

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS or ACADEMIC IMMORTALITY

SUMMARY OF THE PROCESS

Pick the appropriate, best journal.

Look up the guidelines for authors [on-line].

Write the paper in their format and shorter than the page limits / word count.

Write a cover letter for submission indicating possible reviewers, including full contact information. Show cover letter. Some journals also require key words for abstracting, a short statement of significance, and copyright waiver/statement that it has not been submitted elsewhere simultaneously up front.

Check if they have requirements on copyright before or after acceptance.

Submit probably on line, so you will need to create a user id. If not on-line [then it is a weak journal], submit the number of copies required.

Wait for reviews to come back. As

- accept,
- accept with revisions no further review,
- perhaps acceptable if significantly revised and re-reviewed, or
- reject [good journal typically reject 2/3's, but UT is not in the bottom 2/3's]

Show typical review form. Specific errors / comments, General comments, Comments to the editor

Reply to the editor politely, thanking the reviewers for valuable suggestions. Try to address all comments [even if superficially]. Occasionally the reviewers are just wrong, and you can plead your case or withdraw the submission. If the reviews are mixed, the editor may ask for additional reviews. The editor will be the arbitrator of widely different reviews.

Submit the corrected version and hopefully the editor will accept.

Provide the copyright waiver, indicate who should see early postings on the web, decide on number of reprints and with or without covers.

Await for the bill [get your advisor to pay].

Quality – You want the Highest Quality! How can you tell?

Society Sponsor [a plus if widely distributed]

Vs Pergamon Press, Elsevier Press, Allen Press [purely for profit]

Trade Journals vs. **Research Journals** (often both from the same society)

Conference Proceedings [Issues and even Entire Journals]

Upsides [association with a leader of the field] and
downsides [weak journals for conference proceedings]

Age of Journal, frequency of publication see [ASCE Journal of Energy]

Reputation of Editors

Quality and Number of Reviewers (You will be asked to provide 3 or more names of qualified referees as well as their addresses, emails, etc. They will not all be used, and maybe even none will be used, but suggest fair and rapid reviewers.

SCIENCE CITATION INDEX

<http://www.lib.utexas.edu/indexes/>

This is the Korean standard for promotion and tenure

Show example for Liljestrand HM

Do a citation search on your advisor or on the chaired faculty / best known researchers in your field with significant research for PhD students. [Well maybe search the best in the field, Werner Stumm.]

vs. **Engineering Index**

<http://www.isinet.com/essays/journalcitationreports/7.html/>

Show example for Liljestrand HM

“Gray Literature”

Government reports, Center Reports, books listed as journals

CD/web based only – not appropriate in our field

Needs to be on the shelves of your faculty and of your library.
Walk the stacks as part of your literature search.

Journal Impact Factor

<http://www.isinet.com/essays/journalcitationreports/7.html>

<http://www.sciencegateway.org/impact/if02e.html>

SCIENCE is the “gold standard,” but within your grasp

Other Considerations – Time to Press

ASCE is slow (16-24 months submission to print) and cumbersome.

<http://www.pubs.asce.org/authors/index.html>

Word counting very prescribed.

<http://www.pubs.asce.org/journals/sizing.pdf>

ES&T / ACS is fast (6.5 –12 months submission to print)

<https://paragon.acs.org/paragon/index.jsp>

https://paragon.acs.org/paragon/ShowDocServlet?contentId=paragon/menu_content/authorchecklist/es_authguide.pdf

check for your field

Journal of Microbiology reviews in 2 weeks

Journal of Environmental Science & Health, Part A –
Toxic/Hazardous Substances & Environmental Engineering
<http://www.dekker.com/servlet/product/productid/ESE>
Formerly a Xerox Press. Now a PDF Press

Professional Society Journals

JAWWA – issues by topic so must wait for the annual cycle to be one of a few

ASTM Journals

Other Considerations – Availability

Professional Society Presses

JA&WMA – available on line only to members- available on line only to member subscribers

Journal of Environmental Chemistry and Toxicology - available on line only to member subscribers

International Journals

Water Research versus AWWA or WEF

Other Considerations – Content

Journal will tell you what types of articles are requested as well as what types are inappropriate
Reviews, Research Articles, Rapid Communications, Fields of Interest

<http://authors.elsevier.com/JournalDetail.html?PubID=362&Precis=DESC>

Once the journal is picked, use the style required by that journal

ES&T – No conclusions

Word counts – Split in Part I and Part II if needed, better to split topics

Other Considerations – CHECK OUT PAGE CHARGES [prepare to be shocked!]

Reprints and electronic posting of articles

With or without covers

TRB Record – first present at Annual meeting with a large conference fee, then 1/3 published
ASTM by contrast is inexpensive.

Authorship

Who

Who did the writing

Who did the work [Graduate Student as an Archimedes demon]

Who had the intellectual contribution

Who is corresponding author

Order

Last is best vs. last is least

Where

Where the work was done, not where you are now.

Acknowledgments – who funded, who helped but without intellectual contribution

General Style

Intro should be the literature review, from general importance funneling down to the specific issue
in no more than three paragraphs, preferably one. WRITE THIS LAST WHEN YOU KNOW WHAT YOU
HAVE CONCLUDED. Likewise for your dissertation.

Methods and procedures – reference any deviations from standard methods, specific equipment used, conditions

Results – STAND ALONE Figures
Tables where exact values needed
Supplementary material

Discussion of results comparison with the literature
Emphasize what is new
Use expected trends as verisimilitude

CONSERVATIVE STYLE – report only what you did
[Boring! and reputation damaging!]

SPECULATIVE STYLE – infer hypotheses and let others prove disprove
Scripts Example
Let the reviewers correct the mistakes style.
Perhaps, do not give away way you are doing next.

QUICK AND DIRTY STYLE – let the reviewers clean it up

As related to dissertations
Papers as chapters / appendices
Papers as dissertations

Every sentence should have meaning.

One thought per sentence for non-native speakers.

Shoot for 10% less than allowed. You need space for changes. If you submit 2 or more papers as parts I, II, etc., be ready to re-write as one combined article. Some journals require all comments be addressed.

Do everything in MS Word, MS Excel etc. or Word Perfect – NO SPECIALIZED SOFTWARE FOR FIGURES.

ACADEMIC GOALS

What is your first objective – to gain a national reputation, be recognized by members of the National Academy of Engineering / National Academy of Science, and especially International Members. Try to publish 3 papers / year in journals that go to international libraries. (Publish, publish, publish, and stay current, current, current.) However, make sure every publication is worthy of the best journal in your field. Not every MS thesis is worthy of a paper. [Every PhD should be worthy of 2 or more.]

What is your second objective – to gain an international reputation and be a recognized leader in field. The question at Harvard or MIT for promotion is, is this one of the top 5 people in the field? Of course every first class institution claims to compete with Harvard / MIT.

How do you achieve these objectives? Be original and interdisciplinary. Create a new direction of research of significance. Be a target of opportunity hire. Stretch the boundaries of the best traditional journals in your field.

The other strategy is to stay focused and known for only one thing. Be a replacement hire. Be real good at one thing incrementally versus plan 10 year initiatives, new directions of research.

WHEN TO PUBLISH

Now. Civil Engineers publish much less than Chemical and Electrical Engineers, and much less than in Natural Sciences. To compete in the academic job market, you need refereed publications. If your work has already been peer reviewed, how can the dissertation committee complain?

And Again Later. Most universities count only the work done at their institution. Save something for credit to your new academic home.