The Journal Editor: Manager of an Academic Publication

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Abstract: The editor is the leader of the entire journal publication system. Editorial responsibility starts with receiving a manuscript and concludes with it being published in printed form. Meanwhile, several steps must be accomplished by the editor before publishing can be concluded, such as resolving disagreements between the author and the reviewer. The editor's responsibility and commitment to the author is the key to the success of a journal. Publishing valuable papers and facilitating the development of a research community is a noble profession that enables knowledge to be accessed on demand and further developed.

Keywords: Copy editor, production editor, content editor, technical editor, manuscript, editor's role, quality assurance, editor's knowledge, skill

INTRODUCTION

'Editor' is a well known word to almost every one of us, because newspapers and magazines are overseen by a seemingly all-powerful editor. Many of us do not know how a journal editor differs from a media editor. Perhaps, the nature of the jobs is almost identical, but the responsibility to the target reader group is distinctly different. Journal editing is a completely academic issue associated with quality issues and the quality control system. Newspapers and magazines do not require the passing of articles through as demanding a review process (There are non-reviewed journals which are not covered by this article).

Wordweb (2008) defines an editor to be "a person responsible for the editorial aspects of publication; the person who determines the final content of a text". According to Encarta (2008), an editor is a publishing supervisor who supervises the overall content of a manuscript. The Collins English Dictionary (1995) gives

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