

JGE Editor in Chief annual report, Eric M. Riggs, October 19, 2020
- updates and additions to the mid-year (4/2020) report

Activities

May 2020

Constructed a detailed plan for processing accepted paper backlog and two special issues pending.

Generally caught up on all pandemic-related delays and backlogs in the editorial chain and also fully sorted the two special issue paper populations for better tracking and planning purposes.

June 2020

Prepared and submitted Volume 68 Number 3 to production. Layout, cover image, permissions, cover text and editorial introduction.

Worked with Lea Cutler at T&F on tweaks to design elements of the print version of JGE that create production bottlenecks, including adjustment of online publication dates printed in published PDFs, simplification of author affiliations lines and running headers.

Accepted the resignation of AE Stephanie Hathcock, and thanked her for her service (since 2013) with the Journal. We are now currently down by 3 AEs, so recruitment of a new group is a high priority.

July 2020

Organized and presented EER workshop with Heather Goss, EIC of EOS on the incorporation of Eos.org material into classroom teaching and curricula. Not strictly JGE related, but the workshop involved many JGE contributors and a handful of AEs, and has resulted in a follow-up project that will involve SERC and Teach the Earth explicitly, so this integration of earth science education publications will be a plus for all journals in this space.

Participated in NAGT Executive Committee meeting 7/28/2020.

Alison Jolley (AJ) agreed to step elevate her role at JGE to become the new Research Editor, succeeding Alison Stokes, who is standing down. This transition has taken place smoothly over the late summer, with AJ handling all new manuscripts and Alison Stokes resolving her last few manuscripts she has been handling.

August 2020

Decisions on Outstanding Reviewer and Outstanding Paper awards made with section editors with substantial input from AEs.

September 2020

Prepared and submitted Volume 68 Number 4 to production. Layout, cover image, permissions, cover text and editorial introduction. Backlog of articles now largely resolved. Remaining accepted articles should fill V69 N1, and should fill out the two special issues currently nearing completion (Polar Education, Large Scale Analysis of STEM Teaching and Communities).

JGE Editor search concluded successfully. Onboarding of Kim Hannula began, continuing until the current time. She and I are working on sharing process roles, and have begun planning for V69 and the management of special issues during 2020/21 as the flow of contributed manuscripts continues unabated.

October 2020

Prepared and pre-recorded awards citations for Outstanding Paper and Outstanding Reviewer awards for GSA 2020.

Approved the start of a full-scale internal and community-wide search for new Associate Editors, led by Kim Hannula

Will conduct the JGE Editors' meeting at GSA 2020 online, 10/26/2020

November 2020

Continue ramping up Kim Hannula's roles as incoming EiC, culminating in my standing down as EiC on 11/30. I may stay on as Commentary Editor, and in any case will also remain available to finish out any manuscripts under my direction or management.

JGE Health and Publishing Metrics (From Taylor and Francis sources and reports)

- 12/01/19 – 10/19/2020
 - 55 new submissions
 - On pace with 2019
 - 79 revision decisions
 - 79 revised manuscripts received
 - Many manuscripts commonly go through 3 revisions prior to acceptance.
 - We are clearly a very collaborative and encouraging community for authors to improve their manuscripts.
 - Overall rejection rate of 37%, almost always at the original submission level.

Original Submission

Editor Decision Term	Total Decisions
Reject	16
Revise - Major revisions	21
Revise - Minor revisions	9
Total Editor Decisions	46

Revision 1

Editor Decision Term	Total Decisions
Accept	7
Reject	1
Revise - Major revisions	10
Revise - Minor revisions	20
Total Editor Decisions	38

Revision 2

Editor Decision Term	Total Decisions
Accept	12
Reject	1
Revise - Major revisions	5
Revise - Minor revisions	13
Total Editor Decisions	31

Revision 3

Editor Decision Term	Total Decisions
Accept	8
Revise - Minor revisions	6
Total Editor Decisions	14

Revision 4

Editor Decision Term	Total Decisions
Accept	3
Revise - Minor revisions	1
Total Editor Decisions	4

Revision 5

Editor Decision Term	Total Decisions
Revise - Minor revisions	1
Total Editor Decisions	1

Revision 6

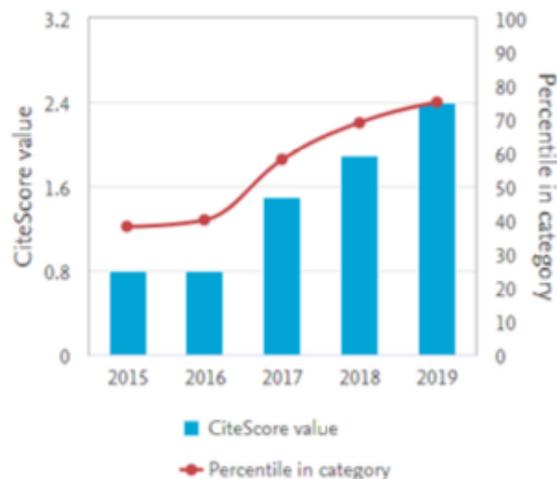
Editor Decision Term	Total Decisions
Accept	1
Total Editor Decisions	1

Citation metrics

Journal of Geoscience Education, Scopus Metrics, 2015-2019

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
SNIP	0.464	0.372	0.769	0.941	0.965
CiteScore	0.8	0.8	1.5	1.9	2.4
SJR	0.336	0.291	0.349	0.414	0.386

CiteScore trend



Our citation metrics are improving at a very fast rate, especially our CiteScore. This is due both to careful control over content quality by the editorial staff (especially the section editors), but also is a direct outcome of our exposure increase due to the efforts of Taylor and Francis to increase the visibility of the *Journal*. Our out-of-field citations are also increasing steadily, which will help increase our impact factor. Our modeled mock impact factor is steadily increasing, and T&F may wish to start formally reporting that once they believe it's high enough to help our reputation and other metrics.

Scopus metrics include:

1. **Source Normalised Impact per Paper (SNIP)** – designed to allow comparisons of journals across subjects, citations processed for the SNIP are adjusted according to the journal's own subject area.
2. **CiteScore** – is the number of citations received by a journal in one year to documents published in the three previous years, divided by the number of documents indexed in Scopus published in those same three years.
3. **SCImago Journal Rank (SJR)** – citations processed for the SJR are weighted: a citation from a higher ranked journal being worth more than from a lower ranked journal.

Challenges and opportunities moving forward

The selection of Dr. Kim Hannula as the permanent Editor in Chief will stabilize and streamline operations, and should allow more long-range visioning and planning.

It is likely she will elect to keep me on as Commentary section editor, joining AJ and Karen as senior editors. This will allow for further development of this section related to theory, literature review and true commentary about geoscience education to argue for specific advancements in research or practice.

Attracting and retaining a diverse set of Associate Editors has been and remains a challenge, and a search is underway currently to find 3-5 new AEs across emerging disciplines and dimensions of diversity.

A number of new special theme issues have been proposed informally, and finding a way to manage these around the flow of regular manuscripts will be a persistent challenge for the next few years.