamin Disraeli said, "There are three kinds of lies—lies, damned lies, and statistics." Mark Twain himself supposedly amended Tobias Smollett's statement "Facts are stubborn things" by adding "but statistics are more pliable". As amusing as those statements may be, the improper use of statistics in a scientific paper is no laughing matter. What's an editor to do?

This column presents some Web sites that can help the user gain a better understanding of basic statistical concepts. (Some of these sites require Java and QuickTime software, which can be downloaded free from *www.sun.com* and *www.apple.com/quicktime/*, respectively.) Copyeditors may find these sites sources of useful background. However, editors whose job it is to accept or reject papers may find the sites insufficient for their needs. Just as a medical Web site cannot take the place of a physician, a few Web sites are no substitute for a well-qualified applied statistician.

Seeing Statistics—*www.seeingstatistics.com*

Web textbooks have at least one potential advantage over standard textbooks: They can be designed to interact with the user. The interactive graphics of *Seeing Statistics*, an introductory statistics text by University of Colorado Psychology Professor Gary McClelland, aid in gaining an intuitive understanding of the concepts presented. The user reads about such topics as inference and confidence, one- and two-sample comparisons, and correlation and regression. Then graphics and accompanying "Discovery" activities (consisting of questions, suggestions, and hints) are offered to test and increase the user's understanding. Applications from psychology, biology, business, and engineering accompany many of the examples and provide additional practice. Users can also create graphs with their own data. A link to the glossary is always on screen. Version 2 of this book, due for release in December 2005, will add a search feature and such topics as multigroup comparisons and nonparametric methods.

Research Methods Knowledge Base—*www.socialresearchmethods.net/kb/index.htm*

The *Research Methods Knowledge Base* is a Web-based social-research methods textbook by William M Trochim, a professor in the Department of Policy Analysis and Management at Cornell University. The text introduces statistical-analysis methods. "The Language of Research" discusses variables, types of data, and some major kinds of fallacies. In "Statistical Terms in Sampling", Trochim introduces sampling distribution and sampling error. In "Design", he classifies and discusses the major types of research design—randomized experiment, quasiexperimental design, and nonexperimental design—and discusses ways to minimize threats to validity. "Analysis" covers data preparation, descriptive statistics, and inferential statistics. In general, the writing is informal yet lucid. Examples and displays clarify new terms. Topics can be found either through a search function or on the easily accessible contents page, which provides a nice overview of the research process. In fact, reading the entire text—which includes such topics as formulation of research questions, reliability of measures, and research ethics—promotes a deeper appreciation of the complexity of statistical and research methods.

Online Statistics: A Multimedia Course of Study—*psych.rice.edu/online_stat*

Online Statistics: A Multimedia Course of Study is a textbook being developed by 11 contributors, including major contributors David Lane, associate professor of statistics and psychology at Rice University, Houston, Texas; Joan Lu, senior lecturer in the School of Computing and Engineering, University of Huddersfield, UK; Camille Peres, graduate student in psychology at Rice University; and Evan Brott, who earned his MS in statistics at Rice University. This book is an accessible introduction to "statistics essentials" for the beginner: "It will make you into an intelligent consumer of statistical claims", according to the authors. New con-

cepts are explained with multiple examples, some humorous, some compelling. At the beginning of each section, sections to be read beforehand are listed. Common statistical terms are written in hypertext, allowing immediate access to definitions in the glossary (which can also be reached by typing the word *glossary* at the end of the above URL). Short self-tests are incorporated throughout the text; while taking a test, users are provided with feedback—as they submit each answer—as to whether their answer is correct and why. Interactive graphs that allow the user to change the data offer a more intuitive understanding, similar to that provided by *Seeing Statistics* (discussed above). A scan of the table of contents indicates the span of the book: an introduction to statistics, graphing and summarizing distributions, describing bivariate data, normal and sampling distributions, estimation, hypothesis-testing, and testing means. A section on case studies, which provides opportunities to work with actual datasets, and an "Analysis Lab", which provides the tools to perform statistical analyses and compute a variety of distributions, complete the text. Most sections can also be viewed in a condensed version or heard and seen as a multimedia presentation.

Rice Virtual Lab in Statistics—
www.ruf.rice.edu/~lane/rvls.html

This Web site offers links to several resources. One is David Lane's *HyperStat Online Textbook*, which covers much of the same material as *Online Statistics* (discussed above) but is more technical, providing more mathematical details. Another resource is the "Simulations/Demonstrations" site, which contains interactive graphs that aid in exploring sampling distributions, confidence intervals, and regression toward the mean. And a third resource is a "Case Studies" site, which overlaps somewhat with the case studies in *Online Statistics*. A link to an "Analysis Lab" site identical with the one presented with *Online Statistics* also is included in this set of resources.

Acknowledgment: I thank Jessica Ancker for help in identifying and reviewing Web sites.

CLAUDIA CLARK *prepared this column while a* Science Editor *intern.*

The Word Hawk

by Bob Johnson

"We die. That may be the meaning of life. But we do language. That may be the *measure* of our lives."

—Toni Morrison, *Nobel Acceptance Speech* (1994)

Here begins a bimonthly column about editing, mostly as it is related to science. Its world will be the love of language and the work of the editor. I'll try to keep it informative, engaging, practical, and timely. I'll strive to alert you to new and helpful reference works or train a spotlight on neglected ones. I welcome your questions, comments, or quibbles.

Enhancing Readability

What makes a document readable? Different rules and guidelines drive fiction and nonfiction, but some are universal, including the following:

Helpful Formatting. Use sufficient "white space" around and within your text so that the reader's eye can quickly find the needed information. Think like an architect and build in "textual windows" to admit the (mental) light. Use numbered or bulleted lists to help the reader analyze and assimilate complex constructions. Short sentences and paragraphs are especially helpful to the online reader.

Directness. From Strunk and White's *The Elements of Style*: "Write with nouns and verbs, not with adjectives and adverbs. The adjective hasn't been built that can pull a weak or inaccurate noun out of a tight place." And use the active voice; it helps take the "Lab Land" out of the discourse—the mystical world wherein experiments appear to run unbidden, results magically appear, conclusions reach themselves, and no human agent seems involved. (How then explain the authors' names—or did *they* insert themselves?)

A Telling Vocabulary. In *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language* (1995), the British scholar David Crystal illustrates beautifully the nuances available to the right word. He displays (p 157) "28 lexemes belonging to the semantic world of 'madness'" in a word-wheel with the core word *mad* at its center (Americans would probably choose "insane"). The choices arrayed around the top of the circle include literary, academic, and technical terms; those on the bottom progress through colloquial, dated, and archaic and move on to recent terms that are whimsical or comical. Some of the choices are *psychotic*, *demented*, *unbalanced*, *mental*, *cuckoo*, *batty*, *crazy*, and *bonkers*, each suggesting a different writing style and circumstance.

Global English. Because of the Internet and World Wide Web, English is increasingly important as a means of global communication. A recent survey found that more people in China study English than live in the entire United States. Using words that bear two or more meanings in a global context causes misinterpretation—thus the recent rendering on a Web site of mad cow disease as "angry cow disease". Major differences exist even between British and American English. In *Notes from a Small Island* (1995), Bill Bryson estimates that at least 4000 words in the two main branches of English bear different meanings although they are spelled identically. Bryson notes that the phrasal verb *make up* can mean "reconcile", "comprise", and "apply cosmetics". And how does one explain to a person who is new to English the three meanings of *run into* in the sentences "The dog ran into the street", "The car ran into the tree", and "The man ran into an old friend"?

Careful Proofreading. Unhook your eye from your mind. Editors are familiar with the tricky phrase "Paris in the the spring". That case typifies many wherein the eye sees what the mind *tells* it to see—one *the* instead of two. Reversing the process—forcing the mind to see what the *eye* sees—is one of the hardest disciplines for a beginning editor to master. A spell-checker is a great help, but none can detect the difference between a "dumb waiter" and a "dumbwaiter" (see "Chuckle of the Month" below).

Chuckle of the Month. Real estate ad in the 27 October *Palo Alto Daily News:* "The state-of-the-art kitchen offers stainless-steel appliances, granite counters, custom cabinets, a water purification system, and a convenient dumb waiter."

Reminds me of a restaurant I recently visited.

Physics

Respondent:
Stanley G Brown
Editorial Director
American Physical Society

What style manual(s) do physics journals generally use?
We use the *AIP [American Institute of Physics] Style Manual* and the *AIP Editorial Handbook*.

In physics, what criteria must an individual generally meet to be listed as an author? When a journal article in physics has more than one author, what are the norms for deciding the order in which authors are listed?
In the *APS Guidelines for Professional Conduct* (*www.aps.org/statements/02_2.cfm*), the section "Publication and Authorship Practices" states that

> authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the concept, design, execution or interpretation of the research study. All those who have made significant contributions should be offered the opportunity to be listed as authors. Other individuals who have contributed to the study should be acknowledged, but not identified as authors.

The order of the authors is determined by the authors themselves. Some groups list names in alphabetical order, some large groups list names in alphabetical order by institution, some rotate the ordering in a sequence of papers, and some reflect to some degree the relative contributions of individual authors. There is no universal rule.

How many peer reviewers per paper tends to be typical in physics? Typically, are authors' identities revealed to the reviewers? Are reviewers' identities revealed to the authors?
In *Physical Review Letters*, two referees are typical; in most of the *Physical Review* journals, it is typical to use one referee, although there is increasing use of two referees, partially as a method of calibrating new referees.

Authors' identities are revealed to reviewers, but reviewers' identities are not revealed to authors. Generally, the identity of an author would be obvious from the paper itself, even without the byline, in most cases where it could conceivably matter, so we see no value in elaborately pretending to conceal the name of the author. However, candid advice is more likely if the reviewer is anonymous.

In physics, do scientific papers usually contain abstracts? If so, how are the abstracts usually structured?
Yes, except for Comments in *Physical Review Letters*, papers have abstracts. There is not a precisely defined structure, but the abstract is expected to summarize the results and conclusions.

What is the usual structure of a scientific paper in physics?
It's typical to have an introduction, several detailed sections, and a conclusions section. Sometimes there are appendixes with details of more limited interest.

What are some of the current issues and trends regarding editing in physics?
Continued internationalization—about 70% of our papers come from outside the United States. Greater prominence of ethical issues—an increasing need to consider possible violations of ethical standards. The impact of the online arXiv created by Paul Ginsparg—to a large degree, the journals no longer provide the first information to specialists but instead provide an indicator of quality and a guide to students and those new to a subfield.

What sources would you recommend to readers interested in further information about editing in physics?
There was an article by Larry Passell in *Physics Today* in the late 1980s about his experiences as a temporary part-time editor of *Physical Review Letters*. (See *Physics Today* 1988;41(3):32-7.)

by Claudia Clark

Bruce Dancik: He's Hooked!

If you read *Science Editor* regularly or have attended CSE annual meetings, you may well know who Bruce Dancik is. If you are interested in the population genetics of woody plant species, it's very likely that you recognize his name. Dancik is a professor in the Department of Renewable Resources and director of the Devonian Botanic Garden at the University of Alberta (in Canada). Since 1990, he has been editor-in-chief of the NRC [National Research Council Canada] Research Press. Past positions include associate vice-president (academic) at the University of Alberta and editor of the *Canadian Journal of Forest Research*. In 1992-1993, Dancik was president of CSE. He also has chaired and served on numerous CSE committees.

Dancik has received a number of major awards: the Canadian Institute of Forestry granted him the Canadian Forestry Achievement Award in 1979 and the Tree of Life Award in 1993, and he received a Scientific Achievement Award from the International Union of Forest Research Organizations in 2000. Two years later, he was presented with the CSE Award for Meritorious Achievement. (A more detailed account of his achievements appears in the presentation speech given on that occasion. See Mossman B. Presentation to Bruce Dancik. Sci Ed 2002;25(5):147.)

But Dancik's professional achievements and awards tell only part of his story.

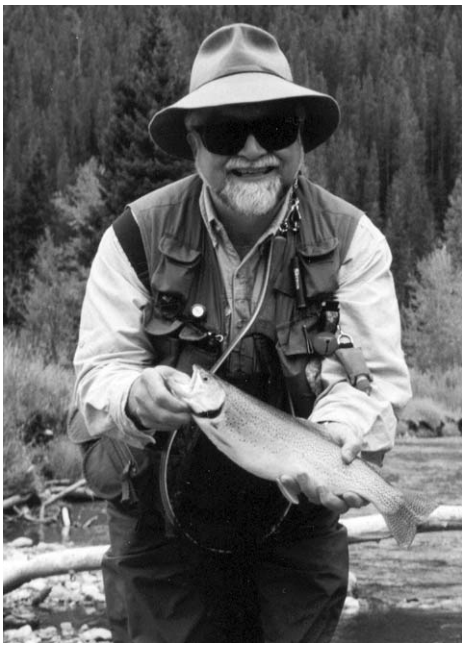
Although many may assume that Dancik is Canadian by birth, he was born and raised near Chicago and moved to Canada in 1973 to take a teaching position at the University of Alberta. "I thought I'd come out for a year or two and see how I liked it", he recalls. When asked why he became a Canadian citizen in 1980, he stated three reasons: He "fell in love with the place", had begun feeling like an outsider in the United States, and was a "political animal" who "wanted to participate more in the society". At the time, becoming a naturalized Canadian meant relinquishing US citizenship. Dancik notes that when he crosses the Canadian-US border, officials generally assume that he went to Canada as an infant or must have been a draft dodger! "Otherwise", Dancik jests, "why would I leave?"

Then there are Dancik's "outside" activities. Despite his long hours of work, Dancik still pursues a number of hobbies, including fly-fishing, in which an artificial fly is cast with a lightweight fishing rod, a reel, and a special line. Then, as Norman Maclean writes in his story "A River Runs Through It", "all that a rod has to do is lift the line, the leader, and the fly off the water, give them a good toss over the head, and then shoot them forward so they will land in the water without a splash in the following order: fly, transparent leader, and then the line—otherwise the fish will see the fly is a fake and be gone."

As a child, Dancik traveled with his family to their summer place in northern Wisconsin every summer. There he took up fishing, learning from his father and grandfather. "It became an early love, and it was in a forested environment, so that probably accounted for the academic [path] I chose to pursue", he says. But unlike his grandfather, who wasn't a fly-fisher, and his father, who was "not a very good one", Dancik became determined to master fly-fishing, which he did by the age of 12 or 13. His mother encouraged his interest by buying him a fly-tying kit at a discount; it was "neat, and store-bought flies were normally too expensive for kids". His father also supported his decision: Dancik still owns the beautiful handmade wooden cabinet filled with fly-tying material that his father located in the classified ads; the cabinetmaker's widow "looked at me—a kid—and said, 'Twenty dollars'! It was an incredible thing!" Dancik recalls. "That cemented that."

Tying fishing flies became an early source of summer income for Dancik. His brother printed business cards for him, and "there was a friendly tavern owner who hung the cards—with the flies attached—on his wall and sold the flies. The fly earrings were especially popular: 'Bring "her" a souvenir from your fishing trip.'. . . The tavern owner was supposed to take a portion of the profits, but I don't believe he ever took a cut."

When Dancik was too young to drive, his parents would take him to a local Wisconsin reservoir or river and fish with him, or



Bruce Dancik

they would drop him off and return later. Sometimes, Dancik recalls, "my folks would go to some nearby restaurant, and I didn't want to waste the good fishing time. . . . So they'd drop me off and go eat. . . . I would fish, and they'd come back [with a meal for me] and pick me up. It became a joke in the family." Dancik continued to earn "pin money" from tying flies and pursue his love of fly-fishing every summer through high school and college.

Now, Dancik finds it difficult to find time to fish, although he tries to set aside a few days to fish when he travels. He's even been on fishing trips to New Zealand and Argentina. Dancik calls fishing an opportunity for contemplation, "an excuse to think about anything, a diversion, to think about things at the office, to work out solutions to problems you've been having without anybody bothering you. . . . To walk in the water, or along the water. . . . It's hard to put into words, but it's almost a religious experience."

But you won't find Dancik pursuing fish only on some lake or stream—he also enjoys collecting rare and antiquarian angling books. He is a "real book collector [and] a great explorer", says Cheryl Iverson, AMA *Archives* Journals managing editor and self-described "book-collector groupie".

Dancik says his love of reading comes from his mother. ("She had memorized all of her previous library card numbers because she read just about every book in the library!") In 1962, while a University of Michigan freshman, Dancik purchased his first "collectible" book at an American Association of University Women book sale. It was a second printing (1941) of *Return to the River* by Roderick L Haig-Brown, a Canadian writer of natural history whose works include fishing and wilderness books. "It was in Fine to Very Fine condition, but without the dust wrapper, and it cost me $1.50!" Dancik "fell in love with that style of writing" and has been collecting angling books ever since, pursuing his combined passion whenever and wherever he can. (See sidebar for his list of favorite bookstores.) In fact, having lived in places where the weather makes fly-fishing difficult most of the year, Dancik says reading angling books became "the next best thing. . . . Sometimes, I suppose, even more pleasurable than the actual fishing is the reading about it!"

Dancik notes that some collectors try to collect all the editions of just one book, such as Isaak Walton's *Compleat Angler*. The 500-plus editions range from 2×1½-inch miniature books to "sumptuous, huge, ornate two-volume sets. . . . Some of the books even have hand-tied flies put in plates inside them!" However, Dancik's collection contains books by a variety of authors, and he selects these books for a variety of reasons: the work itself, the publisher, or simply "interesting bindings, previous owners . . . hand-colored plates . . . etc." When pressed to name a favorite, "with some misgivings" he listed three: the 1976 and later editions of Norman Maclean's *A River Runs Through It and Other Stories*; anything by Roderick Haig-Brown, but especially *Measure of the Year*; and Harry Middleton's 1989 book, *The Earth Is Enough; Growing Up in a World of Trout & Old Men*. Few books in his collection relate to his research interests, however, because "that's too close to my daily activities. . . . I want a diversion from that."

And it's a serious diversion! Freelance writer and editor Seth Beckerman recalls when, during a CSE meeting in Beckerman's hometown of Pittsburgh, he and Dancik visited a used-book store: "What I thought was interesting was that, in one store, there were probably 20 fishing books . . . [and] Bruce only bought one because he had all the others!" In fact, Dancik owns so many books that he carries an electronic catalog of his books with him, to avoid buying something he already owns. The exhaustiveness of his collection has also led him to collect ephemera—collectibles not originally intended to be saved—such as 19th- and early 20th-century railroad guides, "which often featured angling lodges and prime fishing areas".

Although the World Wide Web has facilitated finding rare books, the proliferation of online sites has meant that many bookstores have closed, Dancik notes. He considers this a loss: His favorite book-col-

lecting is still done in bookstores, where he can "handle [books], and look at them, and see them, and wander". He takes pleasure in "the bindings, the leathers, the gilt edges . . . the ornaments and the phenomenal illustrations. . . . It's that thrill of the chase and finding these gorgeous physical objects that are often beautiful to behold. . . . It's the serendipitous nature of finding a wonderful book when you weren't looking for it. . . . [It might have just looked attractive.] . . . Somehow it caught your eye, for whatever reason. It might have fallen on your foot! You picked it up and were captivated by it, whether it was a frontispiece, some illustration, whatever. . . . On the way to the books of your professed interest, you spot something else."

So the next time you see Dancik at a conference, feel free to ask him about his nonprofessional fields of expertise. You, too, may get "hooked"!

CLAUDIA CLARK, *a 2003 American Association for the Advancement of Science Mass Media Fellow and a science and mathematics writer, prepared this profile while a* Science Editor *intern.*

Some of Bruce Dancik's Favorite Bookstores

In conjunction with the accompanying article, Bruce Dancik was asked to identify some of his favorite bookstores. The resulting list, provided below, contains bookstores in the United States and Canada, arranged alphabetically by city.

UNITED STATES

Tattered Cover Book Store
1628 16th St
Denver CO 80202
(303) 436-1070
(800) 833-9327 toll-free
(303) 629-1704 fax
www.tatteredcover.com

Bryn Mawr Vassar Bookstore
4612 Winthrop St
Pittsburgh PA 15213
(412) 687-3433
www.sumware.com/BMVBS

Caliban Book Shop
410 S Craig St
Pittsburgh PA 15213
(412) 681-9111
(412) 681-9113 fax
www.calibanbooks.com

Townsend Booksellers
4612 Henry St
Pittsburgh PA 15213
(412) 682-8030
www.townsendbooksellers.com

Powell's City of Books
1005 W Burnside
Portland OR 97209
(503) 228-0540
(866) 201-7601 toll-free
(503) 226-2475 TDD
www.powells.com

Sam Weller's Zion Bookstore
254 S Main St
Salt Lake City UT 84101
(801) 328-2586
(800) 333-SAMW toll-free
www.samwellers.com

CANADA

Volume II Books
12433 102 Ave
Edmonton AB T5N OM2
(780) 488-2665
(780) 488-8729 fax
www.volume2.ca

Greenwoods Bookshoppe
7925 104 St
Edmonton AB T6E 4C9
(780) 439-2005
(800) 661-2078 toll-free
(780) 433-5774 fax
www.greenwoods.com

Nicholas Hoare Ltd
1307 rue Sainte-Catherine Ouest
Montreal QC H3G 1P7
(514) 499-2005
(514) 842-4030 fax

Nicholas Hoare Books
419 Sussex Dr
Ottawa ON K1N 9M6
(613) 562-2665

Beacon Books & Collectables
2372 Beacon Ave
Sidney BC V8L 1X3
(250) 655-4447
(250) 655-5283 fax
www.sidneybooktown.net/beacon.html

Haunted Bookshop
9807 3rd St
Sidney BC V8L 3A6
(250) 656-8805
(250) 656-3058 fax
www.sidneybooktown.net/haunted.html

Munro's Books
1108 Government St
Victoria BC V8W 1Y2
(250) 382-2464
(888) 243-2464 toll-free
(250) 382-2832 fax
(888) 382-2832 toll-free fax
www.munrobooks.com

2005 Annual Meeting to Address Editing Science for the Global Community

Joy Moore
Program Committee Chair

The first time I attended a CSE meeting (well, back then it was CBE), I was managing the two-person editorial office of an international biomedical journal in Geneva, Switzerland. I had been working in publishing for only a couple of years and had learned everything on the job, making up a lot as I went along. We had developed our own Web-based peer-review system, and I was invited to present as part of a panel. I had no idea what to expect, and I was a bit overwhelmed when the audience for our session not only filled the seats but also spilled over into the aisles and even peered in through the doorway. I was amazed to learn that what I was doing in our little office in Geneva was of interest to so many other people. Furthermore, as I attended sessions over the following days, I learned an enormous amount, from practical aspects of journal management to overall issues within the scientific-journal community.

I was definitely not alone. In talking to colleagues about their CSE-meeting experiences, I found that for many, connecting with the community is a key benefit. Barbara Gastel told me that "the CSE annual meeting is a highlight of my year. Of course, the sessions are great for keeping up in the field. Also, I always look forward to seeing old friends and colleagues—and getting to know new people—at the annual meeting." The CSE annual meeting is a place for all of us who work so hard within the spheres of our individual journals and organizations to take a few days to share what we know, learn from others, and think about the big picture of science editing. This year's meeting in Atlanta will be the perfect opportunity to do just that. The theme is "Communicating Science: Serving the Global Community", focusing on the role of science editing in global health and environmental issues.

Atlanta is a fitting location for a conference on such a theme: With the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CNN, and the Carter Center, it is a city that plays a major role in scientific communication and outreach. Our program committee has worked hard to recruit speakers to share their knowledge on a number of topics that will explore the connections between the day-to-day work we do and the world we live in, from the ever-popular science for public consumption to the relationship between science and governments to authorship and editing in the developing world. Other sessions will bring you the latest developments and give you a chance to weigh in on policy-related issues that affect what we do, such as funding of science and registering clinical trials. We will also bring you the cold hard facts about such questions as what readers and librarians think about journals and what to expect from offshore outsourcing. You will have the opportunity to learn about the latest technologic advances in online publishing and about time-tested fundamentals of good science editing.

The meeting location in downtown Atlanta gives those from other parts of the world the chance to discover an exciting city. Go behind the scenes at CNN, experience the beauty of the Atlanta Botanical Garden through the conference tours, and head out on your own or with friends to visit Centennial Olympic Park, the Carter Center and Library, the Michael C Carlos Museum on the campus of Emory University, or the World of Coca-Cola—there truly is something for everyone.

It's been nearly 9 years and many job changes since my first CSE meeting, and I too feel that learning and sharing with a community of colleagues has been extremely valuable to me as I've learned and grown in my career. Likewise for Pritt Tamber of BioMed Central: "Sometimes during CSE meetings, you feel like you've heard it all before. But when you get back to the office, you slowly realize that what you've acquired is a more thorough understanding of the medical and science publishing field. And that gives you greater confidence and makes you more effective in your day-to-day work."

If you've attended any of our recent meetings, you can count on CSE to once again raise the bar in terms of quality. If you haven't been in a while, you should definitely come back. And if you've never been to a CSE meeting, please join us in Atlanta to explore science editing for the global community and to experience the unique community of the CSE for yourself.

Five Short Courses, Executive Refresher Program Offer Instruction before Annual Meeting

Diane Lang, Director
CSE Short Courses

Atlanta in the springtime promises to be an ideal venue for the 2005 CSE annual meeting, and the perfect way to start your time in Atlanta is to attend one of the CSE short courses.

The short course for journal editors, organized this year by Iain E P Taylor and presented on 20-21 May, will address issues of authorship, the roles and responsibilities of editors, establishing a review process and the selection and nurture of reviewers, editorial decision-making, obtaining and improving manuscripts, journal-office operations, electronic publication, and ethical and financial issues.

The short course on publication management (formerly the short course for managing editors), organized by Julie Steffen, will be presented on 21 May and will include information on managing change, the human factor in management, managing your workflow, managing communications, and problem-solving.

The short course for manuscript editors, organized by Margaret Perkins, will be presented on 21 May and will cover levels of editing, formatting and editing tables and figures, statistics for manuscript editors, freelance editing, and grammar and usage.

The short course on electronic-publishing solutions, organized this year by Kevin Pirkey, will be presented on 21 May and will address such issues as digital art and author-supplied files, electronic formats in publishing, content management and archiving, choosing the right electronic publishing model for your organization, the impact of supplemental data, excess electronic content and the importance of branding, expanding revenue streams through online content, and the dollars and cents of electronic publishing.

New in 2005 is the short course on statistics for editors. Organized by Jessica Ancker, the course will cover such topics as basic descriptive statistics, confidence intervals, hypothesis-testing and *P* values, and measures of association, such as relative risk and the odds ratio. Faculty will give demonstrations and provide examples from scientific publications and the lay press, and group exercises will allow attendees to practice interpreting, presenting, and editing statistical information.

Each short course combines didactic lectures and group discussion, and each attendee receives a binder of resource information and notes to take home for future reference.

In addition, if you have ever attended a short course in the past, you are eligible to participate in the executive refresher program. This program allows short-course alumni to register for a single session in any of the current short courses for a nominal fee. Most sessions last 1 hour, and the courses have been organized so that it's possible to attend more than one session in a day.

For more information about the short courses and the executive refresher program, see the CSE preliminary program or go to the CSE Web site at *www.CouncilScienceEditors.org*.

Committee Roundup

Editorial Policy Committee

Diane Scott-Lichter, Chair

The CSE Editorial Policy Committee serves as a resource regarding editorial and publishing policies that apply to publication in the sciences. The committee studies and analyzes procedural, ethical, legal, and economic policies and recommends policies or guidelines related to the editing, review, and publication of books and journals in the sciences. The committee suggests policy to the CSE Board of Directors that affects CSE's own publications. Policy guidelines developed by the committee will, after appropriate revision in consultation with the Board, be presented to the membership via publication in *Science Editor* and the Web site, by presentation or distribution at CSE annual meetings, or in other ways.

Diane Scott-Lichter

The Editorial Policy Committee is composed of 18 representatives of various groups that have expertise in editorial, publishing, ethical, and legal issues. The committee is developing a white paper addressing research and general publication integrity issues, ethical obligations of publication contracts and communications, and misconduct and deviations from generally accepted publication practices. The white paper will be used to develop CSE guidelines on particular subjects. The Board-approved white paper and related guidelines will be disseminated and made available online by the 2005 CSE annual meeting.

The CSE Editorial Policy Committee serves an important role in CSE, and we have much work ahead of us. I'm delighted to report that the committee is vigorously tackling the foundation of our work as described above and looking forward to offering additional content and services to the membership and the scientific publishing community. Please contact me if you would like to join in these efforts.

Education Committee

Jessica Ancker, Chair

Editors and scientists from around the world discussed the complex relationships between money and research at the Conflict of Interest Retreat on 29-31 October 2004, the culmination of a year of planning by the Education Committee.

The retreat drew 78 participants from journals, academic institutions, funding agencies, and pharmaceutical companies, thanks to widespread publicity to the membership of CSE, the Society for Scholarly Publishing, the American Medical Writers Association, the World Association of Medical Editors, the International Federation of Scientific Editors, and other groups. Sheldon Krimsky, professor of urban and environmental policy at Tufts University, gave the keynote address about the growing ties between the scientific research community and for-profit corporations. Other speakers included Paul Antony, chief medical officer of the pharmaceutical industry association PhRMA; Lisa Bero, professor of clinical pharmacy and health policy at the University of California, San Francisco; Martin Blume, editor-in-chief of the American Physical Society; cardiologist Steven Nissen, of the Cleveland Clinic Foundation; Snigdha Prakash, reporter for National Public Radio; Drummond Rennie, deputy editor of *JAMA;* and Lindsey Tanner, medical reporter for the Associated Press. A full list of speakers is available at *www.CouncilScienceEditors.org*.

Jessica Ancker

The retreat was held at the Hyatt Lodge at the McDonald's Campus, in Oak Brook, Illinois. To ensure that participants felt comfortable in speaking freely about ethical issues, the retreat was held under a nonattribution policy: participants could not be quoted or paraphrased without their permission.

During the meeting, Annette Flanagin, Margaret Perkins, and I developed a preliminary list of suggestions for editors who wish to develop conflict-of-interest policies or revise existing policies of their journals. The list was the topic of discussion at the retreat, and participants will continue to comment electronically. The goal is to develop a template or framework that CSE can provide to journals that are seeking guidance on developing policies about conflict of interest and competing financial interests.

The Education Committee supported the retreat by securing $20,000 in grants from the Greenwall Foundation, the American Heart Association, and the American Society of Clinical Oncology. The money helped to fund the invited speakers and supported the attendance of four non-American editors: Aleksandra (Sasha) Misak, of the *Croatian Medical Journal*; Anju Sharma, of the Indian

Committee Roundup continued

Council of Medical Research; Manoj Pandey, of the Regional Cancer Centre Medical College in Trivandrum, India; and Manoranjan Mahapatra, of the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences. Funding was also offered to an editor in Iran, but he was unable to secure a US visa to attend the meeting. The scholars were selected in a blinded competition by an Education Committee subcommittee led by Rebecca Saxer. Education Committee members Pam Erickson and Virginia Bourgeois were instrumental in helping to secure the grants.

For a synopsis of the retreat, please see pages 39-43 of this issue of *Science Editor.*

In other Education Committee news,

New Vice Chair: Rebecca Saxer has accepted the position of Education Committee vice-chair.

Statistics Short Course: The Education Committee has created a new short course on statistics for editors. The course is scheduled to be offered for the first time at the annual meeting this May in Atlanta, Georgia, under my direction. The course is designed fulfill a perceived need for additional statistics expertise for editorial staff.

Membership Committee

Lisande Bissonette, Chair

For the past few years, the CSE Membership Committee has sought to recruit editors of all types and levels specifically in the sciences and younger professionals who are just starting their careers in scientific, technical, and medical (STM) publishing. This year, we have also focused on increasing Canadian membership and identifying potential members in the Atlanta metropolitan area to promote attendance at the May 2005 annual meeting. The primary goals of the committee, however, are to increase last year's total number of members in the United States and worldwide and to convince former members to renew by telling them what they've been missing!

Seven of our 11 committee members have served previously, so we have enjoyed the benefits of continuity. The following are members of this year's committee:

Chair: Lisande Bissonette, ScholarOne, Inc
Vice Chair: Lori Barber, ScholarOne, Inc
Julie Daw, American Academy of Periodontology
Carole R Hirth, Institute of Food Technologists
Suzanne Kettley, NRC Research Press, National Research Council of Canada
Theresa Pickel, Allen Press, Inc
Kevin Pirkey, Odyssey Press, Inc
Gregory Shaner, Purdue University
Sue Silver, Ecological Society of America
Stacieann C Yuhasz, Department of Veterans Affairs

Lisande Bissonette

As a first step, the committee asked each CSE Board member to contact 25 former members who did not renew in 2003-2004. We persuaded society presidents to grant us access to the publishing-related segments of their membership, and we extended invitations to several science groups that have not been highly active in CSE.

Concurrently, committee members took on projects related to their specialties, or they assumed tasks that the committee identified in planning the year's agenda. Committee members have stayed in touch through bimonthly conference calls and e-mail.

My responsibilities have been to manage the committee's renewal and recruitment efforts and to provide members with tools and information to do their work. In addition, I began to form with Lori Barber, a 3-year committee member and next year's chair, a task force on new constituencies, peer reviewers, and young researchers. She and I have worked with CSE Board members and the Editorial Policy Committee on this project, and Barber will continue with it in 2005-2006. Last, I continued with the effort begun by Michael Humphrey, a former committee member, to contact Australasian journal editors.

Barber consolidated a list of about 3000 potential recruits (up from 700 last year) drawn from the committee's own resources. This year's amplified list included American and non-American editors-in-chief, associate editors, managing editors, editorial-office staff, librarians, publisher and association management, and information-technology staff and management from a wide range of STM disciplines and in all age groups. CSE headquarters cross-checked the list against the membership list and then wrote to all who were not members. Those who did not join were contacted a second and third time. Barber also requested that materials be distributed at the annual meetings of STM publishing groups similar to CSE.

Baker and Pickel provided CSE information to Atlanta-based contacts provided by Faith McLellan (CSE president) and Joy Moore (Program Committee chair) from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the American Cancer Society, the Carter Center, and Emory School of Medicine for distribution within their organizations.

Daw worked to recruit 16 editors-in-chief, associate editors, and managing editors of high-profile scientific and medical journals provided by Annette Flanagin (2003-2004 CSE president and now chair of the awards and honors committee).

Carole Hirth conducted a series of e-mail solicitations to food-technology sci-

Committee Roundup continued

entists, and she published an article about CSE in the Institute of Food Technologists newsletter that included a call to join and links to the CSE Web site.

Kettley worked to recruit colleagues and editors whom she knows through her work with the National Research Council Canada, and she provided the committee additional means of targeting potential Canadian members.

Pickel placed a CSE ad in the Allen Press newsletter using endorsements she received from scientists and editors who attended the May 2004 annual meeting in Vancouver describing what they gained or learned from the meeting. The quotations were used for a variety of the committee's efforts. Pickel has continued to recruit editors from her considerable number of friends and professional acquaintances affiliated with bioscience journals.

Pirkey offered to be an "alternate" member of the committee, and he has assumed tasks when needed, mainly following up with former members who had not renewed and writing to editors whom he knows through his many years in STM-land.

Shaner continued with last year's effort to recruit plant-agronomy-agricultural sciences editors and staff whom he knows through his work with the American Phytopathological Society. He interviewed CSE colleagues to elicit endorsements for membership, he gleaned from past issues of *Science Editor* several articles of particular interest to those in his field, and he identified sessions from the 2004 annual meeting that would appeal to science editors. Using that information, he composed his own recruitment materials targeting two segments: professional editors and academic editors.

Silver contacted department heads at 10 colleges and universities that offer publishing and editorial programs to ask them to help us recruit student and faculty members by distributing CSE information within their institutions. In addition, she has served as a consultant to the committee this last year, providing us with insight and recommendations from an academic editor's perspective, as have Shaner and Yuhasz.

Yuhasz, through her role as editor of the *Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development*, contacted about 100 academic editors in the field of rehabilitation. She also encouraged 2003-2004 short-course and workshop attendees who were not members to sign up.

Many thanks to my fellow members of this year's membership committee and to those who served last year. I've been amazed by your enthusiasm and commitment. Lori, have a great time as chair in 2005-2006!

Program Committee

Joy Moore, Chair

The CSE 2004 meeting in Vancouver was quite a success, by many accounts: great venue, terrific turnout, and an excellent program. As the vice-chair of the 2004 Program Committee, I was thrilled; as the incoming chair of the 2005 Program Committee, I was . . . nervous. What a tough act to follow! Could we do it again? Well, I'm not quite ready to put any money on Atlanta '05 vs Vancouver '04, but I do know that we once again have an outstanding meeting in the works.

A number of folks from the '04 committee stayed on, willing to go out there again and persuade friends, colleagues, and complete strangers into writing presentations and packing their bags for Atlanta. We were also joined by a number of newcomers who have brought some fascinating concepts to the program sessions. I'd like to thank the following people who have been hard at work putting together 3 days' worth of valuable sessions for the 2005 attendees: Kent Anderson, J David Baldwin, Virginia Barbour, Philippa Benson, Bridget Coughlin, Donna Curtis, Stephanie Dean, Nigel Fletcher-Jones, Penny Hodgson, Cara Kaufman, Ana Marusic, Devora Mitrany, Richard Newman, Kevin Pirkey, Annielaurie Seifert, Julie Steffen, Anna Sullivan, Helen Szigeti, Pritpal S Tamber, John Ward, and Alex Williamson.

Joy Moore

As we brainstormed and then refined the list of topics for sessions, it became clear that people were thinking about the role of editors, particularly in this era when access to information at times seems to be taking precedence over the information itself. With the Atlanta location as a hub of communication, public health, and international outreach, it seemed fitting to focus on "Communicating Science: Serving the Global Community" as our theme for the 2005 meeting. We have a number of "how-to" sessions on the docket, as always, a few sessions devoted to policy and management issues, and a few on challenging and timely topics that are sure to spark some interesting discussions. From pharmaceutical research to research nongovernmental organizations, we will have sessions that cover the wide interests of CSE members and conference attendees. We are also pleased to announce that we have Jeffrey Sachs, director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University, and Julie Gerberding, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, confirmed as our Monday and Tuesday plenary speakers.

Esmeralda Galan is our local-arrangements chair, and she has done a fantastic job putting together tours to CNN and the Atlanta Botanical Garden, as well as an insider's list of recommended places to visit, shop, and eat. The Hyatt Regency in downtown Atlanta is a beautiful, recently renovated hotel and promises to be a first-rate venue for our conference.

So, although we've still got a way to go, the old nerves are steadily subsiding as the excitement is growing. Please join us for another great CSE annual meeting in Atlanta.

Committee Roundup continued

Publications Committee

Dana St John Plette, Chair

The Publications Committee reviews and recommends to the CSE Board the publication and sale or distribution of information products relevant to CSE's mission. The overall budget for publications is supposed to be, at a minimum, revenue-neutral. Our vision is to acquire and extend, through information products in any medium, CSE's mission to improve communication in the sciences by informing and educating authors, editors, and publishers.

The following are members of this year's committee:

Dana St John Plette, *Cancer*, Chair
Karen Dodson, *American Journal of Physiology*, Vice Chair
Leesa Bruce, Canadian Pharmacists Association, Board liaison
Ed Huth, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *GuideLines* Editor
Barbara Gastel, *Science Editor* and Texas A&M University, ex officio
Peggy Robinson, Style Manual Subcommittee
Victoria Alexander, *New England Journal of Medicine*
Kathleen Case, American Association for Cancer Research
Tom Domine, American Heart Association
Melissa Durborow, Fry Communications
Todd Hummel, Elsevier Science
Joan Juan, Ediciones Doyma
Tad Parker, Odyssey Press
Victoria Vaughn, *Journal of Clinical Oncology*


Dana St John Plette

Our primary activity in the last year has been to work closely with Peggy Robinson and the Style Manual Subcommittee to review the final version of the seventh edition of *Scientific Style and Format*. The subcommittee has worked long and hard on this product, and the results show it. We are very pleased with the content and look forward to offering the style manual to CSE members in 2005.

Sponsorship Committee

Devora Mitrany, Chair

During the last year, the Sponsorship Committee surpassed all previous records, raising over $40,000 in much-needed funds for CSE. We obtain money for CSE activities in two ways: by pursuing sponsorship donations and by collecting revenues from exhibitors at the annual meeting.

With the help of committee member Virginia Bourgeois, we have also been exploring major foundation grants, and we assisted the Education Committee in its successful fundraising for the 2004 educational retreat.

The committee is energetic and innovative. We recently initiated a scholarship fund so that worthy editors can attend annual meetings and retreats. Collaborating with the Membership Committee, we succeeded in adding a request for donations to the CSE membership application.


Devora Mitrany

Innovations for the 2005 annual meeting include sponsored Internet kiosks installed in the exhibit hall so attendees can check their e-mail during the meeting. With Board approval, we have also raised exhibit-booth fees and streamlined the hotel services to both raise revenues and cut expenses.

The Sponsorship Committee for 2004-2005 consists of Vice Chair Jerry Elliott, Board liaison Stephen Prudhomme, and members Virginia Bourgeois, Jason Clurman, Joel Plotkin, Susan Roberts, Beate Stych, and Anna Sullivan. Their dedicated efforts are key in helping to sustain CSE's successful programs.

Participation in the work of the Sponsorship Committee takes only a modest amount of time, and we welcome all who would like to join us. For more information, contact Chair Devora Mitrany by e-mail at devora.mitrany @caremark.com.

Committee Roundup continued

Web Committee

Seth Beckerman, Chair

CSE continues to enhance its Web site to make it more useful to members and other users.

- In the Members Only section of the Web site, Journal Name has been added as an additional search item in the member directory in addition to Last Name, City, State, and Country.
- Password protection has been removed from all posted issues of *CBE* Views and all issues of *Science Editor* except the most recent 12 issues.
- Users of the Forum can now sign up to receive a weekly e-mail list of the topics of all additions to the Forum during that week.
- About 650 people receive a notification e-mail each time a new job is posted. About 50 jobs are posted in a 6-month period.
- CSE expects to begin accepting banner ads for its Web site.

Seth Beckerman

- Numerous new entries have been made in the catalog of reference links.
- We have added the next level of credit-card processing for online member renewal, publication purchases, and registration for the annual meeting and retreats. Credit-card transactions are now cleared in real time and are no longer handled through our management office.
- More than 175 other Web sites link to the CSE site.

Highlights of the CSE Board Meeting

The CSE Board of Directors met by conference call on 13 October 2004. Highlights of the meeting follow.

1. The Board approved the CSE budget for 2005. The budget includes a 5% increase in dues for North American members (those in the United States, Canada, and Mexico).

2. The program for the 2005 CSE annual meeting, in Atlanta, Georgia, is nearly complete, and local tours and activities have been arranged.

3. *Scientific Style and Format*, seventh edition, will be published in 2005. The Board approved the dedication of the book to Jane Edwards, a member of the Style Manual Subcommittee who passed away.

4. Advertising on the CSE Web site will be accepted contingent on its adherence to the policy approved by the Board.

Jane Edwards 1946-2004

Jane Edwards, a long-time member of CSE and of the Society of Indexers, passed away at her home in Fairfax, Virginia, on 15 September after a long battle against breast cancer. Jane, an editor at the American Type Culture Collection, was a reviewer for parts of the sixth edition of *Scientific Style and Format* and later became a member of the Style Manual Subcommittee, which was formed to create the seventh edition. Jane's primary responsibility related to *SSF7*—the chapter on genes, chromosomes, and related molecules—represents a substantial accomplishment: for this chapter, Jane managed to collect and summarize all the available documents on genetic and cytogenetic nomenclature. Style Manual Subcommittee members also valued her commitment to the entire project and will greatly miss her always-insightful comments and critiques as they complete the manual. Acknowledging the importance of Jane's contributions to CSE and the style manual, the Board of Directors has agreed that the seventh edition should be dedicated to her.

Jane is survived by her husband, Daniel Jones, a scientist with the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service of the US Department of Agriculture.

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Calendar

2005

31 March-3 April	**Association of Health Care Journalists 6th national conference.** Chapel Hill NC. *www.ahcj.umn.edu.*
9 April	**BELS (Board of Editors in the Life Sciences) examination**. San Francisco CA. Registration deadline is 19 March. Contact: Leslie E Neistadt, BELS Registrar, Hughston Sports Medicine Foundation, 6262 Veterans Pkwy, Columbus GA 31909; fax (706) 576-3348; *neistadt@hughston.com*; *www.bels.org.*
8-11 May	**Society for Technical Communication 52nd annual conference: Experiencing Technical Communication.** Seattle WA. *www.stc.org.*
21 May	**BELS examination**, Atlanta GA. Registration deadline is 28 April. See preceding BELS listing for registration information.
20-24 May	**Council of Science Editors annual meeting**. Hyatt Regency, Atlanta GA. Contact: CSE, 12100 Sunset Hills Rd, Ste 130, Reston VA 20190; (703) 437-4377; fax (703) 435-4390; *www.CouncilScienceEditors.org.*
1-3 June	**Society for Scholarly Publishing annual meeting.** Boston MA. *www.sspnet.org.*
16-19 June	**Association of American University Presses annual meeting.** Philadelphia PA. *annualmeeting@aaupnet.org*; *www.aaupnet.org.*
15-17 September	**5th International Congress on Peer Review in Biomedical Publishing.** Chicago IL. *www.jama-peer.org.*
28 September	**BELS examination,** Pittsburgh PA. Registration deadline is 7 September. See preceding BELS listing for registration information.
29 September-1 October	**AMWA (American Medical Writers Association) 65th annual conference.** Pittsburgh PA. *www.amwa.org.*

Information for Contributors

- Please submit manuscripts as e-mail attachments if possible.
- All submissions should include the telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address of the corresponding author.
- All material should be in the style recommended by *Scientific Style and Format*, with references in the citation-sequence format.
- All material is subject to copyediting.

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In the Next Issue

- A New Column: Unbound — Perspectives on Open Access
- Bourbaki—An Authorship Tale
- Keeping Bugs in Check: A New Editor's Perspective

Scholar One ad Manuscript Central (new)

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