

JOURNAL OF GEOSCIENCE EDUCATION SEPT 2011 REPORT

Prepared by: J. Libarkin
Last modified: Sept. 20, 2011

GENERAL STATUS

JGE's Editorial Board consists of all Editors, Executive Associate Editors, and Associate Editors (AEs). All critical decisions related to content and Editorial Board functions are made collaboratively.

SCI: JGE modified its name in 1995 by changing the word "Geological" to "Geoscience". This resulted a discontinuation of JGE as a journal in the Science Citation Index. Thomson Reuters requires review of at least three on-time consecutive issues for inclusion in this index (as well as the equivalent Social Science Citation Index). Issues must be ON TIME in order for Thomson Reuters to consider JGE for review and consideration.

The latest correspondence from Thomson Reuters follows:

From: <nancy.thornton@thomsonreuters.com>
Date: July 8, 2011 11:02:58 AM EDT
To: <libarkin@msu.edu>
Subject: RE: Journal Evaluation Status Request-Journal of Geoscience Education

Dear Dr. Libarkin,

Thank you for the information. The evaluation of the Journal of Geoscience Education is continuing. We monitor a journal's performance through several issues (sometimes volumes) and in consequence an evaluation may take some time. We appreciate your patience.

Sincerely,

Nancy Thornton
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MANUSCRIPTS

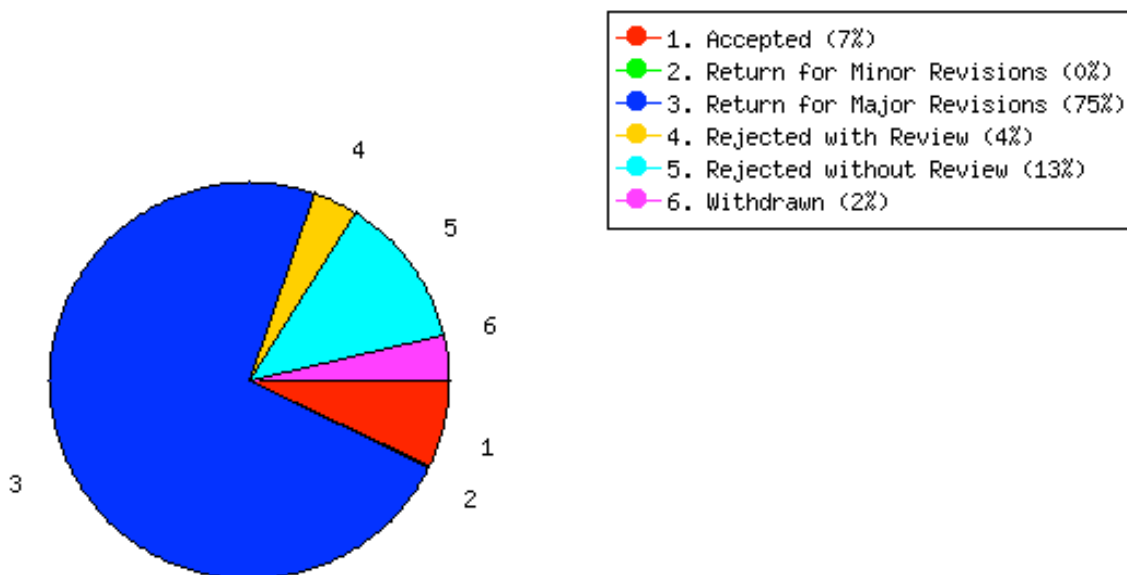
In 2011, the mean time from submission to first decision was 12.6 weeks. We are still working towards identifying Associate Editors who will bring this rate to below 10 weeks.

Submission rates are consistent with prior years. JGE processed 107 manuscripts from Sept. 2010 through Sept. 2011. 58 manuscripts were new submissions; 49 were resubmissions. 4 manuscripts were accepted without revision, 41 were rejected with encouragement to resubmit ("major revisions"), and 9 were rejected. 21 manuscripts were accepted with required revision, 38 were accepted after one or more revisions, and 1 was withdrawn (submission incompatible with JGE).

We have seen a decrease in the submission of purely descriptive pieces, in alignment with our encouragement that authors submit manuscripts pertaining to teaching and learning ideas to In The Trenches. This has been coupled with an increase in Curriculum & Instruction and Research papers in better alignment with JGE guidelines.

Decisions on Original Submissions

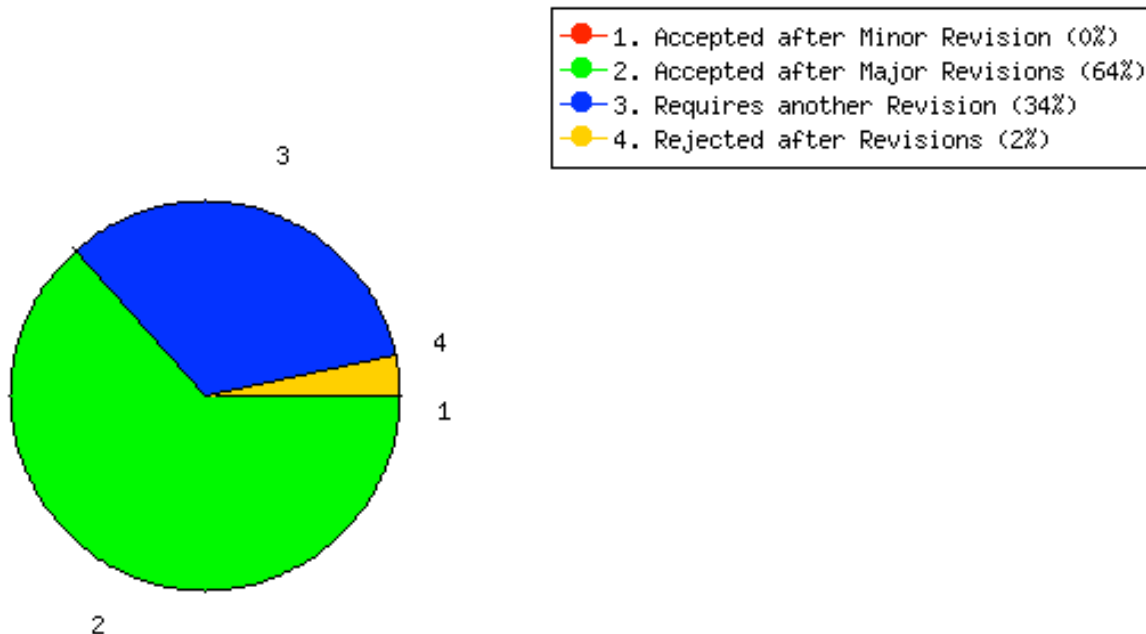
JGE Decision Tracking: Sep 2010 - Sep 2011 (Original Submissions Only)



Note that Original Submissions saw a 7% acceptance rate at first decision. 75% of manuscripts were returned to authors for major revisions; these are manuscripts that were rejected but encouraged for revision and resubmission. Manuscripts rejected without external review (13%) were reviewed by the Editor-in-Chief, one of the Editor for C&I or the Editor for Research, and often an Associate Editor. These manuscripts were deemed too deficient to warrant reject/resubmit status.

Decisions on Revised Submissions:

JGE Decision Tracking: Sep 2010 - Sep 2011 (Revisions Only)



Note that 64% of resubmitted manuscripts were accepted upon 2nd revision. 34% required additional revision. The manuscript rejected after revision was identified as an attempt by the authors to publish a paper already published in EOS.

Internationalization:

In addition to the U.S., JGE has received manuscripts in the past year manuscripts from Argentina, China, Colombia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Portugal and Spain.

Over the period Jan. 1, 2009 through Sept. 23, 2011, JGE received manuscripts from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Ghana, India, Israel, New Zealand, Nigeria, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Trinidad And Tobago, Tunisia, and United Kingdom.

JGE is producing a special issue on Globalization and Geoscience Education (Associate Editor : Chun-Yen Chang; Special Guest Associate Editor: Sharon Locke). This issue should be complete and ready for publication in a 2012 regular issue.

JGE ONLINE

JGE has been a fully functional online journal since Feb. 2011. The current publisher chosen by NAGT, AIP, has decided to no longer publish non-AIP journals. AIP has continued to be a difficult organization to work with. Kristen St. John has undertaken the lead on identifying a new publisher who will work with her as 2012-2014 Editor-in-Chief.

Reflection:

My overall perspective after undertaking the JGE Editorship for three years is positive. I believe the Editorial Team has made great strides in raising the quality of the manuscripts published in JGE. This is due in large part to the standards set by the previous Editor, Carl Drummond, explicit guidelines developed for JGE submissions, the addition of more Associate Editors to the Editorial team, the use of sub-Editors for Curriculum & Instruction and Research papers, and the diversification of the reviewer pool. My interactions with colleagues in other communities have indicated to me that JGE now plays a greater role in scholarly discourse about disciplinary science education. I am also pleased that Thomson Reuters is continuing its review of the Journal for reintroduction to the citation index.

I encourage NAGT to ensure that Dr. St. John's time as Editor-in-Chief is fruitful for both her and JGE. Most importantly, JGE's autonomy as an academic publication must be maintained. I also strongly encourage NAGT to recognize that Dr. St. John is undertaking a difficult and time-consuming job as a volunteer. This warrants NAGT's gratitude towards Dr. St. John and respect for her time.

Sincerely,

Julie Libarkin
Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Geoscience Education
Dec. 31, 2009-2011