

PUBLICATIONS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at Burlington House on 23 November 2011

PRESENT: Jonathan Turner (Chair), Richard Lisle, Sarah Sherlock, David Vaughan.

APOLOGIES: Quentin Crowley, Norman Macleod, Bob Pankhurst, Nick Walton, Mike Winter.

In attendance: Sarah Gibbs, Tamzin Anderson, Angharad Hills, Neal Marriott, Edmund Nickless (item 7 onwards), Sally Oberst, Jessica Pollitt, Hannah Sime, Alix Vance (item 9 onwards).

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies as above were noted.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

There were none.

3. MINUTES OF VIRTUAL MEETING HELD BETWEEN 28 JUNE AND 8 JULY.

It was noted that David Vaughan had contributed to the discussion. The Minutes were then agreed and signed. Minutes of the meeting held 2 March 2011 will be signed at the next meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING.

There were none.

5. REPORT FROM THE PUBLISHING HOUSE

Paper PMC/14/11 was noted. In addition, it was noted that, because Publishing House surpluses were regularly ahead of budget, 'stretched targets' had been imposed by Council for budget year 2011. The Publishing House surplus will exceed even this target by the year-end due, to some extent, to favourable US\$ exchange rates.

Although there had been a recent increase in the number of proposals, 2012 and 2013 were still expected to be lean years as on average it takes about 2 years from proposal to publication.

Usage statistics show that the electronic versions of books are well used. Special Publications in particular are a major attraction of the Lyell Collection to subscribers.

Jonathan Turner congratulated the staff and editors for Memoir 35 on Arctic Petroleum Geology, which will surely become a classic reference volume.

6. CHANGE OF BOOKS CHIEF EDITOR

PMC/15/11 was noted.

7. THE FUTURE OF JOURNAL INDEXES

Paper PMC/16/11 had been circulated. It was noted that there may be some advantages to a human-compiled index but that such indexes were insufficiently used to warrant their continued production. The Committee agreed that the discontinuation of journal indexes was a sensible way forward. However, Edmund Nickless was concerned that a number of Fellows might be opposed and that the arguments in favour would need to be clearly articulated.

The Committee agreed that Jonathan Turner should recommend this proposal to Council at their meeting next week. It was stressed that there were no plans to discontinue indexes in books.

JPT/
SG

8. PERMISSION POLICIES FOR THE RE-USE OF WHOLE ARTICLES

PMC/17/11 had been circulated. From e-mail discussion in advance of the meeting, it was apparent that some aspects needed to be clarified:

- Although the number of requests to republish whole papers is small, they currently take up a disproportionate amount of time.
- Nearly all such requests come from American petroleum industry societies for subject-specific collections. AH could not remember receiving one from a commercial publisher.
- Authors are not allowed to post a typeset PDF on any server or repository.
- Anyone can republish an abstract with a link to the main paper.
- Our standard contracts with the Copyright License Agency and Copyright Clearance Center allow educational establishments to include (with a paid licence) whole articles in electronic course packs subject to strict access and time controls. This is classed as copying rather than republication. CCC also has a similar licence for businesses.
- Terms for reuse of whole papers will not be advertised on the website so there will be some degree of individual attention for all requests, but an agreed framework will simplify this. This will also allow a flexible approach to publisher categorisation (commercial/not-for-profit).
- GSL potentially loses \$30 of PPV revenue for each copy of a subject collection including a GSL article sold by another publisher.

The Committee agreed that other publishers should not be allowed to include whole articles in any online repository or server. They agreed that only society publishers should be allowed to republish GSL articles in books, CD/DVD and e-books delivered as PDFs. They agreed that any publisher would be allowed to include articles in a person-specific collection (such requests are very rare).

The Committee thought a per-article fee was more appropriate than a per-page fee and that it should be £100 per article.

AH

9. THE FUTURE OF GEOSCIENCEWORLD

Alix Vance, the Executive Director of GSW made a presentation on new features and planned development of GeoScienceWorld. The slides are available on the Society's ftp site until 14 January 2012 for anyone who would like to see them.

Alix informed the Committee that books are likely to be included in GSW from late 2013/early 2014.

Neal Marriott stated that GSL is in a good position to exploit any new developments as the Publishing House workflow produces XML files. GSW can provide the technology and platforms that GSL could not develop on its own.

Jonathan Turner thanked Alix for the very useful introduction/elaboration of GSW.

10. GEOFACETS LAUNCH AND UPDATE

Geofacets is a workflow tool developed by Elsevier and launched in London and at the AAPG meeting in Milan in October. Its main target audience was oil companies. The Society provides access to articles in the Lyell Collection, and then Elsevier extract any geo-referenced figures (maps, etc) and tags them. In return, the Society receives a royalty on all sales of the Lyell Collection module within Geofacets.

11. ONLINE FIRST LAUNCH

Sarah Gibbs reported that work had now begun on the publish-ahead-of-print facility for Special Publications. The first title will be 'Geology and Hydrocarbon Potential of Neoproterozoic-Cambrian Basins in Asia', followed closely by 'Glaciogenic Reservoirs'. The bespoke development by HighWire Press should be ready by mid-December and it was hoped that there would be material ready to post shortly after that. Promotion will begin early in 2012.

Online First books will be accessed by a link on the SP home page within the Lyell Collection and there will be a page for each title. SPs will get a page within *Online First* once 6 papers are accepted and there is a strong prospect of there being enough further papers to make a viable hard-back book.

Once all the papers are posted online, the standard print-production process will begin and the PDFs will be paginated and moved to the main part of the Lyell Site.

Richard Lisle asked if interest in *Online First* would be used to calculate print runs for the hardcopies. This hadn't been considered and initially SPs would continue to have the standard print run of 700. However, this will be revisited regularly.

The development of *Online First* was one of the Society's investments to encourage submission of SP proposals and it has been well received by potential editors so far. This is likely to be more evident once the site is up and running.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Sarah Gibbs had received a communication from Alan Lord, Chief Editor of *Journal of Micropalaeontology*, suggested that short-term open-access bundles or papers should be a regular feature of journals. This could be in the form of small collections of key papers that would promote the journal or an 'editor's choice' for each new issue.

The Committee liked the idea in principle and SG was requested to produce a formal proposal for the March meeting, including how such papers would be identified.

SG

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 1st March 2012 starting at 10.30 am. The annual Publications Reception will take place in the evening.