

Publications Committee

Committee Members: B. H. Blake, R. M. Brigham, G. Ceballos Gonzalez, C. T. Chimimba, C. L. Frank, W. L. Gannon, R. D. Gettinger, M. S. Hafner, M. J. Hamilton, V. Hayssen, K. M. Helgen, E. J. Heske, D. A. Kelt, C. Krajewski, E. A. Lacey, D. M. Leslie, Jr. (Chair), M. B. Main, J. E. Maldonado, R. A. Medellín, J. F. Merritt, E. A. Mueller, P. R. Owen, R. A. Powell, E. A. Rickart, P. T. Stapp, R. A. Sweitzer, J. M. Waterman, and J. A. Yunger

Mission:

The Publications Committee oversees the Society's publications, including the *Journal of Mammalogy*, *Mammalian Species*, and Special Publications. The Committee sets editorial policy for the Society and nominates editors for approval by the Board of Directors. The Committee is typically composed of current editors, who are involved in reviewing and accepting papers and the technical production of the publications.

Information Items:

(1) Compared to recent years, it was a relatively quiet year for the Publications Committee! Highlights of activities of the Publication Committee included (a) working to assure smooth transitions of Editors for both ASM serials (it was); (b) completion of full electronic availability of archival and current ASM serials to all members at ASM's Web site when *Mammalian Species* became available in JSTOR in October 2006; (c) final review and editing of the Animal Care and Use Guidelines, which will be published in the June 2007 issue of the *Journal*, distributed to IACUCs throughout the country compliments of the University of New Mexico, and available Open Access at ASM silo site and BioOne; (d) assisting President Timm with ASM's formal endorsement of Elbroch's "Animal Skulls: A Guide to North American Species"; (e) working to assure that AllenTrack for *Mammalian Species* will be fully functional in 2007; (f) publication of an overview of ASM's response to the digital age in the April 2007 issue of the *Journal of Mammalogy*; and (g) Leslie represented ASM at 3 workshops on data registries/centers sponsored by the Ecological Society of America and the National Science Foundation in July 2006 (Washington, D.C.), December 2006 (Santa Barbara, CA), and May 2007 (Durham, NC; all travel costs paid by ESA); for example of topics covered see:

http://www.esa.org/Science_Resources/Document_Files/esa_data_centers_wkshp_notes.pdf

(2) The Publication Committee will experience low turnover in June 2007 with only 2 Associate Editors vacating their positions with the *Journal of Mammalogy* after 3 years of service: Craig L. Frank and Douglas A. Kelt. We gratefully acknowledge Craig's and Doug's dedication and editorial contributions.

(3) Publication statistics for the *Journal of Mammalogy* between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007:

Volume 87, Nos. 1–6; published on time.
Volume 88, Nos. 1–5; published or scheduled to be published

Volume 87, 147 manuscripts published
Volume 88, 141 manuscripts scheduled to be published (as of 20 April 2007)
29 published in No. 1; 112 scheduled in Nos. 2–5 (as of 20 April 2007)

Number of manuscripts submitted: 408 (303 two years ago and 360 last year)
Number of manuscripts accepted: 118 (110 last year)
Number of manuscripts rejected: 184 (140 last year)

Rejection rate: 61% (61% 2 years ago and 56% last year)

Handling times: Volume 87, Nos. 1–6
Submission to acceptance: **4.3** months (133 days)
Acceptance to publication: **7.6** months (232 days)
Total time: **12.0** months (365 days)

Handling times: Volume 88, Nos. 1–5
Submission to acceptance: **5.7** months (172 days)
Acceptance to publication: **7.3** months (223 days)
Total time: **13.0** months (396 days)

Geographic distribution of accepted manuscripts:
Vol. 87, Nos. 1–6: 52% U.S., 6% Canada, 13% Latin America, 29% other countries
Vol. 88, Nos. 1–5: 57% U.S., 7% Canada, 11% Latin America, 25% other countries

(4) Publication statistics for *Mammalian Species* between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007:

Total number of accounts published and to be published: **16** (Nos. 788–805)
Accounts in press: **2**
Time from submission to publication: **1.52 years** (range, 0.74–6.85 years)
Number of new accounts submitted and assigned to an Associate Editor: **17**
Total number of accounts with Associate Editors: **45** (ca. 20 inactive)
Total number of accounts with Editor: **10**
Number of new species accounts assigned to authors: **27**
Total number of accounts in preparation: **355** (152 overdue)

(5) Publication statistics for Special Publications:

No proposals were received.

Action Items:

(1) New Editors: The Committee will seek Board approval of 2 new Associate Editors for the *Journal of Mammalogy* (nominations still being considered as of 20 April 2007).

(2) The Committee proposes to increase the number of Associate Editors for the *Journal of Mammalogy* from 16 to 20; if approved the Committee's budget will need to be increased by \$4,000 to cover honoraria.

(3) In light of current declines in institutional subscriptions, consider increasing members dues from \$45 regular and \$35 student to \$50 regular and \$40 student but hold online membership at \$30 regular and \$20 developing country.

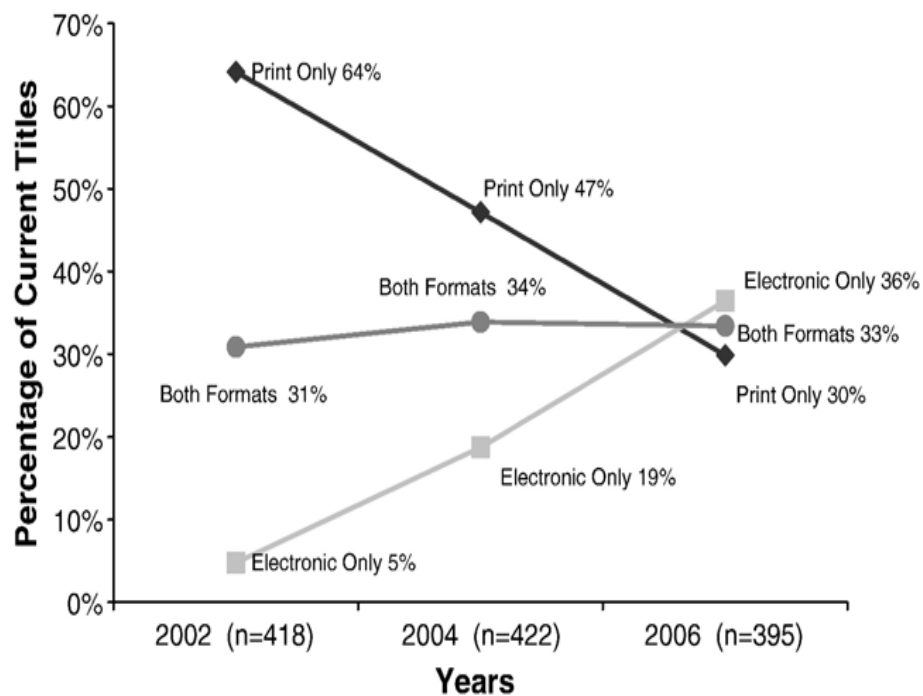


Figure 2 from Prabha, C. 2007. *Shifting from print to electronic journals in ARL university libraries. Serials Review 33:4-13.* Samples of journals in the Association of Research Libraries member collections; “tipping point” reached in 2006 when electronic institutional subscriptions dominated print institutional subscriptions.

Respectfully submitted,
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