

WSSA P1 PUBLICATIONS BOARD REPORT JANUARY 2023

Committee Code and Name: P1 Publications Board

Chair and WSSA Board Coordinator: Chris Willenborg (2023)

Other Committee Members:

James Anderson	2022-W
Sharon Clay	2025-NC
Antonio DiTommaso,	ex-off 2023-P4
Carl Libbey, ex-off	2023-P8
Jason Norsworthy, ex-off	2023-P3
Hilary Sandler	2023-NE
Sarah Ward	2023-W
William Vencill,	ex-off 2023-P2

Financial Reports

Cambridge University Press has been invoiced for the following amounts for 2023 as per our contract:

Support for journal editor stipends: \$52,500

Sponsorship Fee (for support of Outstanding Paper awards): \$6,000

As of January 17, 2023, we are waiting for the finalized 2023 royalty forecasts from CUP.

WSSA Newsletter

Carl Libbey continued to do an excellent job as Newsletter Editor in 2022, with quarterly issues published on time. The newsletter continues to receive timely information for members, and has started to publish short summaries of manuscripts submitted by members.

WSSA Journals feature new look

In November we launched a new and updated look for all three WSSA journals, in order to try to modernize and refresh the appearance. This was a part of our marketing plan and was the culmination of a years' work, but so far the changes appear to be well-received.

WSSA journals in 2022 (2021 figures in parentheses)

2022 was the sixth year with Cambridge University Press as our WSSA publishing partner. We continued working with CUP editorial and production staff to update WSSA journals based on current publishing practices. This now includes inclusion of the journals in the Plan S process (initiative for open-access publishing and more transparent publishing/data procedures). As part of this, we engage in the Transformative Journals process, with a commitment to transitioning to open access in the future. Significant discussion will take place in the coming year on transitioning the journals to open access.

Clarivate Analytics impact factors released in 2022 showed a slight improvement in impact factor for IPMS and Weed Technology, and a slight decline for Weed Science. It was expected that impact factors would rise or fall slightly this year given the large

increases last year that were due to changes in the calculation of impact factors. Our journals remain well-positioned and highly regarded in all areas of weed science despite the competitive environment that exists in scientific publishing. We remain mindful of the fact that authors have more choice than ever when submitting manuscripts in the discipline of weed science, but the WSSA journals continue to offer high quality reviews in a timely manner.

Numbers of published articles increased slightly compared to 2020 for Weed Technology and IPSM and declined slightly for Weed science. The increase for IPSM reverses a decline in the number of published articles in IPSM over the past couple of years. Further to this, as part of ongoing efforts to improve recognition for reviewers, three Outstanding Reviewer awards were given out for 2021, one for each journal.

Weed Science Manuscripts submitted: 160 (183)
Acceptance rate: 40% (39%)
Total page number for 2021 volume: 714 (729)
Number published articles: 77 (77)
Mean time from submission to first decision: 41 days (40 days)
Impact factor 2.58 (2.71)
a. 29/90 Agronomy Journals
b. 103/259 Plant Sciences Journals

Weed Technology Manuscripts submitted: 160 (191)
Acceptance rate: 59% (56%)
Total page number for 2021 volume: 739 (1038).
Number published articles: 98 (137)
Mean time from submission to first decision: 49 days (49 days)
Impact factor: 1.81 (1.70)
a. 53/90 Agronomy Journals
b. 141/259 Plant Sciences Journals

IPSM Manuscripts submitted: 42 (60)
Acceptance rate: 59% (59%)
Total page number for 2021 volume: 159 (281)
Number published articles: 26 (32)
Mean time from submission to first decision: 51 days (40 days)
Impact factor 1.333 (1.273)
a. 189/259 Plant Sciences Journals

Information Posted to WSSA Website:

Links to journal activity, press releases on the new featured journal article each issue, and WSSA Newsletters are posted on the WSSA website. In addition, press releases are also now sent, via email, to all society members to ensure membership is kept abreast important scientific findings. Press releases are also posted to our twitter page to provide greater visibility.

Funds spent in 2022:

Editorial stipends: \$52,500

Outstanding Paper and Outstanding Reviewer awards: \$6,000

Payment to Linda Edgerton for writing featured article press and blog releases: \$3434.75 (\$6,000 budgeted).

Goals for 2023:

- * Initiate and engage with CUP to improve marketing of WSSA journals abroad and increase submissions to journals
- * Broad discussion and consultation towards open access journals
- * Continue to work towards publication of the Herbicide Handbook 11e as a subscription database

Board Actions:

Chris Willenborg
Director of Publications
January 2023