

Publication practices and responsible authorship

This core area addresses the purpose and importance of scientific publication, and the responsibilities of the authors. This includes topics such as collaborative work and assigning appropriate credit, acknowledgments, appropriate citations, repetitive publications, fragmentary publication, sufficient description of methods, corrections and retractions, conventions for deciding upon authors, author responsibilities, and the pressure to publish.

Publications on the topic:

Bailar, J., Angell, M., Boots, S., Myers, E., Palmer, N., Shipley, M., & Woolf, P. (1990). Ethics and policy in scientific publication. Bethesda, MD: Editorial Policy Committee, Council of Biology Editors. *Contains 19 case studies on matters related for scientific publication designed to generate class discussion.*

Booth, V. (1993). Communicating in science: Writing a scientific paper and speaking at scientific meetings (2nd ed). New York: Cambridge University Press.

Bulger, R. E., Heitman, E., & Reiser, S. J. (1993). The ethical dimensions of the biological sciences (Part V, pp. 115-142). New York: Cambridge University Press.

Cheney, D. (1993). Ethical issues in research (pp. 45-71). Frederick, MD: University Publishing Group.

Day, R. A. (1995). Scientific English: A guide for scientists and other professionals (2nd ed). Phoenix: Oryx Press.

Day, R. A. (1998). How to write and publish a scientific paper (5th ed). Phoenix: Oryx Press.

Lafollette, M. C. (1992). Stealing into print (pp. 91-107). Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

Macrina, F. L. (2000). Authorship and peer review. In F. L. Macrina (Ed.), Scientific Integrity (2nd ed., pp. 49-72). Washington, DC: ASM Press.

National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, Panel on Scientific Responsibility and the Conduct of Research. (1993). Responsible science: Ensuring the integrity of the research process (Vol. 1, pp. 51-56). Washington, DC: National Academy Press.

Weston, A. (1992). A rulebook for arguments (2nd ed). Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing.

Examples of institutional guidelines on authorship available online

- American Chemical Society: guidelines for the ethical obligations of authors, editors, and manuscript reviewers. Includes a discussion of the ethical obligations of scientists intending to publish outside of the scientific literature. Available online at <http://pubs.acs.org:80/instruct/ethic.html>
- American Medical Association: Issue of JAMA featuring many articles on biomedical peer review (Vol. 280, No. 3, July 15, 1998) <http://jama.ama-assn.org/>
- Council of Biology Editors Authorship Task Force <http://www.councilscienceeditors.org>
- Society for Neuroscience: Responsible Conduct Regarding Scientific Communication (1998). Includes guidelines and suggestions for authors, editors, and reviewers of research manuscripts as well as writing abstracts for scientific presentations,

communication outside of the scientific literature, and recommendations for dealing with possible misconduct. Available online at

<http://web.sfn.org/content/AboutSfN1/Guidelines/guidelines.htm>

- University of Pittsburgh <http://www.pitt.edu/~provost/ethresearch.html>