The CSE Manual: SSF7 to Arrive; Annual Meeting to Observe Its Debut

The seventh edition of the CSE manual, *Scientific Style and Format*, is arriving this spring. Commonly known as SSF7, it will be launched at the 2006 CSE annual meeting, to be held 19-23 May in Tampa, Florida.

SSF7 is the work of the CSE Style Manual Subcommittee. Peggy Robinson chairs the subcommittee, and Karen Patrias is vice chair. Other members are Thor Kommedahl, Gregory Shaner, Susan Shirley, and Bob Wilbur. The book is dedicated to the memory of Jane Edwards, who served on the subcommittee.

Two new chapters, described below, appear in SSF7. The volume also includes many other additions and updates. Join us in celebrating its arrival. For information on ordering SSF7, please see www.CouncilScienceEditors.org.

New Chapters
SSF7 contains a chapter on publication policy and one on copyright.

The new chapter “Publication Policies and Practices” covers the responsibilities of authors, editors, and peer reviewers in dealing with ethical issues, including those related to conflict of interest, peer review, data falsification and plagiarism, redundant publication, and authorship disputes. Content is based primarily on the editorial policy statements of CSE.

“The Basics of Copyright” reviews copyright requirements and practices in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. This chapter offers information for those who may need to deal with this complex issue but do not have recourse to experts. It emphasizes the importance of adhering to copyright requirements in this age of easily copied and transmitted electronic documents.

Updated and Expanded Chapters
Also new to SSF7 are the following:

“Chemical Formulas and Names” includes structural formulas and recommendations conforming to the guidelines set by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry.

“Taxonomy and Nomenclature” now consolidates nomenclatural recommendations for plants, fungi, algae, lichens, animals, bacteria, and viruses in a single chapter. This organization emphasizes both aspects of nomenclature that are consistent among types of organisms and differences among the various nomenclatural codes. Chapter content reflects the most current revisions of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature and the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature.

“Genes, Chromosomes, and Related Molecules” now summarizes all published genetic nomenclature rules that could be identified; it appears to be the first reference to include all these rules. Genetic nomenclature rules are included for viruses, bacteria, yeasts, fungi, protozoans, plants (cereals, crucifers, legumes, and others), nonhuman animals (fishes, avian species, domestic animals, rodents, and transgenic animals), and humans.

“The Earth” has new sections on water (covering the physical properties of seawater, such as salinity and density, currents, and tides) and air (covering scales of motion, winds, and satellites).

“Astronomical Objects and Time Systems” summarizes the astronomical time systems now in use and incorporates recent changes in accepted practice. Systems described include International Atomic Time; Coordinated Universal Time; Terrestrial Time; Ephemeris Time or Dynamical Time; and Greenwich Mean Sidereal Time.

“Citations and References” has been expanded to offer comprehensive guidance on all aspects of citing print and electronic resources. Recommendations conform to those set by the National Information Standards Organization. All examples are taken from the published literature to illustrate how the recommendations should be put into practice. In addition to the name-year and citation-sequence systems of citing references, SSF7 offers (and uses) a third option:
the citation-name system. In this system, references are arranged alphabetically by author name (as in the name-year system), numbered, and cited by number in the text.

Enhanced chapters on journals and books provide advice pertinent to electronic and print publication.

Authoritative online resources are provided in chapter reference lists.

Revised Format for Numbers
The number style, as published in CBE Views 1998; 21(1):14-6 and based on the number style presented in Scientific Style and Format, Sixth Edition, has been revised. The CSE and American Medical Association number styles are now consistent.

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