

Letters from VP of Publications, Jung Ha-Brookshire, University of Missouri

What is new with CTRJ?

Happy new year to you all! I wish all of you another great new year with lots of hopes and dreams. I am Jung Ha-Brookshire, a professor of Textile and Apparel Management at the University of Missouri and, starting this year, I am serving you all as the Vice President of Publication for the next 3 years. One of the key roles of VP of Publication is to promote and advocate our own journal, *Clothing and Textiles Research Journal*. I am writing this newsletter to give you updates on a few initiatives that we do.

This year, I have begun communicating with the representative at Sage. I am in discussion with them for better promotion and marketing of CTRJ. I am also organizing monthly discussion with PPC and editors so we all have close communication. I am constantly adjusting our strategies and activities to achieve our main goal—to enhance the status of CTRJ as the flagship journal in our profession. We take small yet bold steps starting this year and we hope you would give a fresh look at CTRJ and stay engaged with any of our editors, PPC members, and of course, myself. We want to hear from you so we can better serve you.

New initiatives by CTRJ Editor and Associate Editors:

Without editors and associate editors, the journal cannot exist. They all are dedicated to serve the authors and reviewers and maintain the quality of research articles that would enhance and transform our knowledge base. Associate editors are truly the key players of this process and they all do so voluntarily. Truly, if anyone calculated their return on time invested, no one would volunteer as an AE. Despite that, our AEs work on reviewing the manuscripts and working with the reviewers, so that the authors could improve their manuscripts. To help ease their workload and better facilitate accept/reject decisions, first, we are adding additional Associate Editor-Floating this year with the approval from the Publication Policy Committee. More eyes on manuscripts will better facilitate acceptance/rejection decisions. Dr. Youn-Kyung Kim of University of Tennessee willingly accepted this new role and all AEs are happy to have her as additional resources to help their decision-making processes. Dr. Guowen Song of Iowa State University has also agreed to be an additional Textiles, Fiber, and Polymer Science AE. This will greatly lessen the load on Huantian Cao and Huiju Park and help with the decision-making process. Second, Elena Karpova of Iowa State University (Consumer Theories and Behavior, as of January 2019), Jean Parsons of University of Missouri (Historic and Cultural Aspects of Dress, as of January 2019), and Andrew Reilly (Social Psychological Aspects of Dress and Educational Issues, as of April 2019) are newly appointed AEs. Please do welcome them for these new roles and I hope you all will reach out to them if you have any questions.

Second, we are also increasing the pool of editorial board members. First-time editorial board members will be strongly encouraged to complete modules of “Become a master of peer review” offered by the [Publons Academy](#). It is free and available online, but better yet, the certificate will give the participants the credentials as a qualified reviewer throughout the entire academic publication community (yes! you can put this in your vita as professional development activities). We all know how reviewing the latest papers can help our own research endeavor. Sage and other major journals accept or work with Publons to secure and find excellent peer reviewers. As of 2018, we had about 25 editorial board members, and

we plan to increase that number up to 60 in the next 3 years across all tracks. We also plan to publish their names on the CTRJ website. We believe this will help provide the authors with constructive reviews and comments, which will then help the authors make their manuscripts better. If you are interested in being an editorial board member, please email me with your vita. The expectation of editorial member is to review a minimum of three new manuscripts each year, complete reviews within the three-week timeline, and be willing to complete reviews during the summer.

Third, associate editors and editors are also meeting monthly to discuss good practices of handling manuscripts. There is a lot of wisdom in our group and by talking with each other regularly, we are learning even more from each other and sharing our best practices. Whatever we learn and discuss, we will communicate with you all as much as possible so you can see what we are looking for at CTRJ from the editors' perspectives. Please send any of us an email if you have any suggestions about CTRJ. We will do our best to discuss and respond back to you as much as we can.

Finally, the editor will share "the status of CTRJ" articles via ITAA newsletter to engage with all of you. It will include (a) the number of newly submitted manuscripts, (b) the number of revised manuscripts submitted, (c) the number and the types of decisions were made (e.g., major/minor revisions, accept with edits, and the number of rejects) during the period. In addition, annually (beginning of the year), the article will also include major reasons for "desk rejections" which occurred in previous year (this article will also be featured on the CTRJ website so non-ITAA members can also access the contents). We believe this will provide more in-depth information on the status of CTRJ to the current and future authors.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing back from you. More to come in next newsletter so please stay tune and let us hear from you.

Thank you,

On behalf of the entire editor and associate editor group!

Jung Ha-Brookshire
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