information for addressing issues that scientific editors encounter day to day and for acquiring a more thorough understanding of science publishing. Sessions include one on Word tips for editors and another on adapting to Word 2007, as well as sessions on image manipulation, publisher-editor interactions and philosophies, pros and cons of commercial publishing and self-publishing, business-continuity planning in times of change or disaster, conflicts of interest in advertising and sponsorship, the STIX fonts initiative and STM publishing, evidence-based editing, and the current status of open access. The half-day hands-on ethics clinic will provide food for thought, and the presentations by this year’s scholarship recipients from the developing world will be followed by a meet-and-greet opportunity during refreshments.

Plan to spend some time on the planned tours or head out on your own or with friends to enjoy Austin. Besides being the “Live Music Capital of the World”, Austin is the home of the University of Texas and the Texas state capitol. Absorbing destinations include the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, the Texas State Capitol complex, the Lyndon Baines Johnson Presidential Library and Museum, and the university grounds. A special event in town on Saturday is the O. Henry Pun-Off, at which punsters gather to cheer and groan as contestants deliver outrageous plays on words; what better entertainment for the word-lovers in our group! Nature enthusiasts will enjoy Town Lake, a relaxing place to take a break and enjoy walking, biking, bird- and bat-watching, pedalo-boating, and canoeing.

The city’s title can best be appreciated on an evening stroll. The hotel is within walking distance of the famous 6th Street and Red River entertainment districts, where the sound of country, rock ‘n’ roll, blues, and jazz playing in more than 150 venues can be heard nightly, and food from four-star restaurants and casual barbecue and fajita eateries can be sampled.

I’m excited about going back to Austin, the outstanding speakers, the provocative theme of the conference, the breadth of the sessions being offered, the choices for visiting fascinating historical attractions and having fun in this city, and seeing old friends again. While I wait, I’m dusting off my denims and my cowboy hat and digging through my collection of bling for the “Denim and Diamonds” gala anniversary event!

### Short Courses: Four Great Offerings

**Diane Lang, Director**  
**CSE Short Courses**

Austin, Texas, is a new and exciting venue for the CSE annual meeting, and there’s no better way to start the meeting than to attend one of the CSE short courses.

The Short Course for Journal Editors, organized by Iain E P Taylor and presented on 18-19 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, organized by Patty Baskin, will be presented on 19 May and will address such topics as managing change, managing communication and people, managing interactions with paper and online publishers and vendors, managing journal financial operations, and problem-solving.

The Short Course for Manuscript Editors, organized by Margaret Perkins, will be presented on 19 May and will cover levels of editing, including suggestions and techniques for determining the most appropriate level of editing for a particular manuscript; statistics for manuscript editors; grammar and usage; freelance editing; ethical and legal issues; and formatting and editing of tables and figures.

The Short Course on Statistics for Editors, organized by Jessica Ancker, will be presented on 19 May and will cover such topics as basic descriptive statistics, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing and P values, and measures of association, including relative risks and odds ratios. 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 lectures with group discussion, and attendees are strongly encouraged to bring their own problems and questions for discussion. Each attendee receives a binder of resource information and notes to take home for future reference.

For more information about the short courses, see the CSE preliminary program or go to the CSE Web site at www.Council ScienceEditors.org.