JSM Editorial Team Transitions: Progress Made and Progress Anticipated

Marvin Washington and Richard Wolfe

As we transition from Richard to Marvin as JSM’s Editor, we believe that it is timely to advise the JSM community of outcomes resulting from past changes to JSM Editorial processes and to our Editorial Team.

As described in earlier communication (Wolfe & Washington, 2011) JSM adapted its editorial structure in a manner that is consistent with other major journals in January 2011. While up to January 2011 we had an Editor and an Associate Editor responsible for manuscript submissions, we added four Associate Editors to our Editorial Team at that time:

- Janet Fink, University of Connecticut
- Daniel Rascher, University of San Francisco
- David Shilbury, Deakin University
- Dennis Smart, Texas State University San Marcos.

These changes have had their intended benefits as the average review time of an original submission decreased from 43 days prior to the change (in 2009–2010) to 34 days (in 2011–2012), a decrease of 21%. Similarly, the average total time a submission is under review, including revisions, decreased from 99 days prior to the change (in 2009–2010) to 66 days (in 2011 – 2012), a decrease of 33%. These improvements have been achieved while maintaining the rigour of our review process; JSM’s acceptance rate of 19.2% in 2011–2012 is very comparable to previous rates: 21.2% in 2010–2011 and 20.2% in 2009–2010. While the structural and related process changes described above were implemented, we have maintained the rigor of our review process.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank each of the Associate Editors listed above for their significant contribution to the progress described just above. Two of the Associate Editors, Daniel Rascher and Dennis Smart, have decided to leave the Editorial Team at this time; we thank Dan and Dennis for their significant contributions.

We are pleased to announce other changes to the Editorial Team; we welcome David Shilbury, Deakin University, as Senior Associate Editor; George Cunningham, Texas A&M University, Christine Green, University of Texas at Austin and, Brad Humphries, the University of Alberta, are new Associate Editors. We are fortunate that Janet Fink has agreed to continue as an Associate Editor.

Thanks very much to each of the above for agreeing to take on these very important roles.

We, of course, continue to have a Digest Editor (Jeremy Jordan) and Book Review Editor (Tim DeSchriver) and are very appreciative of their contribution to JSM.

While the changes to JSM’s editorial processes and to our Editorial Team described above were motivated by logistics necessity, processes involved in making the changes were very much influenced by the wise counsel of NASSM’s Executive Council. The EC persuaded us that processes involved in determining the Editorial Team be more transparent—as they now are; that is, there is currently a call and transparent process with EC involvement for determining the Sr. Associate Editor (who becomes the next Editor) and all Editor Team changes are discussed with NASSM’s President. In a manner consistent with our appreciation of being “NASSM’s Journal”, we encourage individuals who have an interest in being on the Editorial Team to contact Marvin.

You will note that an updated “Submission Guidelines” is published in this issue. We have instituted minimal changes to the guidelines. The one editorial direction we have moved in is captured in the following sentence: “Manuscripts will be evaluated in terms of topical relevance, theoretical contribution, methodological adequacy, and clarity of explanation and analysis.” This addition is intended to make two points: (1) the field of sport management is currently mature enough such that scholars from any discipline are expected to ground their work in extant sport management literature, and (2) submissions which address a phenomenon which is well documented in contexts other than sport, do not make a “theoretical contribution” unless there are specific

Alexandris is with the Dept. of Physical Education and Sport Science, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece. Tsiotsu is with the Dept. of Marketing and Operations Management, University of Macedonia, Edessa, Greece.
contingencies related to sport which lead the authors to propose and explain why different findings are expected within sport, or how studying the phenomenon within sport, extends the theory.

As per our 2011 message: we trust that you will find that our new structure will continue to result in the timely review processes and high quality feedback we aspire to provide.

We thank you for your support of the journal and look forward to seeing your submissions in the near future.

Marvin and Richard

References