



Peer review, reviewers and associated challenges

Sarah Robbie

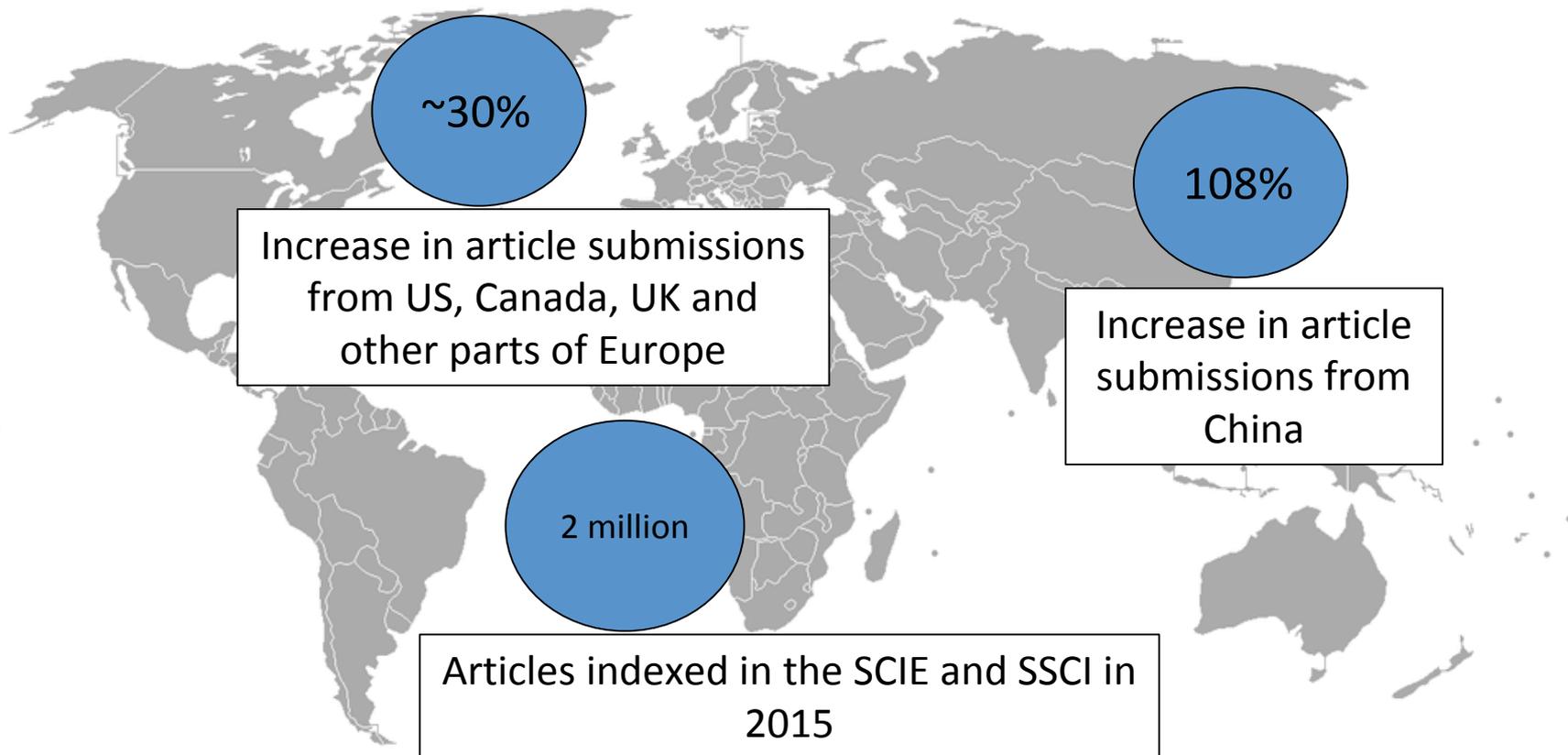
Head of Peer Review Policy & Research Integrity



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Submissions are increasing globally



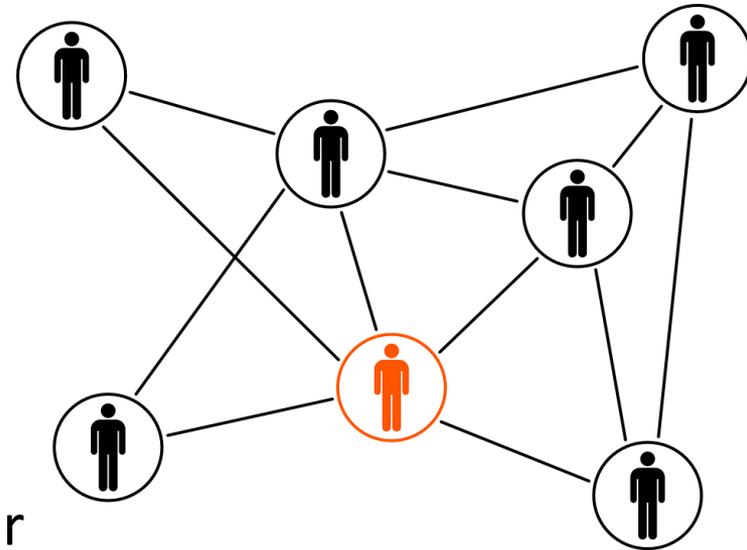


What challenges does this create?

More articles for review means more reviewers are needed

More articles for editors to screen and less time for searching for reviewers

Increased review workload means that reviewers want recognition for the work they've carried out





Peerage of Science

- Authors can submit their manuscript directly to the site
- Enables authors to set review deadlines
- Multiple journals view the peer review process simultaneously
- Authors can then accept a direct publishing offer from a journal or choose to export the reviews to the journal of their choice





Publons

In April, Taylor & Francis announced a pilot with Publons running on 30 titles as part of our exploration of ways to better recognise review

What is Publons?

Publons is a reviewer recognition platform that allows reviewers to build a profile to showcase their review activity

The screenshot shows the Publons website interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links for ACTIONS, BROWSE, COMMUNITY, FAQ, and SIGN IN. The main content area displays the profile of Jonas Ranstam, a PUBLONS SUPPORTER. His bio identifies him as a Professor of medical statistics (retired) at Lund University. The profile includes sections for AWARDS, IDENTIFIERS (Publons ID: 292799, ORCID: 0000-0002-8287-7273), and NAVIGATE (4 journals edited for, 48 journals reviewed for, 4067 Pre Publication Reviews). The RESEARCH FIELDS section lists ORTHOPAEDICS. EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERSHIPS include Acta Orthopaedica, British Journal of Surgery, and World Journal of Orthopedics. HAS REVIEWED FOR lists 2162 Osteoarthritis and Cartilage, 174 British Journal of Surgery, 89 Endoscopy International Open, 1315 Acta Orthopaedica, 96 Endoscopy, and 53 The Lancet Global Health.





Publons - Why run this pilot?

- Reviewers are becoming harder to find (Albert et al 2016; Clarivate Analytics 'The Wide World of Review', 2017)
- Little public recognition for review until recently
- Pilot journals automatically add verified review activity from the peer review system to a reviewer's Publons profile
- Reviewers can also indicate to Editors that they are interested in reviewing for their journal on the Publons site – helps expand the reviewer pool available to Editors





Peer review innovation

Tim Warner

West Virginia University 

International Journal of Remote Sensing



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The challenge

- Structural imbalance
 - 2 reviews per submission
 - 25% acceptance rate
 - = 8 reviews per paper published
 - ScholarOne analysis
 - Average no. of invitations per article has “almost doubled” over last 5 years
- Chris Heid, 2017, Head of Product for ScholarOne, quoted in *Retraction Watch*
<http://retractionwatch.com/2017/10/04/can-spot-fake-new-tool-aims-help-journals-identify-fake-reviews/>





Solutions

- Traditional methods for identifying referees
 1. Well-known experts
 2. Author suggestions (*no longer recommended*)
 3. ScholarOne referee database - keywords
- Internet-based methods
 4. Database search (Google Scholar; Web of Science)
 - Keywords
 - Data range (e.g. last 3 years)





Solutions

5. Referee locator results from Web of Science

The screenshot shows the ScholarOne Manuscripts interface. The browser address bar displays <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/tres>. The navigation menu includes Home, Author, Review, and Manage. The current page is the Editor Dashboard for 'Awaiting Referee Selection-Letters' for manuscript 'TRES-LET-2017-00000'. A sidebar on the left contains 'Manuscript Information' and 'Audit Trail'. The main content area shows details for the manuscript, including submission and update dates, and a 'Select Referees' button. Below this is a 'Referee List' table with columns for Order, Name, Status, History, and Remove. A 'Progress' sidebar on the right shows the number of reviews required to make a decision (2) and the status of various actions (active selections, invited, agreed, declined, returned). A red box highlights the 'Referee Locator Results from the Web of Science' section, which displays 'Potential Referee Details' and an 'Add' button.

Order	Name	Status	History	Remove
				<input type="checkbox"/> Save

Referee Locator Results from the Web of Science® Results 1-10 of 14

Potential Referee Details Add

Add





Solutions

6. Publons - social media for referees

Timothy Warner | Publons

Winners of Publons Peer Review Awards Announced! See the top reviewers of 2017 here.

publons Search or Import HOME BROWSE COMMUNITY FAQ TW

Researchers Timothy Warner

PROFILE

Timothy Warner

You have not yet added any affiliations to your Publons account. You can do so here.

BIO

You have not yet completed your profile bio, which you can update here.

RESEARCH FIELDS

You have not yet added any research fields to your profile, you can add fields here.

EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

CURRENT MEMBERSHIPS

- International Journal of Remote Sensing ✓

PAST MEMBERSHIPS

- Remote Sensing Letters

EDITOR RECORDS (MANUSCRIPTS HANDLED AS EDITOR)

- (1) ISPRS Journal of Photogrammetry a... (1) Progress in Physical Geography
- (23) International Journal of Remote Se... (16) Remote Sensing Letters

HAS REVIEWED FOR

Add your first review by forwarding your "thank you for reviewing" emails to reviews@publons.com. Learn more.

ENDORSES

You can show your support for journals by endorsing them.

Private Dashboard (highlighted in red)

Partner Dashboard

View Profile

Export Verified Record

Notifications (0 unseen / 7 unread)

Settings

Logout

0 Reviewer Merit

82 Editor Merit

41 editorial records

42 reviews recognised

IDENTIFIERS

- publons.com/4/1283394/
- orcid.org/0000-0002-0414-9748

Share on Twitter

NAVIGATE

Serves on 1 editorial board





Solutions

6. Publons – functionality for editors

Partner Dashboard for International Journal of Remote Sensing
Published by Taylor & Francis

Find Reviewers

Find reviewers for your manuscripts by searching our powerful reviewer database. Paste in the manuscript title or keywords to generate reviewer suggestions.

Search text (required)
IFSAR

Improve your search results by adding more detail about the reviewers you are looking for:

Relevant research fields: REMOTE SENSING X

Relevant journals

Countries

Include/exclude by countries: Show only researchers from selected countries

SEARCH

RESEARCHER	# PRE-PUB REVIEWS	RESEARCH FIELDS	PROFILE LINKS	EMAIL
	7	Surface Processes		
AT	17	Planetary Science (excl. Extraterrestrial ...		
	106	Earth Sciences		
	52	Surface Processes		





Publons

- **Benefits**
 - Reward & motivate referees & editors
 - Promote good reviewing
 - “Publons Academy”
 - Feedback to referees
 - Potential for greater transparency
 - Track the fate of a paper
- **Challenges**
 - Referee database size
 - Keywords – specificity and currency
 - Information on quality, speed
 - Emphasis on quantity over quality
 - Referees who never produce a promised review?
 - Expertise (referee’s publications)

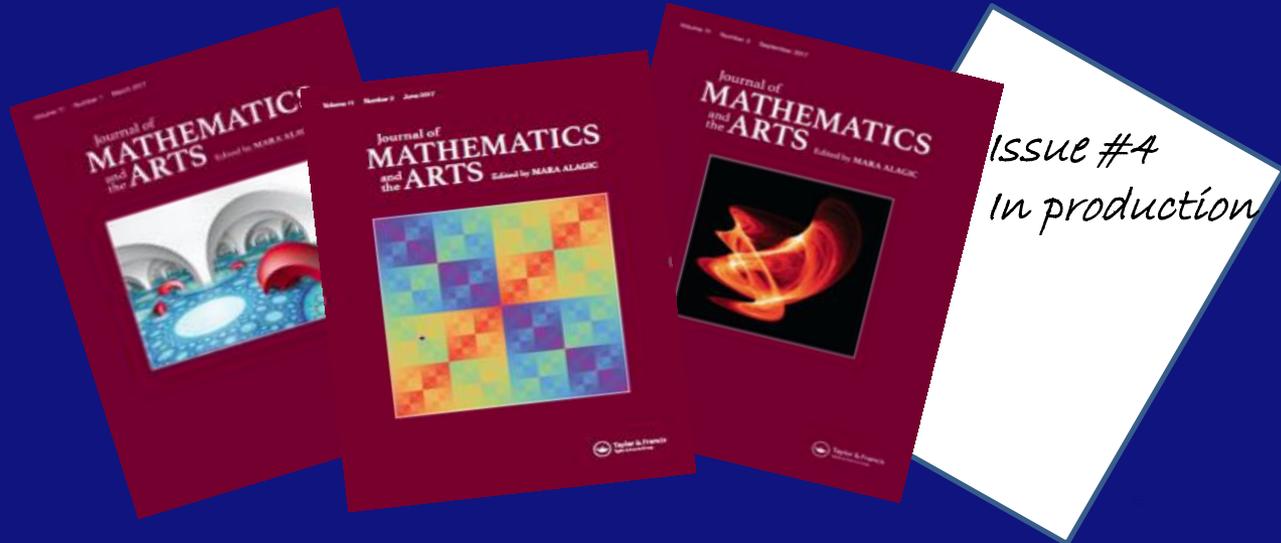




Streamlining Peer Review Process

Mara Alagic

Taylor & Francis Group
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Considerations about peer review

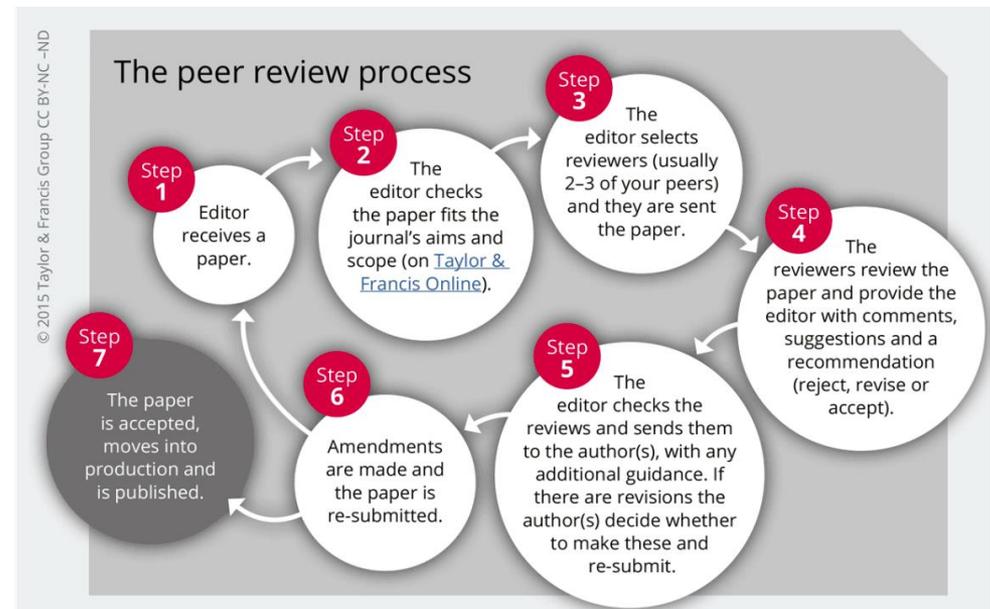
- **Peer Review Policy:** All submitted manuscripts are subject to initial appraisal by the Editor. If found suitable for further consideration, papers are subject to peer review by independent, anonymous expert referees. All peer-review is single blind ...
- Interdisciplinary nature of the journal
- An Associate Editor's area of expertise
- Initial appraisal: Editor & an Associate Editor
- Initiating a Discussion
- Two reviewers





Key areas in peer review

- Maintaining academic quality
- Additional steps between illustrated 2&3 and 4&5 due to the interdisciplinary nature of the Journal
- Examples
- Challenges





Understanding peer review system

- Ongoing challenge: Assessing the process to ensure it works
- Associate Editors
- Case-based Associate Editors
- Adapting Editorial Manager System to support the process





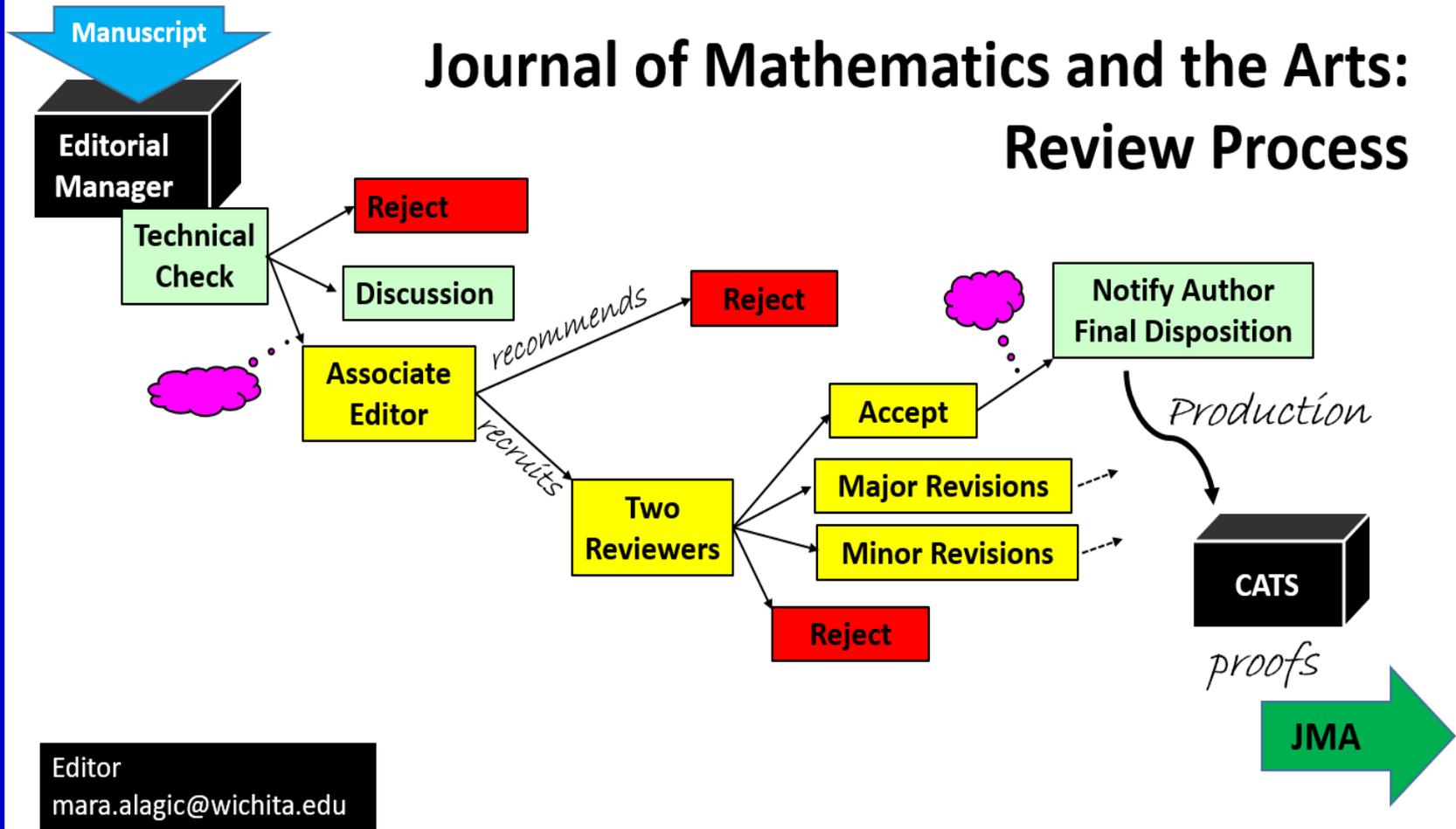
Particularly challenging issues

- Adapting Editorial Manager System
- Finding competent and efficient Associate Editors
- Collaborative work with Associate Editors
- Willingness of Editors/Reviewers to use EM





Journal of Mathematics and the Arts: Review Process



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Thank you for your attention!

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