

Photo credit: Philippa Gedde Photography



C O P E

PROMOTING INTEGRITY IN SCHOLARLY
RESEARCH AND ITS PUBLICATION



Objectives

- Introduction to COPE
- Provide a roadmap to COPE resources
- Highlight current ethical issues
- Questions and Answers



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COPE is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee in the UK and was set up by a Memorandum of Association on 3 October 2007.

COPE's principal Objects are *"to educate and advance knowledge in methods of safeguarding the integrity of the scholarly record for the benefit of the public"*.

Small (but highly effective) staff and volunteer Trustee Board and Council
>14,000 members

Our members are primarily editors, but also publishers, universities and research institutes, and related organisations and individuals involved in publication ethics



WHAT IS COPE?

PROMOTING INTEGRITY IN SCHOLARLY
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MISSION

To move the culture of publishing towards one where ethical practices become the norm.

Built around 3 Core Principles

- providing practical resources to educate and support our members
- providing leadership in thinking on publication ethics
- offering a neutral, professional voice in current debates

BY

Our approach is firmly in the direction of influencing through education, resources, and support of our members

We do not enforce adherence to guidance although there are consequences for members that don't support the mission of COPE.

STAKEHOLDERS

Editors, publishers, universities, research institutes, researchers, authors, reviewers, and all those involved in publication ethics, including the public.

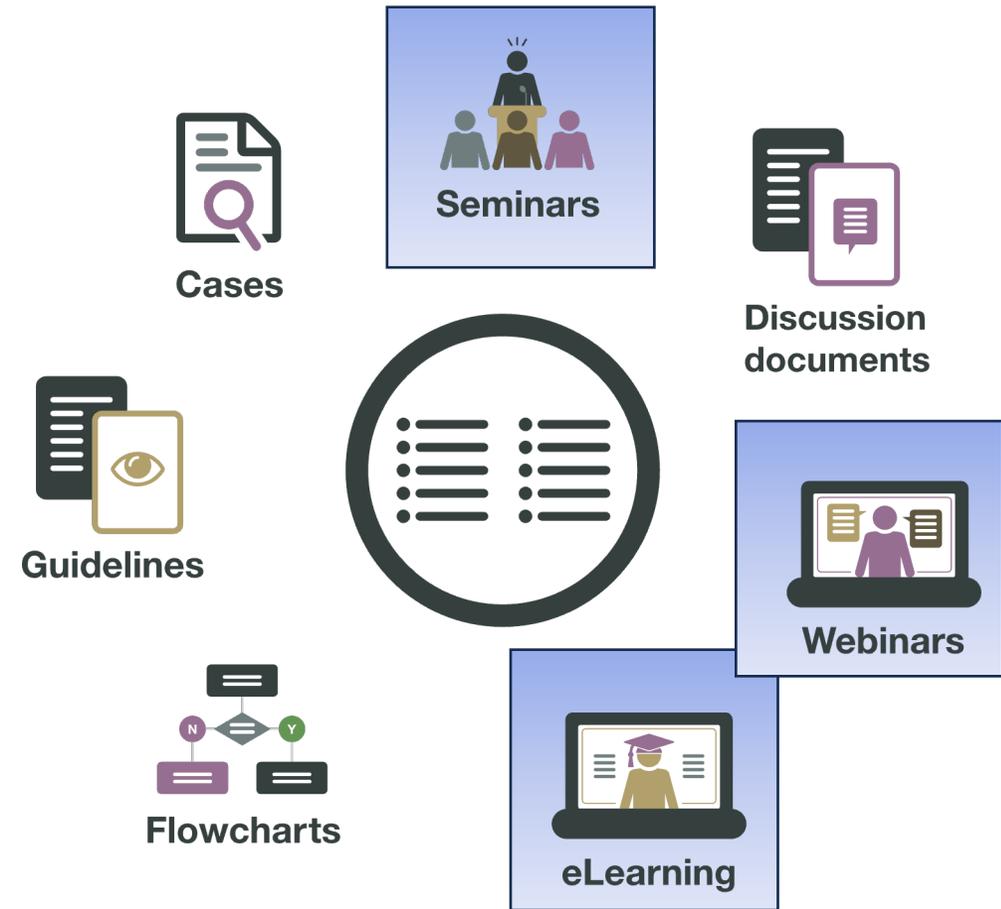


COPE RESOURCES

Examples of resources

From our Core practices and our guidelines to useful sample letters and flowcharts, COPE offers a range of useful tools for journal editors and publishers.

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COPE (Committee on Publication Ethics)

@publicationethics · 405 subscribers · 56 videos

Discussions and educational webinars on publication ethics issues and hot topics given by... >

publicationethics.org

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@publicationethics

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Popular

Oldest



Claiming institutional affiliations, COPE Forum discussion

123 views · 1 month ago



Ethical concerns in research on urbanisation: perspectives from the Global...

58 views · 3 months ago



Caste and publishing ethics: an ethics gap?

84 views · 3 months ago



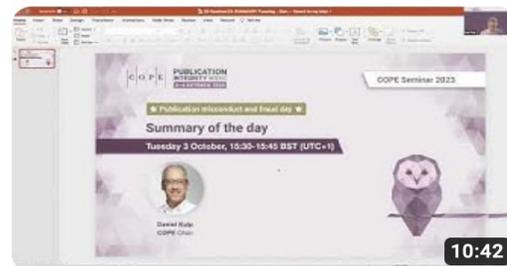
Post-publication corrections

201 views · 3 months ago



Image manipulation

179 views · 3 months ago



Summary of the day

11 views · 3 months ago



Inclusive language: policing or progressive?

164 views · 3 months ago



Publication misconduct and fraud day introduction

10 views · 3 months ago

Expectations of all involved in publishing the scholarly literature with particular focus on editors and their journals, publishers and institutions. Journals and publishers should have robust and well described, publicly documented practices in all of the following areas for their journals



Allegations of misconduct



Authorship and contributorship



Complaints and appeals



Conflicts of interest/ Competing interests



Data and reproducibility



Ethical oversight



Intellectual property



Journal management



Peer review processes



Post-publication discussions and corrections

Each core practice contains links to relevant guidance, cases, sample letters



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PRINCIPLES OF TRANSPARENCY AND BEST PRACTICE IN SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING



Website



Name of journal



Peer review process



Ownership and management



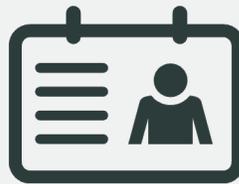


PROMOTING INTEGRITY IN SCHOLARLY RESEARCH AND ITS PUBLICATION

PRINCIPLES OF TRANSPARENCY AND BEST PRACTICE IN SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING



Governing body



Editorial team/
contact information



Copyright and
licensing



Author fees





PROMOTING INTEGRITY IN SCHOLARLY RESEARCH AND ITS PUBLICATION

PRINCIPLES OF TRANSPARENCY AND BEST PRACTICE IN SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING



Allegations of research misconduct



Publication ethics



Publishing schedule



Access



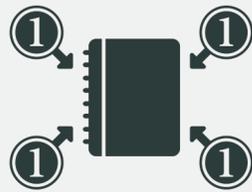


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PRINCIPLES OF TRANSPARENCY AND BEST PRACTICE IN SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING



Archiving



Revenue sources



Advertising



Direct marketing



| C | O | P | E |

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AUTHORSHIP ISSUES

Practical advice on common authorship issues and areas for further discussion.





GUIDANCE

- How to handle authorship disputes: A guide for new researchers
- Ethics toolkit for a successful editorial office
- Cooperation between research institutions and journals on research integrity cases

Authorship Resources

Discussion Document:
Authorship

<https://publicationethics.org/resources/discussion-documents/authorship>

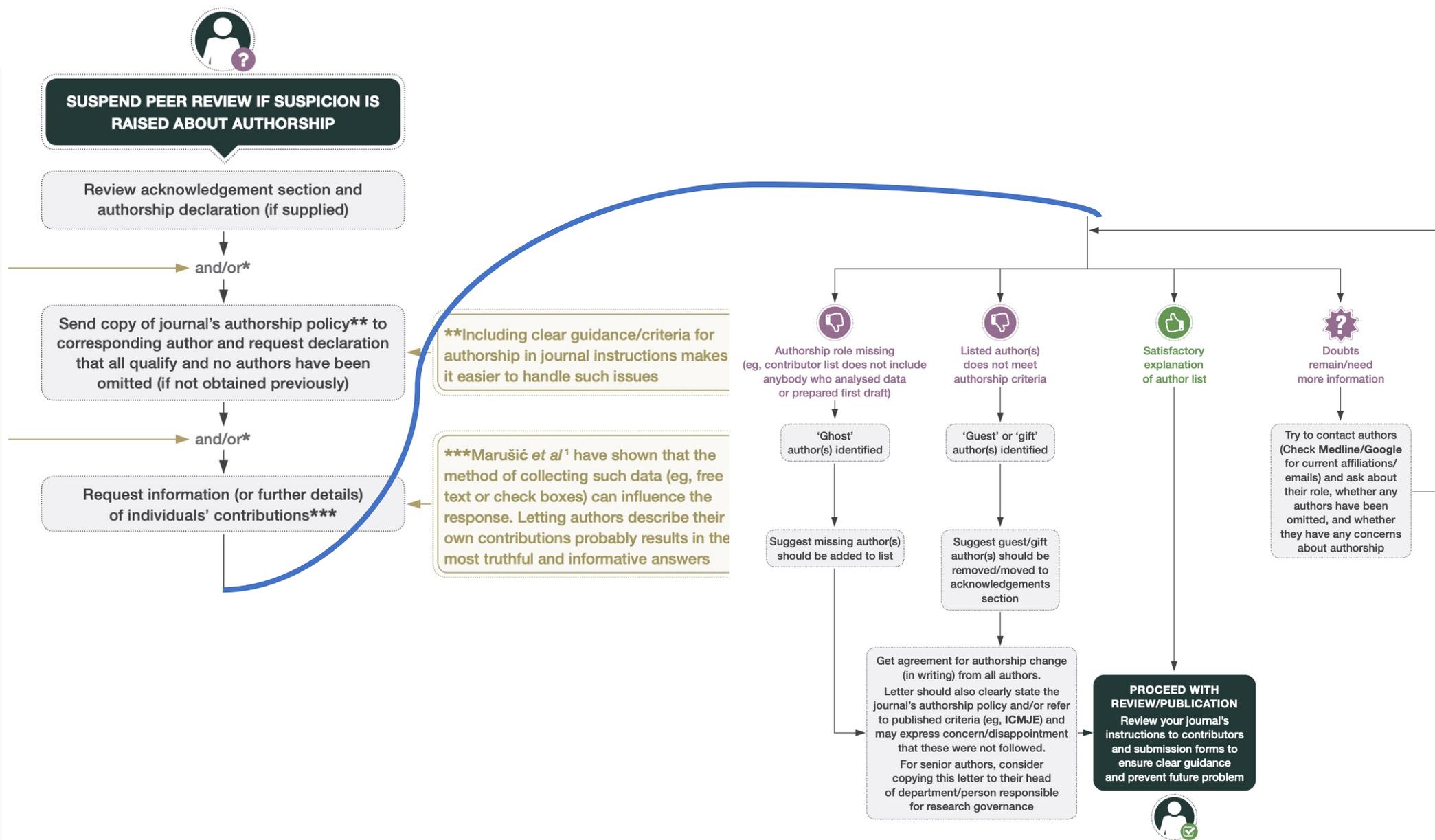
214 cases about
Authorship



Authorship Flowcharts

- How to spot authorship problems
- Authorship and contributorship of unpublished data: Dealing with concerns
- Authorship and contributorship of published data: Dealing with concerns
- Ghost, guest or gift authorship in a submitted manuscript
- Change in authorship: removal of author-before publication
- Change in authorship: removal of author-after publication
- Changes in authorship: Addition of an extra author-before publication
- Changes in authorship: Addition of extra author-after publication

GHOST, GUEST, OR GIFT AUTHORSHIP IN A SUBMITTED MANUSCRIPT



Note: COPE transitioning to recommending that all listed authors are notified of issues simultaneously

AI tools cannot meet the requirements for **authorship** as they cannot take responsibility for the submitted work.

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RESOURCES FOR AUTHORS

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- **Negotiating authorship** (<https://bit.ly/2YbaHGX>):
A score sheet for quantifying contributions to a project to determine order of authorship.
- **Negotiating order of authorship** (<https://bit.ly/2LKUKAJ>):
Authorship tiebreaker scorecard used when 2 or more people achieve the same score on the authorship determination score sheet.
- **Contract among authors during project development** (<https://bit.ly/2Mo5Jzw>)
- **Contract among authors after publication/presentation agreed** (<https://bit.ly/2GzKgQk>)
- **NIH Guidelines for authorship contributions** (<https://bit.ly/314njwK>)
- **Working with third-party editing or medical communications companies:**
The international society for Medical Publication Professionals (isMPP); (<https://www.ismpp.org>) developed guidelines for medical writers working with authors on company-sponsored research (known as **Good Publication Practice** or **GPP**). These guidelines form the basis for enhanced transparency in working with third-party medical writers and editors (*Battisti WP, Wager E, Baltzer L, Bridges D, Cairns A, Carswell Cl, et al. Good Publication Practice for Communicating Company-Sponsored Medical Research: GPP3. Ann Intern Med.163:461 DOI:10.7326/M15-0288*). Subsequently, the **American Medical Writers Association (AMWA)** and the **European Medical Writers Association (EMWA)**, with the **ISMPP**, released a position statement on the role and responsibilities of professional medical writers (<https://bit.ly/2ISgwqo>).



- Artificial intelligence
- Predatory journals
- Watchlists
- Preprints
- Conflicts of interest
- Manipulation of the peer review process
- **Paper mills**

EXAMPLES OF
CURRENT AND
EMERGING
ETHICAL ISSUES



- United2Act is committed to addressing the collective challenge of paper mills in scholarly publishing.
- Paper mills are a real threat to the integrity of the scholarly record. Collective effort is needed because no individual stakeholder can solve this problem alone.



<https://united2act.org>

Launched Jan 19, 2024



1. Education and awareness

To create new educational tools and resources, and to promote education and awareness activities to make researchers, journal editors, reviewers, journals, and publishers aware of the problem of paper mills.



3. Research paper mills

To work with interested parties to facilitate and organise research to be carried out on paper mills, with particular attention to regional and subject specific aspects.



2. Improve post-publication corrections

To investigate and agree ways to improve communication with those who report misconduct to journals, and to agree ways in which the correction of the literature can be speeded up when misconduct is discovered.



4. Enable the development of trust markers

To work with the various suppliers who are developing tools which verify the identity of authors, reviewers, and editors to ensure that the solutions work for the variety of authors and author purpose.



5. Continue to facilitate dialogue between stakeholders about the systematic manipulation of the publication process

To continue to bring together the many voices in this area through joint projects and initiatives.

United2Act

Signatories
Jan 31, 2024

- Center for Open Science
- Clarivate
- Elsevier
- European Research Council
- FEBS press
- Global Young Academy
- National Research and Innovation Agency
- ORCID
- Pakistan Academy of Sciences
- Queensland University of Technology
- Royal Society of Chemistry
- Springer Nature
- Taylor & Francis
- Wiley

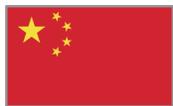


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COPE RESOURCES

Translated resources

COPE is working towards translating more resources to allow communication with a wider audience.



Chinese



Croatian



German



Italian



Japanese



Persian



Polish



Portuguese



South Korean



Spanish



Turkish