

JCHAS Editor's Report
Fall 2016
(Philadelphia ACS Meeting)
Prepared 28 Jul 2016

Pipeline

At the Boston meeting, I announced that we would be reducing the number of columns and increasing manuscripts in each issue with the goal of column elimination sometime in the future. Decreasing the “editorial content” (e.g. columns) is being done in order to make our application for a Thompson-Reuters Impact Factor later in 2016 or 2017 more favorable.

We have reduced our columns to five: Editorial (Elston), News&Views (Langerman), Process Safety (Hendershot), Toxic Tips (Luttrell, 3x/year) and Upcoming Events (Doemeny). We are still on track to phase out Toxic Tips by the end of 2016 and moving toxicology discussions to peer-reviewed, “review-like” material.

We have increased from 4 manuscripts per issue to 5-7 manuscripts per issue. We are currently filing the May/June 2017 issue. There are no dedicated issues planned for the remainder of 2016 or 2017.

Ethics complaint (Toxic Tips/Plagiarism)

In April we received a plagiarism complaint regarding Dr. William Luttrell’s Toxic Tip’s column. Using the Committee On Publications Ethics (COPE) guidelines, modified somewhat because Toxic Tips is not a research manuscript, an investigation was initiated. Dr. Luttrell assigned his column to one of his undergraduate students and the student quoted, or nearly quoted pieces of material without proper citation. Dr. Luttrell was not a careful as he should have been reviewing the student’s work and consequently it was published. I viewed this as an “Honest Mistake” according to the COPE guidelines and a corrigendum will be published in an upcoming issue. The matter was handled in less than two weeks from the notification and it is closed. The individual was notified of the results of the investigation.

Assistant Editor (for Business Continuity)

Stefan Wawczniecki training to handle manuscripts in EES continues well. EES has been a cruel mistress to both of us since including him in an Editor role.

Stefan was copied on all correspondence regarding the ethics complaint.

The SCOPUS challenge

No further information available.