

From the Bench to a Career in Scholarly Publishing

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Day-to-day as managing editor:

- Work with editor in chief

- Finding strategic initiatives to push journal forward

 - Mostly involves working with:

 - Marketing

 - Ethics

- Acts as point of contact for journal

 - Liaison between editorial team and scientists

ACS seeks to “advance the broader chemistry enterprise and its contributors”

ACS offers:

- A trusted forum to display and promote science

 - Journals and Newsletters

ACS membership offers:

- Scientific advancement – manage your career

- Connection to professional networks of potential collaborators, mentors, employers

- Professional forums and conferences

- Professional training

ACS in a nutshell:

- The society – communicate science

- Discover – best science

- Advance – careers in science

- Connect – with peers

- Share – your science/passion

Navigating the scientific publishing process

- Scientific publishing is undergoing a revolution

 - Then:** snail mail, rolodex, typesetting

 - Now:** article templates, desktop design, online submission and review, mobile technology, global connection

Journal selection process

- Consider when submitting:

 - Does this journal reach the right audience?

 - Does this journal have the right scope?

 - Will this journal aid the impact of your work?

 - “Impact index” determines the scale of impact a journal has

 - ACS can calculate your own impact factor

 - 10+ is a very high index meaning the journal is perceived to display the soundest scientific work

Impact index it used to identify the best journals for your submission

Submission process, prep, and review

Read journal guidelines

Paper should tell a complete story

Paper should address intended audience

Carefully assemble submission package

Remember that reviewer feedback is valuable

Thoroughly read and respond to ALL critiques

Keep it professional, not personal

Take advantage of reviewer input even if paper is rejected

If you submit paper to a different journal you may encounter some of the same reviewers – a reviewer will take note if their critiques are not reflected in the submission*

*You should reveal the history of your manuscript i.e. state where and when it was submitted, state the critiques and changes made even if rejected, show the timeline of your paper through all its submission processes. This shows that you are continually working to address problems in your work and improve as a scientist

ACS editors offer advice on:

How to make a paper scientifically effective?

The art of the cover letter

The art of the title – short, sweet, and eye catching

The art of the table of contents – attractive, easy to read

Experiment section – how to increase the longevity of your research

ACS Publishing workflow:

Research – author

Peer review – editor, reviewers

Production – composition of PDF (usually formatted in 1-3 days)

Delivery – published to various platforms for readers

Ethics

Embrace transparency

Avoid manipulation of data

All co-authors must approve submission (ACS contacts them to ensure this was done)

ACS provides ethical guidelines online

After publication

The keys to discoverability:

Publicity – social media, self-promotion

Further research

Article additions

ACS tools to support discovery

- Social media

- Research highlights/spotlights

- Virtual/online issues – promotion for narrower more specific audience

- “Editor’s choice”

Paper guidelines – target length

- Letters/communications: 4 pages

- Regular articles: no limit, usually around 10,000 words

- Reviewer critiques: no limit

- Data pages: as much data as possible, but must find a balance*

 - *how much to include in paper vs. supplementary information through external databases/links