

an authors' newsletter



Issue 1.1 October 2007

Editorial

Welcome to the first issue of the Authors' Newsletter, a publication designed to address the needs of all academic authors looking to publish in the 21st century. As editors we are seeking to provide information and assistance for authors via a wide variety of articles and features, ranging from updates on technical advances by Taylor & Francis to explanations of legal and ethical issues in the publishing industry.

Over time, we will be building up an extensive database of articles on the Taylor & Francis website **informaworld™** (www.informaworld.com) which will offer authors a "one-stop-shop" for information on issues relating to publishing. In this first print issue of the Newsletter, we look at a wide range of subjects, with articles on the improved experience that our new web platform **informaworld™** will offer authors, the continued importance of publication in the digital age, and a piece outlining our new author feedback system.

One of our principal aims is to encourage a two-way dialogue with our authors—we want to hear what we can do to make publishing with us a successful and satisfying experience. To achieve this, we will feature regular "Author Feedback" articles giving you the chance to air your views on your dealings with us. If there is an area of interest that you would like to see covered in future editions of this Newsletter, we would also like to hear from you as we want to make this Newsletter as valuable a resource as possible. Please feel free to contact the editors at any time via the email address (authorsnewsletter@informa.com).

The Authors' Newsletter will be published in two different formats: online via our website (www.informaworld.com/authors_newsletter) and in a printed format twice a year in April and October. It will be freely available to anyone who wants to access it. Look out for the latest issue at academic conferences from now on!

Charlie Barnett & Marc Gillett
Co-editors, Authors' Newsletter

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... And visit our new website **www.informaworld.com/authors_newsletter** for all the latest articles and Author Services information.



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Our Contact Details

It couldn't be easier to offer your suggestions or comments for future issues of the Authors' Newsletter: just email the editors at authorsnewsletter@informa.com.



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informaworld™ and the Author

What is informaworld™?

Informa plc is the leading provider of specialist information to the global academic and scientific, professional, and commercial communities. **informaworld™** is our new electronic publishing platform, which was launched in 2006 and can be found at www.informaworld.com.

What are the benefits?

For the first time subscribers can search across all of our content, regardless of format. The site offers many enhanced and new features that can help you as an author:

- Improved access to the latest research. Access to over 1,000 journals from Taylor & Francis, Routledge, and Psychology Press, as well as over 180 Informa Healthcare journals, selected encyclopedias, 185,000 A&I records from all Taylor & Francis abstract databases, and a growing collection of 260,000 eBook chapters from Taylor & Francis, Routledge, and Informa Healthcare.
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- Enhanced presentation of illustrations, supplementary data, and multimedia files.

What information can I find on informaworld™ that will help me as an author?

Our aim is to give you all the help and information you need to submit your article correctly. The topics we cover can be found on the webpage available at www.informaworld.com/authors_journals:

The screenshot shows the informaworld.com website interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for eBooks, Journals, Reference Works, and Abstract Databases. A search bar is present with a dropdown menu set to 'entire site'. Below the search bar, there are links for 'SIGN IN', 'Register', 'Why Register?', 'Sign Out', and 'Got a Voucher?'. The main content area is titled 'Author Area' and 'Publish With Us > Journal Authors'. It contains a list of questions for authors, such as 'Why publish with us?', 'Which journals do we publish in your subject area?', and 'How can we help you stay informed about your subject?'. On the right side, there is a 'Journal Authors' sidebar with a list of links including 'Publish with Us', 'Publish in your Subject Area', 'Submit an Article', 'Choosing a journal', 'Copyright Issues', 'iOpenAccess', 'Resources for Authors', 'Submission Process', 'After Publication', 'Stay Informed', 'Book Authors', 'Reference Work Contributors', 'Editors & Societies: New Journal Idea', and 'Editors & Societies: Publish with Us'. The footer contains links for 'Privacy Policy', 'Terms & Conditions', 'Accessibility', and 'RSS', along with the text '© 2007 Informa plc'.

All of these questions are answered in our specialist Authors' area of **informaworld™**, www.informaworld.com/authors, where you can also contact us with any question you have about publishing with Taylor & Francis.

Jessica Feinstein
Author Services Manager

The Pros of Publication

Why publish?

Regardless of the discipline or field that you work in, the reasons for seeking publication are the same. Through publication, you have the ability to report your research and communicate it to your peers in your subject area. Making work available on your personal homepage or department website does fulfil these two criteria of registration and recognition, but publishing in this manner does have its limits. It is unlikely that by doing this you will reach new audiences and achieve the level of dissemination that you would hope for. Publication in a journal ensures that your work is seen and noticed by your peers who are the readers and users of the journal, and includes a level of validation and certification that making it available online yourself does not. Other benefits include advanced bibliometrics that can rank articles by online usage and citation levels, and archiving, which means that your work will be available for people to access long after it has been published. Furthermore, whilst recognition and first registration of your research is desirable, no serious author would want to be known for work that is lacking in academic rigor and contains misleading or inaccurate conclusions.

Since the 17th century, scholarly journals have provided an outlet for the research of countless academics. By going through the process of peer review, which is the bedrock of scientific and scholarly journal publishing, your research is carefully considered and commented upon, and, if accepted, can then be revised and refined before eventual publication. The impact of peer review on the quality of published research is one of the most beneficial and advantageous aspects of journals publishing and remains an essential service of quality assurance for both authors and readers. To highlight our commitment to quality, we have a peer review integrity logo to clearly mark online journal content. This ensures that work published in our journals cannot be mistaken for anything other than research that has gone through this rigorous and beneficial process.



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We are dedicated to adding value to the content we publish and the services we can offer you. We have introduced Manuscript Central online submission and peer review services to over 300 journals. This means that authors receive a decision on their paper much sooner than was the case previously. Papers flow directly from Manuscript Central into our own online article tracking system (called CATS). This enables all involved, including authors, to track papers through the production process and has similarly reduced the time taken from the acceptance of a paper to it being ready for publication.

The majority of our journals are published in print and online. This allows readers to choose how they access the content and increases the level of use each journal receives.

We also offer sophisticated alerting facilities which deliver personalized messages when new research is made available, further heightening the profile of our authors' work. Through our extensive marketing activities we promote our journals to the widest possible audience. We send out direct mail promotions, engage in e-marketing, and offer promotional items. Our journals also receive wide coverage at conferences across the globe, often attended by a member of the publishing team to highlight the quality of the journal content that we offer. Furthermore, our offices in Tokyo, Beijing, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, and Hong Kong have allowed us to target the Asian market, in which we are experiencing success far beyond that of our competitors.

It can therefore be said that by publishing in a scientific or scholarly journal, and with a publisher like the Taylor & Francis Group, an author can be sure that they will benefit from the relationship and provide significant added value to the wider academic community that they serve. Formal publication based on rigorous peer review remains central to the academic and scientific worlds in the digital age.

David Burgoyne
Publishing Editor, Arts & Humanities Journals

Don't Forget the Website!

As well as the articles and information included in the newsletter you hold in your hands, we will also be publishing the latest articles we have available on our website so that the most up-to-date information is available to you between the print issues at the click of a mouse. Just visit our new website at www.informaworld.com/authors_newsletter for more details.

Informing the Author

At Taylor & Francis we are always seeking to enhance our relationship with the authors who publish with us. With the creation of **informaworld™**, our new online platform, and this Newsletter, we want to establish a feedback forum for our authors to help improve the services we offer. We want to actively encourage authors to send in queries and suggestions, which we will then use to improve our service delivery and make publishing with Taylor & Francis as simple as possible.

With this in mind, we have set up a designated email address for authors to submit their queries and suggestions to: authorqueries@tandf.co.uk. All correspondence to this address is dealt with as a matter of urgency by our Author Services Department which aims to offer a comprehensive response to each query whilst analyzing query trends in order to improve our performance and procedures.

The Author Services Department has been receiving queries and suggestions from academics, students, and the public for several months via this email address. So far we have received over 1,000 queries relating to issues as diverse as acceptance rates for a specific journal to questions over copyright. To give the reader an idea of the kind of questions we have received, I have listed some (with the appropriate responses) below:

Q. I sent my article to the journal editor months ago and I haven't had a reply yet. I need to know if my article has been rejected so that I can send it somewhere else if necessary.

A. You should expect to receive confirmation that the editor has received your paper within two weeks of submitting it. However, each journal has a different response time when it comes to reviewing the submitted manuscripts. Please contact the journal editor directly for more information.

Q. My article has been accepted. Can you let me know when it will be published?

A. As soon as your article is received by our production department, you will be contacted by the production editor. You can then contact the production editor directly to find out about the status of your article.

Q. My article is on *iFirst*. When will it be put into an issue?

A. This depends on the number of articles in the backlog for the journal. Please contact the production editor, who will be able to give you an update.

As these examples show, the variety of queries can vary widely but we do try and offer as much information as possible to the correspondent. We do receive some more extraordinary questions, such as "Please give me a detailed procedure on how to recycle Poly Urethane foam by glycolysis" which our Author Services Department was unfortunately not equipped to answer directly. In cases like this we will always try to pass your query on to someone who can help.

As well as keeping us informed about areas where we can improve our service, we will also be addressing some of the more consistent queries we receive in each issue of this Newsletter. In this way, we wish to encourage a two-way discussion which should help remove some of the obstacles that authors face when trying to get their article or book published.

Marc Gillett
Senior Production Editor, Scandinavian Journals



Your suggestions and comments are welcome. Please email them to authorsnewsletter@informa.com

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