Publications Committee Report

Editor appointments
Interviews were held for the Editor-in-Chief of AJP-Lung. Sadis Matalon was chosen to be the new Editor-in-Chief; his term will begin January 1, 2012. Paul Insel, Editor-in-Chief, AJP-Cell and David Linden, Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Neurophysiology have been reappointed for a second three-year term.

Impact Factor
The 2009 Journal Impact Factors (IF) held steady for all journals. PRV, once again ranked first in the field of physiology, with an IF of 37.726 and Physiology ranked third, with an IF of 6.945.

Journal Statistics
Accepted manuscripts. Time from manuscript submission to first decision for 2010 averaged 25 days, three days fewer compared to 2009. The average rejection rate for all journals decreased to 55% in 2010 from 56% in 2009.

Manuscript submissions. Manuscript submissions in 2010 decreased by 3% vs. 2009 across all journals and all manuscript types, an improvement compared to the 10% decrease in 2009 vs. 2008.

Published Articles and Pages. The number of regular research articles published in 2010 decreased by 4% from 3,383 in 2009 to 3,232 in 2010; published invited articles decreased by 6% from 546 in 2009 to 515 in 2010. The number of manuscripts in AiPS decreased 6% from 3,666 in 2009 to 3,442 in 2010. Journal pages published decreased by 3% compared to 2009. The number of published pages was 8% under the 2010 page cap.

Supplemental data. A total of 648 data supplements were published in 2009, this represents a 17% increase.

AuthorChoice. There were 33 requests for AuthorChoice in 2010 (compared to 40 in 2009), which represents less than 1% of all accepted articles during that period.

Color figures. In 2010, 4,727 color figures were published in APS journals of which 2,839 were published by APS member authors at no charge.

‘Call for Papers’ in APS journals. In 2010, there were 216 submitted and 62 published papers in response to Calls for Papers.

PubMed Central Deposits. In 2010, 1,754 NIH-funded and 40 Wellcome Trust-funded research articles were deposited into PMC by the APS on behalf of authors, representing 54% and 1%, respectively, of the total number of research articles published in 2010.

Subscription Sales. Journal prices for 2010 were set using a cost-based model, with a 5% increase implemented across all journals. Subscription count attrition in 2010 was 3% vs. 4% in 2009. Attrition through May 2011 is 2%. Sales were made to 51 consortia and multi-sites in 2010, up from 47 in 2009.

Color Charges. In 2010, the number of color figures published increased by 1% (following an increase of 3% in 2009), although total pages published decreased by 3% vs. 2009. In 2010, 60% of color figures were printed by APS members and therefore were free.

Journal of Neurophysiology
Neuroscience Peer Review Consortium. The Journal of Neurophysiology (JN) has participated in the Neuroscience Peer Review Consortium on a trial basis since the inception of NPRC in January 2009. The trial concluded in December 2009, however the Publications Committee is
extending the trial period through December 2011. At the end of the trial extension period, the Publications Committee will review the Editors’ assessment of the trial.

Journal of Neurophysiology ‘preprint server’ Trial. Fourteen unique manuscripts were submitted to JN that had been posted to a preprint server. Of these manuscripts, two were rejected, one was withdrawn, nine were in process, and two were accepted.

Press Releases and Social Media
In 2010, thirty press releases were distributed (45 in 2009). Of these, 30% (45% in 2009) were related to APS journal findings. APS journal findings continue to be picked up by top-tier mainstream media.

Publications Ethics
The number of ethical cases arising during peer review and production has increased significantly over the past few years. The overall total number of ethical cases that originated in 2010 was 134. This total marks an increase of 13 cases (11%) over 2009. The largest number of cases by category was figure manipulation (85 cases) followed by duplication of data (16 cases). To help deter ethical problems, the Society has taken several steps including creating a set of procedures/flowcharts for each ethical category and hiring an Ethical Policy Manager.

Book Program
Comprehensive Physiology. The first issue of Comprehensive Physiology was published on January 28, 2011 and includes all “Handbook of Physiology” content digitized (“Classic Content”) and 25 new articles. A free trial to members of the APS runs through the end of 2011. As of May 2011, 349 articles have been invited, of which 100 have been accepted and 57 are in review or revision.

Book Series. Proposals for books continue to be submitted to the Book Committee from APS members. Dee Silverthorn has accepted Hershel Raff’s invitation to Chair the new Book Monograph Sub-Committee.

Committee Issues
Corresponding authors signing manuscript submission form on behalf of all authors
The APS requires that all authors attest that they have read and take responsibility for the submitted manuscript. The APS allows the corresponding author to attest to this and sign on behalf for all authors.

Book Series Sub-Committee. The current Book Sub-Committee comprises the Advisory Board of Comprehensive Physiology, and its Chair, Ron Terjung, is Editor-in-Chief. Therefore, a new Book Monograph Subcommittee has been created that will work with a new, separate publishing partner who is dedicated to the monograph program.

Publish AJP Sections in online-only format from 2012. There are few print subscribers to the individual AJP sections (i.e., the vast majority of print subscriptions are to the Consolidated version from institutions, which will continue to be offered in print) and it currently costs more to produce and deliver the AJP sections in print than we earn in subscription revenue. For subscribers who will not/cannot convert to electronic, we can offer print on demand at prices that fully subsidize the cost.

Implement tiered pricing for subscriptions and Legacy content starting in 2012. Tiered pricing for APS journals and Legacy content for 2012 was recommended. Also for 2012, the branding of
all APS journals as a package: “Digital Library” from 2012 at an attractive rate (i.e., 2011 pricing) and offering AJP journal sections as online only, with a print-on-demand option was also recommended.

*Ethical Issues.* The APS is committed to developing educational materials and courses in publications ethics and is investigating an NSF grant as a potential source of funding to support education goals in this area. Also, APS has subscribed to the CrossCheck service which provides iThenticate plagiarism software and a members-only database of subscription-access scientific and medical publications against which to check manuscripts.