



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SCIENCE EDITORS
Tenth General Assembly and Conference

Second Circular, Programme and
Registration Information

Integrity in Science Communication

At the Palazzo dei Congressi, Pisa, Italy
16 – 19 September 2009

European
Association of
Science
Editors

EASE

Plenary sessions

- 1 Opening lecture by Professor Lucia Tomasi Tongiorgi and Professor Romano Coppini

Keynote lecture by Professor Ele Ferrannini

- 2 Physical Integrity
- 3 Moral Integrity
- 4 Editorial Independence and Responsibilities

Parallel sessions

- 1 Publication of full datasets
- 2 Cultural issues relating to non-English journals
- 3 Authorship
- 4 University Press Challenge
- 5 Cultural integrity of journal guidelines and their translation
- 6 Misconduct in science communication
- 7 The role of editors and journals in fostering responsible conduct of research
- 8 Promoting the public perception of science through clear communication

Optional Workshop

Managing a Journal Editorial Office

Abstracts for presentations related to the sessions listed above will be considered for either short talks, if there is time in the session, or posters. These should be about **200 words** and should be submitted by **15th March 2009** at the latest. Abstracts for posters only may be submitted up to **31st July 2009**.

‘Early Bird’ registration at the discount rate closes: **30th June 2009**

www.ease.org.uk

Tuesday 15th September

Registration desk open at Palazzo dei Congressi. See the website for times.

Wednesday 16th September

Registration desk open 10.00-18.00. Set-up for posters 11.00-15.00.

15.00 **AGM, General Assembly**

16.00–17.00 **Opening Ceremony *History of Pisa and its University***. Professor Lucia Tomasi Tongiorgi, Faculty of Literature and Philosophy, and Professor Romano Coppini, Faculty of Political Science, University of Pisa

In the 12th century Pisa became renowned throughout Europe for the teaching of jurisprudence in its churches. As a maritime power, the city was particularly expert in the area of commercial law. The university was formally instituted in 1343 with the papal bull of Clement VI. The decline of the Pisan empire placed the university in serious difficulties until the Medici dynasty began the process of imposing state control following a series of reforms. One of their initiatives was the creation of the Botanical Garden under the supervision of the botanist Luca Ghini in the middle of the sixteenth century. Shortly afterwards the scientific prestige of the university was further enhanced by its association with Galileo Galilei, the founder of modern science. The university continued to change to meet the changing needs of society. This presentation will describe the key events during the history of the university and of Pisa.

17.30–18.30 **Keynote Lecture** Professor Ele Ferrannini, University of Pisa School of Medicine

19.00–20.30 **Reception:** at the Hotel Santa Croce in Fossabanda, five minutes walk from the Conference Centre.

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Thursday 17th September

Registration desk open 08.00-12.00

09.00–11.00 **Plenary Two: Physical Integrity**

a) ***Plagiarism detection using CrossCheck***. Kirsty Meddings, CrossRef, Oxford, UK

Scholarly publishers need to ensure that the content they publish is original (and high quality) and they employ a range of editorial and peer review processes to make this happen. Detecting plagiarism has traditionally been haphazard and labour-intensive since detection tools for research-level scholarly content have always been limited by the lack of access to the relevant full-text literature to screen against. CrossCheck is a CrossRef initiative to help its members actively prevent scholarly and professional plagiarism by creating and continuously growing a database of current and archival scholarly literature. This talk will provide an overview of the CrossCheck service and the philosophy behind it.

b) ***Challenges and future prospects for data Preservation*** Paola Gargiulo, CASPUR, Rome, Italy

Scientific disciplines are increasingly digital and increasingly data-intensive. Managing the diversity, size, and complexity of current and future data sets and data streams as well preserving them are challenges that stakeholders in the scholarly communication have to face. The presentation looks at the various technical activities and approaches to be adopted as well as at the costs involved and the non-technical policies on ownership and access. A brief overview follows on the state of the art of some significant e-content and data preservation initiatives and studies. It ends with some considerations and reflections on current problems and future prospects.

11.30–13.00 **Parallel sessions**

Publication of full datasets Per Lundberg

Cultural issues relating to non-English journals Paola De Castro

Afternoon free with an optional excursion to the nearby city of Lucca or Tour of Pisa

14.30–17.30 **BELS examination** Deadline for registration 27 August 2009. Contact lineistadt@hughston.com

14.30–17.30 **Optional workshop on Managing a Journal Editorial Office** Linus Svensson and Joan Marsh

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Friday 18th September

Registration desk open 08.00-15.30

09.00–11.00 **Plenary Three: Moral Integrity**

a) ***Bias in peer review practices in ecology and evolution***. Amber Budden, National Center for Ecological Analysis and Synthesis, University of California Santa Barbara, USA

Publication metrics such as the citation rates of papers and the subsequent impact factor of a journal are being increasingly used to evaluate productivity, quality and often the relative success of individuals, research groups and departments. The pressure to publish in these top journals is immense. Importantly, the attributes of potential authors may determine the extent to which a publication succeeds in the peer-review process.

We analysed multi-year data on manuscript submissions from nine journals, to test the importance of author, reviewer and editor attributes on the outcome of the review process. This dataset enabled exploration of bias in ecology and evolutionary biology publishing and provided a means to assess the effectiveness of current review practices. Independent analysis of journal pre-publication metrics is uncommon and provides opportunity for the 'moral integrity' of journal editors and reviewers to be assessed. Whether found culpable or not, such targeted analyses and increased transparency are necessary for informing best practices in editorial policies, to the benefit of both the journal and the publishing community.

b) *Toward a Common Standard for Conflict of Interest Disclosure Policies in Scientific and Medical Journals.*

Thomas Babor, Department of Community Medicine, University of Connecticut School of Medicine, USA

This presentation describes an on-going effort to develop and implement a common standard that can be used by scientific and medical journals to organize their conflict of interest (COI) policies. The effort was initiated in 2007 by a group of journal editors convened by the Center for American Progress and has continued with the drafting of a concept paper that explains the rationale for a common standard and a model COI guideline for authors, editors and peer reviewers. The need for a common standard is based on evidence that financial and other competing interests have the potential to bias scientific results, distort the research agenda and diminish public confidence in research findings. In addition to their role in fostering transparency, it is argued that COI declarations are also valuable because of their symbolic and educational functions. This presentation describes how the common standard was implemented first in one peer reviewed journal and subsequently disseminated within the network of an international editors society representing over 50 addiction journals.

11.30–13.00 Parallel sessions

Authorship Elise Langdon-Neuner & Linus Svensson

University Press Challenge Aldo Pinchera

13.00–14.30 Lunch at Conference Centre

14.30–16.00 Parallel sessions

Cultural Integrity of Journal Guidelines and their Translation Paola De Castro

Misconduct in Science Communication Alison Clayson & Elise Langdon-Neuner

20.00–22.00 Conference dinner at Opera Primaziale, Pisa Places limited.

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Saturday 19th September

Registration desk open 08.30-11.00

09.00–11.00 Plenary Four: Editorial Independence and Responsibilities

a) ***Errors in the science literature: avoidance and correction*** David Vaux, Department of Biochemistry, La Trobe University, Australia & Committee for Freedom and Responsibility in the conduct of Science (CFRS; a sub-committee of ICSU, the International Council for Science).

Errors can arise in the scientific literature innocently, due to the statistical nature of science, or not so innocently, either because of incompetence or deliberate falsification, fabrication or plagiarism. Using statistical arguments, John P. A. Ioannidis has proven that more than 50% of claimed research findings are false (PLoS Medicine 2:696-701). In addition, there is evidence indicating large numbers of papers have been incompetently written or reviewed, or are the result of scientific misconduct. For Science Editors this raises two important issues: How can the number of errors that enter the literature be reduced? and How can errors that have been published be efficiently corrected? This talk will provide some examples to illustrate the size of the problem, and make some practical suggestions to help maintain the integrity of the scientific literature.

b) ***Intellectual property rights issues for editing and publishing*** Charles Oppenheim, Department of Information Science, Loughborough University, UK

Copyright and database rights are important issues for editors and publishers. Following a general introduction to current law in Europe, and likely changes in the future, copyright issues associated with the refereeing, editing and publishing processes will be examined, as well as the implications for the traditional assignment of copyright posed by the Open Access movement. Database right issues associated with the submission of datasets to journal editors will be covered, as will the impact of Creative Commons in the scientific publishing arena. The presentation will conclude with recommendations for editors and publishers regarding how to handle some of these issues.

11.30–13.00 Parallel sessions

The role of editors and journals in fostering responsible conduct of research Ana Marusic

Promoting the public perception of science through clear communication John Joyce & Emma Campbell

13.00–13.30 Closing Ceremony

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General Information

The venue

The Palazzo dei Congressi was previously owned by the University of Pisa but is now under independent management. It has a large auditorium that can be sub-divided for the parallel sessions. There is ample display space for posters and the exhibition, as well as additional rooms for committee meetings, etc. Plus a roof terrace for socializing!

Submitted papers and posters

Please send an abstract (200 words) as soon as possible, for consideration, to: Programme Committee, c/o EASE secretary (secretary@ease.org.uk). Deadline: **15th March 2009**. Please submit your abstract as soon as possible; do not wait for the deadline! The topic should be relevant to one of the planned sessions.

Registration

All registrations will be handled by Grupo Pacifico. Go to www.ease.org.uk to download your registration form, which must be returned by mail or faxed to: + 34 913 023 926. If you require a registration form and hotel booking form, in print, please contact ease2009@pacifico-meetings.com giving your full name and postal address.

Registration fees

There is a considerable discount for paid-up Members! Please ensure your subscription is up to date; otherwise you may be charged the non-member rate.

Members (before 30 June)	€ 390
Members (after 30 June)	€ 440
Non-members (before 30 June)	€ 490
Non-members (after 30 June)	€ 540

Registration includes: an invitation to the Reception following the General Assembly and lunch on Friday 18th September. It does not include the Conference Dinner for which tickets may be ordered at €60 per ticket. Places are limited.

Accompanying Persons may buy tickets for the Reception for € 20 and Conference Dinner tickets as above.

Accommodation

All hotel bookings should be made via the Grupo Pacifico. Bookings should be made by **15th August**; after which availability will not be guaranteed. Rooms have been reserved with a range of providers. The hotel booking form may be down-loaded from the EASE website www.ease.org.uk or via the Grupo Pacifico conference website www.pacifico-meetings.com. Please fax your completed hotel booking form to + 39 06 4542 6631 or post it to Emme Destination Service di Flavia Magnano, Via Pio IX 175, I-00167 Rome, Italy. Email: accommodation.ease2009@mds-italia.it

Travel

Many airlines fly direct to Pisa International Airport. Its website <http://www.pisa-airport.com> lists all flights into Pisa as well as ways of getting to and from the airport. There are also many flights to Rome (3 hours by train) and Milan (3½–4½ hours by train). Pisa airport is a 5-minute train ride (ca. €1) and 10-minute taxi ride (around €10) from the city centre. For more train information see <http://www.trenitalia.it/en/index.html>. By car: Florence-Pisa autostrada along the Arno valley; the SS12 or S12r from Lucca; the A12 comes down the coast from the north, and the SS1 runs north and south along the coast.

Currency

The currency in Italy is the Euro.

Optional workshop: Managing a Journal Editorial Office

This will be run by Linus Svensson and Joan Marsh on **Thursday 17th September**, at the Palazzo dei Congressi. Places will be limited to about 20. Please contact secretary@ease.org.uk if you are interested.

Local tours around Pisa

The University of Pisa is offering 2 free guided tours for 25 people to visit the Museum of the Opera of the Duomo and the Monumental Graveyard (where there are important paintings by Benozzo Gozzoli). These tours will last 1½–2 hours. See the website for details.

Volunteers required: EASE Information Desk and Buddy system

We require volunteers to staff the EASE Information Desk during breaks. Also, in response to feedback from the previous conference, we are planning to instigate a buddy system: experienced EASE members will be assigned to befriend and look after new members. If you are willing to help with either of these, please contact secretary@ease.org.uk.

Programme Committee: Arjan Polderman (Chairman), Eva Baranyiová, Paola De Castro, Alison Clayson, Jenny Gretton, Roderick Hunt, Joan Marsh, Remedios Melero, Linus Svensson