

Prologue

This is a very short highlight of our Journal operations during this very busy period. Our Coverage will emphasize the period since the IAOS Meetings last year in DaNang.

1. Overall Health of the Journal

The Journal is thriving, with the number and quality of submissions up and readership growing as well. Chronic problems still remain, though. For example, turnaround on paper reviews needs more work and more editors may have to be added. The Journal is finally coming out on time; but efforts to do this systematically remain a challenge.

2. Continuing Strong Teaming with IOSPress

The relationship with our Journal Publisher is a great strength. Their deep experience and knowledge aid us in crucial ways, as the Journal continues to adapt and the Journal Editorial Board to achieve maturity.

3. Transitioning to new Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Kirsten West, June next year

The abrupt transition of editorship caused by the untimely death of the previous Editor-in-Chief gave an extra emphasis to a smooth transition of Chief Editors. The EXCO appointment of Dr. West in June, as our next Editor-in-Chief has already begun to pay dividends (See No. 5 below.) At this time let me again extend my personal thanks to all involved.

4. Continuing support from Editorial Assistant, Greta Cherry

Greta Cherry has been a godsend for the Journal. The Journal will be over three times its size this year, relative to 2012. And this would not have been possible without her invaluable assistance. Thanks are due also, of course, to our IAOS President(s), especially Shigeru, for help in her hiring and continued financing.

5. Successful Benchmarking with JOS (Stockholm Celebration)

Dr. West attended the 30th Anniversary JOS celebration in Stockholm. She succeeded in strengthening the already strong bond that exists with JOS. They have a complementary mission to our Journal. But there is still a lot we can learn from them and we are! Her notes on the meeting are available upon request.

6. Feedback and Publicity from Readers on the June/earlier issues

Thanks to our last IAOS President, Stephen Penneck, an ongoing effort has been made by the IOSPress and the Journal Editorial Board to track readership and improve Journal availability. News Releases now go to over 8,000 potential readers, for example, up from about 2,000 a year ago. Special open issues like the June issue on Big Data, are getting us the right kind of attention. More are planned. Member feedback is especially sought here, if time, today!!!

7. Status of the September issue (Now at the printer, when we are in Rio)

September will be another big issue, well over 100 pages. Many themes are given our regular prominence, like the continuing discussion of the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics. Also featured are papers from a session, sponsored by our Journal at the NTTs, on modernizing population censuses. And, of course, much, much more.

8. Efforts to increase the number and quality of Journal submissions

We will be at the Writer Workshop at these meetings and will hope to play a larger role at the next such WSC workshop. There are plans to mount a writer workshop at our own IAOS meeting in 2016. We will also be seeking EXCO support for ways to win back NSI submissions that are not renewed. nonrenewals are not big in numbers yet; but there is some evidence of price sensitivity.

Epilogue

I hope we have time for questions and comments now for each of you, so we can provide a better and better Journal. My email is Scheuren@aol.com. My cell number is +1-202-320-3446. Despite the desire for a paper free meeting I do have business cards for anyone who wants one.

