



EDITORIAL

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Dear Readers and Contributors,

Welcome to the fourth issue of the third volume of International Journal of Environmental and Science Education (IJESE). This issue contains four nice papers solving current topics in science and environmental education. Currently, environmental education journals are still not included in prestigious databases like Social Science Citation Index (SSCI) or Science Citation Index (SCI). Authors of the papers are however often forced to publish in journals indexed in these databases. Therefore, a question *why* to submit your paper to IJESE which is still not indexed in SSCI/SCI database arises. In this Editorial, I will try to address to this unpleasant, but important question.

Submission to a science education journal is open for both science and environmental education area. However, environmental education papers might be rejected due to their narrower direction. It means that environmental education journals are recommended as more appropriate. I do not think that submission to any environmental education journal out of SSCI/SCI lowers the impact of the paper. As it was noted above, none of the environmental education journal is registered in SSCI/SCI. In this situation, growing number of research works in this field has concentrated on these journals that are indexed in other databases like ERIC, EBSCO, SCOPUS, etc. Thus, authors' views in the papers regarding environmental education published out of SSCI/SCI are strongly required. Consequently, the contributor may expect adequate impact of his/her paper (perhaps measured by the number of citations). To advocate the quality of IJESE, I will briefly show some benefits from submissions to our journal.

Although IJESE is a new journal (published since 2006), we received many manuscripts from various countries in the time period of January 01st, 2008 to September 20th, 2008. A breakdown of monthly submissions is illustrated in Table 1.

Table 1. Monthly Submission Rate to IJESE.

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
1	3	2	4	4	7	7	4	5

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Eighteen different countries were represented including Australia, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Finland, Germany, Israel, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Sultanate of Oman, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, and United States of America. This is evidence that IJESE is becoming a well known journal by readers from various countries.

The review process is quite fast when compared with other journals (usually up to 30 days). After an Editor examines the submitted manuscripts for alignment with the journal's scope and stated criteria, were assigned to two or three reviewers (including one editorial board member per manuscript). This took 3 days, on average. When reviewers accept our request to review a manuscript, they are asked to complete the review within 30 days, with a 10 days grace period. Usually all reviewers are reading the manuscript around the same time.

Some journals consider the quality according to the rate of rejected/accepted papers. Rates of rejected papers in top tiered journals are about 50 % and more. This year, IJESE received 37 papers 17 of which (45.9 %) were rejected. Only 9 papers were accepted and 11 papers are under review process. This means that the rate of acceptance in IJESE is similar to the ones in SSCI/SCI journals.

Table 2. Current Status of Manuscripts Submitted to IJESE in 2008.

Accepted	Rejected	In Progress
9	17	11

The journal is published online, so articles are quickly published and are freely accessible to researchers worldwide. Looking these benefits from submissions of papers to IJESE, I believe that some skepticism of undecided contributors will be diminished and the number of submitted papers to IJESE in near future will increase. I suggest that increasing quality of published papers will help IJESE and other environmental education journals with their acceptance to SSCI/SCI database.

In conclusion, I would like to thank to the authors for their submissions, and I encourage others to submit manuscripts to IJESE. I also thank our outstanding editorial board members and reviewers for their diligence in reviewing manuscripts in a timely manner and providing helpful information to authors.

Sincerely,

Associate Editor