

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 pre-

sentation or distribution at CSE annual meetings, or in other ways.

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



Diane Scott-Lichter

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 Krinsky, 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.

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: partici-



Jessica Ancker

pants 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 subcom-

mittee 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

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,



Lisande Bissonette

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-

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" mem-

ber 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.

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



Joy Moore

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 scholar-

ship 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.

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



Devora Mitrany

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.

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.