

Editorial Vision for *Progress in Transplantation*

Important goals for any journal are to improve the quality of the science published and reduce the time to publication, both accomplished by strategic planning. Increasing the quality of the science means attention to detail as well as reporting of studies based on standard guidelines. *Progress in Transplantation* has adopted the Equator Network guidelines¹ for reporting study outcomes and asks each author to refer to these guidelines when structuring (or restructuring) the manuscript. Consistency and transparency of the study design and findings is just one way to improve manuscript quality. In addition, every manuscript considered for acceptance will have a plagiarism check prior to acceptance. Crossref Similarity Check powered by iThenticate² has been added to our online site and checks will begin with our next issue. This will help authors ensure appropriate paraphrasing and prevent plagiarism.

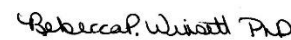
An additional strategy to increase the quality of accepted articles is to focus on future growth and strategic planning; therefore, an Editorial Advisory Board will be developed. The Editorial Advisory Board will assist the Editor for future growth of the journal. This differs from our current list of Editorial Board members listed on the front cover of the journal. This list of board members are reviewers for submitted manuscripts and are directly responsible for the quality of the science published. They are a valuable resource, many who review for multiple transplant or science journals. Since the quality of the reviews is important we needed to expand our pool of content experts. Now, with each invitation to review, our panel is asked to consider referring a colleague. Through this networking, we have expanded our pool of reviewers to greater than 250.

Reducing time to publication is a more difficult hurdle. As the journal is limited to 4 issues per year with a specific yearly page limit, this takes some additional planning. The first strategy will be to appoint 2 Associate Editors who will also take a small assignment and be responsible for the review process, manuscript tracking and editing. An added benefit is Associate Editors can represent the journal promoting readership and content acquisition. The Associate Editor positions are term limited but can be extended based on performance and interest. For persons wanting to gain experience in the publishing field and consider a future as a science editor, this is an extraordinary opportunity. The positions have been approved by the NATCO Board of Directors and each will have a small honorarium.

The new year brings changes, but hopefully the strategies described here will position the journal for future growth. For persons interested in the Editorial Advisory Board or Associate Editor positions, please contact rpwinsett@natco1.org.

1. UK Equator Centre. The equator network: Enhancing the QUALity and Transparency Of Health Research. Found at website <https://www.equator-network.org/> Accessed November 1, 2018.
2. iThenticate. Crossref Similarity Check Powered by iThenticate. Found at website <http://www.ithenticate.com/products/crossref-similarity-check> Accessed November 1, 2018

Warmly


Rebecca P Winsett PhD