



The most awesome conference experience available to editorial office professionals is now open for registration. ISMTE is known for the direct applicability of information covered during conference sessions, and this year's North American conference is no exception. We will be meeting in Durham, North Carolina, which is home to one of the largest and most active local ISMTE groups. One of the local members, Julie Vo, is on the North American Conference Planning Committee. Last year she was interviewed during the conference, and this is what she had to say about ISMTE's North American Conference:

Julie Vo

Editorial Coordinator

American Society of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics



"I'm an ISMTE member and have been a member for four years now with my introduction being to our local group in North Carolina in the Research Triangle Park area. It's always been an inviting community and a great way to keep up with industry changes and also just a great community to meet new people who actually understand what you do for a living. Being on the committee was very intimate because, since there were only 8-9 of us, we got to bounce ideas off of each other, and it was just an encouraging supportive environment to see what's piquing people's interest these days and see a better overview of the industry away from the day-to-day editorial job at your desk. So, it was a great look at what are people doing, what standards there are out there, and how to maintain some sort of best practice protocol."

Conference registration information is available on the Events tab of the ISMTE website: www.ismte.org.



EDUCATIONAL SESSION QUALITY IS ISMTE’S CORE

Please review the following session descriptions for a sense of the quality of ISMTE’s educational sessions.

Session Title	Type/Time	Description
Thursday, August 1		
Open Research and the Evolving Landscape of Scholarly Communication	<i>Keynote</i> 8:45–9:30 a.m.	Stakeholders in scholarly publishing have a shared goal of facilitating scholarly communication that is as accessible, timely, and knowledge-advancing as possible. There is enormous opportunity to accelerate that shared objective by improving collaboration and coordination across stakeholder groups. Recent research reveals the process of scholarly communication has inadvertently fostered a dysfunctional culture of incentives and rewards that has had negative consequences for the reproducibility of research. Academic incentives prioritize getting it published over getting it right. No one defends such incentives, but there are few options for individuals to shift the culture to align scholarly values with scholarly rewards. The solutions involve collective action. We can shift the culture toward greater transparency and reproducibility of research with some relatively simple interventions that alter the norms, incentives, and policies by journals, funders, and institutions. But to succeed, we have to do it together.
To Disclose or Not to Disclose: Helping Authors Answer the Question	<i>Breakout</i> 10:30–11:15 a.m.	When is an interest a conflict of interest? Authors often have a foggy understanding of conflict of interest and what affiliations they should disclose during the publishing process, and although allegations of conflict are common, accusers may not understand what a conflict is. The subject is challenging because people can confuse having interests with having conflicts of interest, or conflicts of commitment. Join this session to learn what conflicts of interest are and why they’re important, how to help authors determine when to disclose (and why they might not), and COPE’s recommendations on the subject. Additional discussion will cover how institutions and journals can work together, including recommendations from a recent symposium on disclosures and the Convey Global Disclosure System.
Best Practices for Managing Multi-journal Portfolios	<i>Breakout</i> 10:30–11:15 a.m.	Given the fluid nature of the scholarly publishing ecosystem, editorial office efforts have increasingly shifted from stewardship of a single, flagship journal to portfolios of oftentimes interlinked publications. This breakout session—which gathers publishers affiliated (or partnered) with the American College of Cardiology, American Chemical Society, American Geophysical Union, and Elsevier—will provide attendees with best practices for managing the multiple publications under their purview. Specific topics may include building strategic partnerships between stakeholders (e.g., editorial office and publisher); facilitating article transfer networks; minimizing tension; and driving growth and impact.
Analyze It! Unleashing Your Critical Thinking to Solve Journal Issues	<i>Breakout</i> 10:30–11:15 a.m.	How deep do you dive to get to the heart of the problem? Do you find that your troubleshooting skills could use a bit of polish? Do you struggle to teach others how to take a methodical, measured approach when assessing the cause of a workflow glitch? For all this and more, join this discussion on how to channel your critical thinking skills! This session will cover methods for addressing a variety of journal issues by

		identifying important analytical tools, implementing best practices on how to use those tools, and how to teach the tools and best practices to others.
Demystifying Open Peer Review	<i>Breakout</i> 11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Join this session for a fun and informative talk exploring the various elements of open peer review. We'll discuss the numerous definitions of the concept, the high-level theories behind it, pros and cons, as well as practical takeaways and recommendations for editorial offices that are interested in exploring the model.
C4DISC: Promoting Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity Through Collaboration	<i>Breakout</i> 11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	A number of surveys in recent years have shed light on the lack of diversity in scholarly communications. From issues of gender equality to the noticeable lack of ethnic diversity in our workforce, there is an increasing awareness that, as an industry, we are not a model of inclusivity or equity. There are many benefits to having an inclusive, equitable, and diverse work environment. Recognizing this, the Coalition for Diversity and Inclusion in Scholarly Communications (C4DISC) was founded by 10 trade and professional associations that represent organizations and individuals working in scholarly communications with the idea that we could have a greater impact by working together to tackle this important issue. Attendees at this session will learn how they can advance the discussion about equity and inclusion in their own organizations by using the work of C4DISC as a jumping off point.
The Un-RFP: An Alternative Approach to Platform Selection	<i>Breakout</i> 11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	Online publishing platforms have become key to overall business strategy, and publishers are seeking partnerships that meet both business and content requirements. Meanwhile, the platform provider landscape continues to be marked by acquisition and consolidation. The once-unthinkable—migrating platforms—is more and more a reality. Platform migration is a massive undertaking, and it's wise to approach it methodically but strategically. This session will explore a nontraditional approach to the standard RFP: the un-RFP. The un-RFP is a process that allows you to become more deeply familiar with the offerings earlier in the journey, and it can speed time to decision as well as quality of the outcome.
Roundtable Discussion on Improving Editorial Office Management	<i>Workshop</i> 1:30 – 2:45 p.m.	Share best practices in participant-led discussions on improving editorial office management. This session will provide a forum for an exchange of ideas on workflow, documentation, and strategies for improvement. Bring your sage advice, experience, and questions, and join us for engaging group discussions.
Creating a Roadmap for Your Career Development	<i>Workshop</i> 1:30 – 2:45 p.m.	What does it mean to develop a career roadmap? How far into the future can we really see clearly? This session will cover the essential steps for developing a career path to guide your ongoing professional development. Moving from a broad vision of an ideal future job, we'll work through the details of self-assessment and how to identify career paths in your chosen field. Participants will conclude the session by putting their skills, goals, and gaps together into a plan they can apply to their work.
Best Practices for Managing Your Editorial Board	<i>Workshop</i> 1:30–2:45 p.m.	Do you have trouble getting responses from your reviewers? Do you feel your editorial board is getting stale? Do you rely on just a few core reviewers? You're not alone! Join this interactive workshop to identify,

		discover, and collaborate on ideas for managing a successful editorial board.
Vendor Breakout: ScholarOne	3:00–4:00 p.m.	ScholarOne vendor breakout featuring Sven Molter, Product Manager
Vendor Breakout: eJournal Press	3:00–4:00 p.m.	eJournal Press vendor breakout featuring Anna Jester, Sales & Marketing Director
Vendor Breakout: Editorial Manager	3:00–4:00 p.m.	Editorial Manager vendor breakout session featuring Dmitri Khodjakov, Business Systems Analyst, Aries Systems Corp.
Vendor Breakout: Open Source	3:00–4:00 p.m.	Open source vendor breakout featuring: Heather Staines, Head of Partnerships, MIT Knowledge Futures Group; James MacGregor, Associate Director, Strategic Projects and Services, Public Knowledge Project (PKP); Alison McGonagle-O’Connell, Director of Community Development, Coko Foundation
Plan S Point–Counterpoint: Discussing the Plan Together	<i>Plenary</i> 4:30–5:30 p.m.	Plan S has been much discussed and debated since the initial announcement came out about its upcoming launch. One thing’s for sure: there is diversity of opinion on this topic, and that’s OK! Join us for a discussion of the plan that will demonstrate different perspectives on topics including whether Plan S is necessary, how it will affect society publishers and the US publishing ecosystem, unintended consequences, principles we can agree on, and more.
Friday, August 2		
Emerging Publishing Models: Adapting to a Changing Landscape	<i>Plenary</i> 8:20–9:05 a.m.	The way that we publish scholarly information has been evolving for decades, most notably since the advent of the Internet. In recent years the rise of open access and the increasing popularity of preprint servers have given authors more choice over how and where to publish their research. With the need to both disseminate scholarly information and earn revenue to cover costs, while simultaneously accommodating shrinking library budgets and funding mandates, publishers have started getting more creative with the publishing models they use. This session will discuss some of the newer publishing models that have sprouted up, including preprints, “read and publish” models, and submission fees.
Image Manipulation: Risks and Remedies	<i>Workshop</i> 9:15–10:15 a.m.	Several studies have shown a high percentage of published journal articles contain images improperly altered by the author. Although most cases appear to be unintentional and can often be cleared up through better communication with authors, image manipulation still poses a significant risk to the integrity of scholarly journals and the research they publish. This session will present the “big picture” of image manipulation in scholarly publishing and walk attendees through practical steps for screening articles for image manipulation.
Innovation Session	<i>Workshop</i> 9:15–10:15 a.m.	This new ISMTE offering will feature four vendors, each speaking to innovations that their companies offer. Topics will include citation analysis, new ideas in preprints, video summaries, and artificial intelligence in manuscript evaluation. At the end of the presentations, attendees will vote on which presenter deserves the Peoples’ Choice Award for Most Innovative Idea.

<p>Moving Toward a Healthier You at Work: Ergonomics and Dance Breaks</p>	<p><i>Workshop</i> 9:15–10:15 a.m.</p>	<p>Poor ergonomics and a sedentary lifestyle can take a toll on your health, particularly if you spend long hours in front of a computer. This session will explain some of the basics of good ergonomics and introduce some simple strategies to bring movement back into your workday. Then you get to practice what we preach, with actual dance breaks! We will demonstrate both seated and standing options. These will be low-impact, low-intensity demonstrations that are silly, entertaining, and rejuvenating. Take a brain break and get the lungs and heart doing their work so that you can do yours even better! NOTE: <i>Participation in the physical activities in this session requires the completion of a physical activity waiver. Waivers will be available at the session and on are online at www.ismte.org/page/2019NAWaiver.</i></p>
<p>Predatory Practices: Examining the Impact of Deceptive Publishing and How to Increase Awareness</p>	<p><i>Breakout</i> 10:45–11:45 a.m.</p>	<p>The open access movement has ushered much change to the publishing landscape. In an effort to make scholarly research literature more accessible, this publishing and distribution model has become more and more common, with the advent of open access-only and hybrid journals for research to be made readily available to all. However, this change and growth has also made the landscape more of a jungle, forcing authors to navigate between the legitimate peer-reviewed journals and the predatory ones. These for-profit journals use questionable practices to solicit content, and this exploitation is growing into the conference space, luring researchers to speak at fraudulent conferences for a fee. While the term <i>predatory publishing</i> has been in our lexicon since 2012, the publishing industry is now feeling the impact. Join this session to learn more about how predatory publishing has affected scholarly publishing, how to identify the tactics used by predatory publishers, and how your editorial office can best help authors find your publication as opposed to predatory ones.</p>
<p>Innovations in Visual Content: Enrichment Beyond the Article of Record</p>	<p><i>Breakout</i> 10:45–11:45 a.m.</p>	<p>As both the remit and technical expertise of scholarly publishers have grown, our industry has made efforts to advance beyond traditional figures and tables. More innovative and effective data visualization such as medical illustrations, graphical abstracts, infographics, videos, and animation are increasingly valued by researchers and the general public alike. This session will offer a variety of perspectives on this growth area and empower attendees to develop or refine their own workflows. Specific points of discussion will include the translation of research findings from vision to execution; determining the right kind of visuals for your publication; editorial logistics (i.e., workflow successes and failures); how to best communicate your needs to various stakeholders; and what leading publications are doing and how they measure success.</p>
<p>Demystifying Buzzwords: Practical Applications of AI and Blockchain in Scholarly Publishing</p>	<p><i>Plenary</i> 12:00–12:45 p.m.</p>	<p>With the promise of automation and artificial intelligence (AI) in the future of many fields, these and other technology-driven hot topics have been the “buzz” in scholarly publishing for the past five years. This session aims to practically define how AI and tools like StatReviewer and Blockchain can aid editorial office processes. Experts will discuss the impact of AI and its future potential, while focusing on how it can help your journal today.</p>

Note: Times and other information subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, download the [Sched](#) meeting app.

NOT A MEMBER? JOIN ISMTE AT THE SAME TIME YOU REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE

ISMTE is pleased to offer a combined membership/conference registration package. Use the online registration form [here](#) and select the combination membership/registration package. This will provide you with a full conference registration and pay your membership dues through Dec. 31, 2019. Is ISMTE membership a good value? This is what one ISMTE member has to say about her membership:

Amanda Eastell Blakely
Journal Ethnic and Radical Studies
Surrey, U.K.



I joined ISMTE in its 10th anniversary year – to be honest I wish I'd joined earlier. This unique global society is a must if you work in a journal editorial office. My role is fairly isolated and ISMTE therefore provides the opportunity to network both in person and online with others dealing with the same day-to-day challenges as myself. Furthermore, the annual conference provides continuing education with industry specialists – essential in today's rapidly evolving publishing landscape.

Now is a great time to become a member of ISMTE and to attend our North American Conference. If our other global conferences would be more convenient, please mark your calendar for these upcoming events:

ISMTE European Conference

October 3, 2019

Saïd Business School University of Oxford
Oxford, UK

ISMTE Asia Pacific Conference

March 2–3, 2020

Hotel Jasper
Melbourne, Australia

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