



## EASE Newsletter December 2020

### EASE Digest survey: we need your views!



Your EASE Digest will be with you shortly. Thanks to those who have already completed our [feedback survey](#). Click here to complete it, it will only take you a couple of minutes and we will greatly appreciate your views.

And watch out for the latest issue of the Digest - landing at your door mid December.

### 23-25 June 2021 – EASE General Assembly and Conference

The Programme Committee has recently met to continue developing ideas for the 2021 Conference. The event will run virtually to enable simpler planning for everyone: but who knows, with a vaccine around the corner in many parts of the world, the prospect of having some in-person gatherings may not be that far-fetched. Fingers crossed.



### Membership renewals

You will shortly receive your subscription renewal notice. The cheapest way to pay your membership subscription is via credit or debit card through our secure payment portal, Worldpay. We also accept electronic transfers and all the details will be on your renewal notice. Act early to ensure no interruption to your membership benefits.

With new activities each month and, of course, our flagship conference in June, there has never been a better time to encourage friends and colleagues to [join EASE](#). Remember there are significant discounts for groups, so even if you are as few as 3 in your organisation, you can make savings now by coming together.

### Help researchers save time

The [EASE Quick-Check table](#) for submissions is now available in 12 translations. Many thanks to those members who volunteered to translate the text.

## EASE Events



### EASE member get-togethers

We recently held a second virtual get-together with EASE members from UK, plus those in Ireland, USA, Canada and South Africa. The main topic under discussion was EASE training and the potential to develop some form of accreditation scheme. It was a lively discussion with a number of members inputting to the debate. Following on from this, we have planned another virtual get-together on **Tuesday, 8 December 2020** at 2pm GMT. This time, the topic under discussion is the development of EASE's publications and resources. All members are welcome. To join the conversation [email the secretary](#) who will then send you the meeting links.

Our French members will hold their first get-together on Thursday, 21 January hosted by Herve Maisonneuve and Marjolaine Hamelin. If anyone is interested in hosting a get-together in your country/region, get in touch with the [secretary](#), and we can help you organise it.

### 2021 Training events

The training working group has organised a series of 1-hour webinars to kick off the 2021 training programme. These will be available free to members - watch out for further information.

**Thursday, 14 January 2021, 12:30 GMT** – Editorial efficiencies, with Pippa Smart and Duncan Nicholas

**Tuesday, 16 February 2021 1.00pm GMT** – Manuscript editors (title to be confirmed) with Yateen Joshi

**Tuesday 9 March 2021 1.00 GMT** – Research integrity for editors, with Joan Marsh

**Thursday, 22 April 2021 1.00pm GMT** – Quick guide to manuscript peer review, with Bahar Mehmani

### Calling all EASE members who offer training

Don't forget that as part of your EASE membership you can advertise your training courses in our [Training Directory](#). If you are providing courses or training on an ongoing basis we can promote them, and if you have a scheduled date for a specific course, we can advertise that through our events calendar too. Get in touch with the [secretary](#) for further information.

### European Science Editing

Now fully open access; all articles published as soon as accepted.

Latest articles:

- [The intentional search for meaning: developing technical editing skills](#)
- [Web of Science and Scopus are not global databases of knowledge](#)

ESE content and articles are now available to 1.8m users of the social network research discovery app [Researcher](#). The app enables users to follow their favourite scholarly journals and research topics, and learn about the latest publications as they scroll down their personalised newfeeds. Learn more on [ARPHA's blog](#).

## Other News

### Aries partners with ReviewerCredits

Aries has [announced](#) collaboration with ReviewerCredits.com via its submission system, Editorial Manager. The collaboration will provide reviewers with recognition of their reviews by posting their activity against their ReviewerCredit profiles, and earn them credits that can be used to purchase courses, APC discounts, etc.

### Karger and Wiley implement AI

Karger has [announced](#) that it is trialling SciScore, which uses AI to evaluate articles for compliance with regulatory and reproducibility standards. The pilot will use the software in four journals to assess their content and use the reports as performance indicators for future development.

Wiley has [adopted](#) Cactus' UNSILO Technical Checks, which uses AI to check submissions. It is integrating the program into its submission system to help evaluate articles on submission before they reach peer review.

### EASE welcomes a new regional chapter in Romania

The EASE Council has recently ratified the formation of a new Regional Chapter to support the Romanian scientific community. The Chapter is chaired by Dr Octavian Andronic and has already started to create a database of editors in Romania. They will hold a webinar early in the new year to introduce the initiative to their community and start discussions to identify the problems they encounter and make plans to help address them. [Read more](#).

## Other News

### Preprints Involving Medical Research—Do the Benefits Outweigh the Challenges?

This is a very interesting [discussion and analysis](#) from JAMA on a topic that we should all care about. Well worth reading.

### Analysis of transparency indicators

A project has developed an automated system for analysing transparency indicators in biomedical journals. Analysing PubMed Central articles it [reports](#) real improvements in some indicators (e.g. conflict of interest disclosures, funding disclosures), but not others (e.g. protocol registration, code sharing). The data set is freely available for further analysis.

### Nature APCs and OA pilot

Nature has [announced](#) that it is opening up its journals for Open Access articles, levying an APC of €9500.

In addition, it is piloting a "Guided" OA offering for three of its journals. Using this model, authors may submit their articles for review, paying a fee of €2190 for the service. If the article is accepted an APC of €2600 will then be levied. This means that successful authors willing to pay for review up-front will only pay a total APC of €4790 to publish in *Nature Physics* or *Nature Communications*, and a top-up APC of €800 for *Communications Physics*. (*Nature Physics* is a hybrid title, the others are OA journals.)

This route provides a saving of half the APC for *Nature Physics*, but an increase on the APC for the other two journals.

### cOAlition S Journal checking tool

cOAlition S (CoAS) has [launched](#) its journal checker tool which offers researchers a list of compliant venues for their funded articles. The data have been obtained from a variety of sources. The sources include the ESAC Transformative Agreement Registry, the DOAJ, Shareyourpaper.org Permissions, and the CoAS approved list of transformative journals.

### Word(s) of the year

[Oxford Languages](#) (from OUP) has announced its Word of the Year by not announcing a single word. It has instead provided a larger report of the trending words throughout the year – starting in January with bushfire and impeachment, moving through coronavirus and social distancing, to cancel culture, superspreader, and ending up with net zero.

Of note is the difference in terminology for shared experiences this year: compare Lockdown (UK), Shelter-in-place (USA) circuit breaker (Singapore), ECQ (Enhanced Community Quarantine: Philippines).

And [Cambridge Dictionary's](#) word of the year is ... quarantine!

### The perfect Christmas present?

If you are in the USA, then go down to the Oregon book shop, Powell's City of Books. The shop has produced its own [unisex scent](#) based on the smell of the bookstore. Yum.

### Truncating articles

This fascinating demo to support a research project is definitely worth checking out. The paper is called "TLDR: Extreme Summarization of Scientific Documents". Using AI, the programme can summarise articles in a Twitter-length statement – and it really seems to work! See the Demo from the Allen Institute for AI [here](#) and test it out.



Thanks to our conference sponsors

