Have you seen the new ISMTE website? A big thanks goes out to the team at Apex Management for updating our website and making it more user friendly. Check out some of the new sections, such as the Focus Area page and the Sign Up page to learn more about joining a committee and other volunteer opportunities with ISMTE.

In this issue, Deborah Bowman, Chair of the Membership and Social Media Committees, presents her strategies and goals for expanding ISMTE membership and where she could use your help. ISMTE is active on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn—remember to “like” our Facebook page, follow us on Twitter, and join LinkedIn to connect with other members and find out about upcoming events.

Do you have questions about English language, usage, or grammar? Are you an English language enthusiast eager to share your knowledge with others? Check out the English Usage and Language Stack Exchange—a new type of online forum for asking questions and getting the best answers from topic experts.

In this month’s Winding Path article, Donald Samulack shares his story about how his “editing” gene finally led him to his current position with Editage, a division of Cactus Communications.

Save the date! The North American Conference will be held August 14-15 in Philadelphia, PA followed by the European Conference on October 14 in London, England. Be sure to check out the website for the latest news and registration information.

As always, we want to hear from you—please drop me a line at mmcdevitt@asge.org with your article ideas and suggestions.
In addition to being the Secretary of ISMTE, I am also the Chair of the Membership Committee and Chair of the Social Media Committee. Like all ISMTE Committee Chairs, I would love to have your help! To that end, this article is being published to let everyone know what my committees are doing and where I could use assistance.

I firmly believe that every ISMTE member is, in a very real way, a part of the Membership Committee. Any time that you are around other Editors, I hope all of you are talking about ISMTE and telling people about the benefits of membership. But if you want to join me as an official part of the Membership Committee, here are some of the strategies I have planned.

1. Promote membership at ISMTE meetings. Not everyone who comes to the meetings is a member, but they are all potential members! Everyone who leaves should either be a member of ISMTE or should have plans to go home and join.

2. Use social media to promote membership. Apex Management is going to be posting to our social media sites for us, but it is up to us to feed them information. If you want to help me focus on social media, please do send me links to articles of interest to Editors. In addition, we will be posting links to the ISMTE website to help people become members. Other ideas for social media are to look for articles in blogs, websites, Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn; to encourage comments and participation within social media sites; to coordinate with the EON Editor for articles to link; and to post as often as possible.

3. Use EON Open Access articles to promote membership to non-member Editors. EON will have some articles on the website that will be Open Access to help non-members see what they are missing.

4. Use EON to encourage current members to continue membership. We never want to lose current members, and EON is one of our strongest member benefits. This means continuing to have excellent articles about the issues you care about, so please let Meghan know if you have ideas for articles or have an article you would like to write for the newsletter.

5. Promote membership at the 2014 Council of Science Editors meeting via an exhibit. ISMTE will be a presence on the floor of the meeting, so if you are going to be there, stop in to say hi and lend your support.

6. Contact university presses and publishers to make them aware of ISMTE and encourage both individual and institutional memberships. If you know anyone at these places, please help me to contact them.

7. Create a digital flyer to promote ISMTE. The idea is not to create anything elaborate, but rather to have something to send to potential members to help them see how joining ISMTE can benefit them.

8. Create a digital flyer to welcome new members. Do you take full advantage of your ISMTE membership? You might not even know everything that is available to you, especially if you are a new member. I want to create something that we can send our new members so they can jump in with both feet and become aware of ISMTE opportunities, including the chance to volunteer for various committees.

If you would like to help with any of these, please contact me at dbowman@asge.org. If you...
Membership and Social Media

have other ideas for membership promotion or social media, please let me know and we can work on them together; I would love to hear your thoughts. If you don’t want to actually join a committee but you have ideas for promoting memberships or you come across links or ideas of posts for social media, don’t hesitate to send them to me.

Anything that you can do to help will be greatly appreciated! We are all very busy, hardworking Editors, but if we all work together, we can make ISMTE even stronger and more beneficial for everyone.

Want to get involved? Check out the Focus Area section on the ISMTE website.

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ISMTE launches new website!

*Have you checked out the new www.ismte.org?*

View the Featured Journal, check out the Calendar for upcoming events, and find current and past issues of *Editorial Office News* (EON).

Tips to Manage Your Account:
- Information & Settings: edit your account profile, view and manage preferences and notifications.
- Invoicing, Payments & History: view, print and pay invoices, view memberships status and membership renewal options.
- Content & Features: manage social/professional networks, post photos, manage albums in the photo gallery, NEW - upload files and create links in your file library for easy access.
- **NEW - Community:** read, create and manage messages, view and manage connection requests, view and track referrals and send invitations - use this form to invite friends to join the website.
Stack Exchange is a quickly growing network of question and answer sites covering diverse topics, similar to an online forum. What’s unique about Stack Exchange is that the questions are answered by topic experts and users vote on the accuracy and reliability of both questions and answers. The best, most useful answers rise to the top of the list. Stack Exchange is not a discussion forum but a place to find the best answer to a topic-specific question. All Stack Exchange sites are free and open to anyone—you don’t even need to register or provide an email address to view answers or post questions.

The English Language and Usage Stack Exchange is a brand new question and answer site for linguists, etymologists, and English language enthusiasts. Search, ask questions, or post answers to topics such as word choice and usage, grammar, etymology, dialect differences, pronunciation, spelling and punctuation, and more.

All questions are tagged with a subject area, and you can search by tag name. For example, if you search the tag “etymology,” Stack Exchange shows a list of the newest questions, the total number of questions asked, related tags, and top users.

You can earn reputation points to unlock special achievement badges. Your reputation score goes up when other users vote up your questions, answers, or edits. Once you’ve earned 50 reputation points, you can edit questions and answers to fix mistakes, improve formatting, or to clarify a post in order to provide the best answers to every question. If you earn enough reputation points, you can even gain access to special moderation tools to work alongside community moderators to keep the site focused and useful.

As of this writing, over 30,000 questions have been asked and answered on the English Language and Usage Stack Exchange. Some of the most popular tags have included word choice, etymology, British English, orthography, vocabulary, punctuation, grammar, and idioms. Next time you need an answer to a pesky grammar question, skip Google and give Stack Exchange a try!

Visit the English Language and Usage Stack Exchange at www.english.stackexchange.com.
What's Driving them Crazy!

Usually EON is filled to the brim with practical suggestions about improving the work of Editorial Offices. That’s not the case here. Instead, with these pet peeves we take a step back and look at the things that drive authors and reviewers nuts in their interactions with Editorial Offices. It’s not especially pleasant reading, but the hope is that knowing what our “customers” really think (but usually don’t say) can help all of us improve our game.

Comments are based on paraphrases from conversations, or, when indicated with quotation marks, are verbatim from emailed responses. Respondents were researchers from a variety of fields, including clinical medicine, physics, engineering/computer science, and computational biology, and ranged from graduate students to tenured professors.

Authors
- Often Instructions for Authors don’t make it clear which headings I need to use for a given article type.
- “Easier submission process. Folks in my lab often gripe about the ~1-2 hours it takes just to submit once everything is done, because you have to fill in all the forms and then upload all the separate files and then check all the pdf stitches. Ideally, the structured fields would be something shared across publishers that could just be uploaded (so if you have to submit to another journal, you don’t have to repeat the whole process), though I’m not sure how nice you all play with each other. Also, if one could just upload pdfs of the full article and then only after all reviews are done have to separate things out, that would save a lot of submission time.”

Reviewers
- “I think the editors need to find a way to ask authors to correct multiple grammar issues before going to review. This can make reviewing a paper a nightmare. Difficult to give proper critique of the science when you have a difficult time reading the paper with multiple grammatical issues.”
- “I find it difficult to review papers in the current format where I am constantly flipping pages from figure to figure legend to text in an attempt to take it all in. I believe in today’s world we should be able to present submitted manuscripts in a better format that will allow for more timely and thorough reviews.”

Collected by Liz Bury, Emily Fay, and Nijsje Dorman from the AJKD Editorial Office
I’m convinced that there is an “editing” gene!

Well, now that I have your attention, I confess that it may not be so much a “gene” as it is an innate pattern recognition. I feel cursed, like many, in that irregularities in the wording or structure of the English language—or even images—jump off the page at me. It has always been that way! This, through natural selection more than anything, directed me toward the editing and publishing industry.

I have a varied background, and while I can see career purpose in hindsight, it certainly was not apparent in foresight. It was a series of serendipitous circumstances that led me to where I am today. I’ve always been fascinated with biology and the guiding principles of form and function. This passion led me to push myself beyond a biology degree in environmental physiology toward a PhD in medical physiology at McGill University (yep, I’m originally Canadian, and not one “Eh!” yet). I’m credited, along with a small team of surgeons, with the first primate skin and hand transplants. After several years of postdoctoral study, my entrepreneurial side revealed itself and I could no longer tolerate the restrictions of the laboratory environment; still, the academic environment remains in my blood. I ended up in business development, conducting market research and marketing initiatives supporting pharmaceutical companies.

Then, in another turn of fate, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital brought me to the United States to head their Department of Scientific Editing. It was while I was working at St. Jude, at roughly 46 years of age, that I realized what I wanted to be when I grew up. I wanted to help scholars get published. I wanted to guide and oversee global strategies that would be effective in coaching researchers how to succeed in their publishing careers. I saw the need. I saw the early signs of the change toward Open Access publishing. I saw the quickly growing need of Asian researchers to publish in English-language Western journals, and I saw how I could personally make a significant difference.

With this clear vision, I actively sought out an Asian partner that was an established scholarly editing company and that met my values and expectations of quality and professionalism. During this quest, I met representatives of Editage, a division of Cactus Communications, while attending a meeting of the American Medical Writers Association in Atlanta, Georgia, in 2007. Within months, I took steps to open the North American operations of the company, and eventually established an office near Philadelphia. Since then, the company has grown, and now has offices in Japan, South Korea, India, and China, as well as corporate relationships with some of the most significant publishers, journals, societies, pharmaceutical companies, and academic institutions around the world.

Six years later, I look back and say that there was no single aspect of my career that brought me to where I am today, other than my relentless attention to detail (that “editing gene” thing), and my genuine desire to help others (something that I learned about myself along the way).

Today, while I am no longer entrenched in the writing and editing of scholarly works (except for a lot of email), I find myself balancing my time between corporate oversight and thought leadership. Lately, I’ve been spending a significant amount of time traveling throughout North America, Asia, and Latin America, representing Editage, conducting seminars and workshops on writing, editing, research integrity, ethics, good publication practices, and successful publication strategies.
The Winding Path

I’ve finally found my niche; academia first, then writer, then editor, and now passionate teacher. Every step along the circuitous path that I took played a significant role in contributing to who I am today, to the credibility and value I bring to the table, and to the experience that I am able to articulate.

I wish that I could start all over with what I know today! Who wouldn’t? Imagine if I could bend time… just imagine!
Introducing Apex Management

By Kimberly LaBounty

I’d like to take the opportunity to introduce Apex Management and your new management team. Apex is honored to have the opportunity to work with ISMTE—a growing organization with great membership and great leadership! We look forward to meeting many of you over the course of time, either through membership correspondence, at your North American conference, or in other ways. Most likely you’ll speak to one of four of us. Kelly Geegan (kelly@ismte.org) is your meeting manager, who works with the chairs of the North American and European conferences, and others involved in meeting planning and implementation. Sharon Gentile (Sharon@ismte.org) is your membership coordinator. She will assist you with renewals, log-in questions, and other membership-related issues. Donna Antonacci (donnaantonacci@apexmanage.com) is the brains and skill behind your new website. She sends the weekly updates and posts to social media. I (Kimberly@ismte.org) will work with your leadership to help ensure their vision becomes reality, and provide value and experienced assistance where I can along the way. As a management company, Apex also works with other associations in the fields of publishing, healthcare, law, and engineering. We hope to bring value to ISMTE through our vast experience and varying expertise and look forward to getting to know you! Feel free to contact us at any time with ideas, questions or assistance needs. Visit Apex online at www.apexmanage.com.

Save the Date!

7th Annual North American ISMTE Conference
August 14-15, 2014
Hyatt Regency Philadelphia at Penn’s Landing
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
COPE to have a full day meeting on August 13

7th Annual ISMTE European Conference
October 14, 2014
Charles Darwin House
London, England
COPE to have a half day meeting on October 13
Calendar of Events

2014 ScholarOne Manuscripts User Conference
April 10-11, 2014
Fort Lauderdale, Florida
http://scholarone.com/services/training/

Emerging Trends in Scholarly Publishing™ Seminar
April 24, 2014
Washington, D.C.
http://allenpress.com/events/2014seminar

Council of Science Editors Annual Meeting
May 2-5, 2014
San Antonio, Texas
http://www.councilscienceeditors.org

Effective Journal Editorial Management
May 8, 2014
London, England
http://www.alpsp.org

Society for Scholarly Publishing Annual Meeting
May 28-30, 2014
Boston, Massachusetts
http://www.sspnet.org

Journal Metric Analysis and Measuring Impact
June 4, 2014
http://www.alpsp.org

12th Annual Editorial User Group Meeting (EMUG)
June 19-20, 2014
Boston, Massachusetts
http://www.editorialmanager.com

ISMTE North American Conference
August 14-15, 2014
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
www.ismte.org

ISMTE European Conference
October 13-14, 2014
London, England
www.ismte.org

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ISMTE Editorial Office News

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A note on English: ISMTE aims to be a truly international society. English will represent our lingua franca, but we would like to stress that, in materials published in EON or online, variations in idiomatic usage and spelling should reflect the origins of the author. No one version of English is preferred over the other.

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