EDITORIAL

Journal of Research in Science Teaching Annual Report:
January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010

We present this brief report to readers of the Journal on editorial operations for JRST during the 2010 calendar year. Additional information on JRST and JRST initiatives can be found in our reports at http://jrst-editors.net. Comments or questions are welcome on the website.

Statistics

The 2009 ISI Impact Factor ratings were released during the summer of 2010, and through the efforts of the prior editorial team the Journal achieved an impact factor of 1.91, making it 13th out of 139 in the Education/Educational research category and placing it ahead of other journals in our field.

For the 2010 calendar year, the JRST editorial staff processed a total of 394 original submissions, compared with 330 for 2009 (McGinnis, Collins, Dai, Breslyn, & Henry, 2010). This 18% increase in submissions to the Journal continues a multi-year trend of growth. In addition, we received 66 revised manuscripts, for a total of 454 manuscripts on the year, compared with 436 for 2009. We anticipate that in 2011 JRST will break the 500 manuscript number for the first time.

In 2010, 38% of the manuscripts received by JRST came from countries outside the United States. The largest contributing country was Canada, followed by Taiwan, Turkey, Egypt and Australia. In all, manuscripts were received from a total of 38 nations.

For decisions made in 2010, the acceptance ratio for the Journal was 12.3%, which closely matches the acceptance ratio for the past 5 years (McGinnis et al., 2010).

We continue to work to improve the timeliness of manuscript turnaround and decision. Average time from submission to decision is down to 62 days, with an average reviewer turnaround of 17 days. The Journal has eliminated its publication backlog and can now ensure extremely timely publication of manuscripts. The final manuscript for this May issue was accepted on March 15. Combined with the reduced review time, we are starting to see the shortest time-to-publication for JRST in many years.

Other Initiatives

Over the past year, a number of new initiatives have brought a new look and new features to the Journal as we pursue the editorial vision we announced last year (Krajcik & Calabrese-Barton, 2010). Details on these as well as plans for the coming year can be found in our reports at http://jrst-editors.net, where we welcome your comments and suggestions.

—Professor Angie Calabrese Barton, Michigan State University
Professor Joe Krajcik, University of Michigan
Co-Editors
Dr. Bob Geier, University of Michigan
Assistant Editor
Ms. Patricia Bills, Michigan State University
Ms. Hayat Hokayem, Michigan State University
Graduate Assistants

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