

Editor-in-Chief Needed for JRM

The Society for Range Management is soliciting nominations for the newly created position of Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Range Management. The SRM Board of Directors has approved the JRM Task Force recommendation that a commercial publisher publish JRM. Switching to a commercial publisher and implementing other Task Force recommendations require changes in the editor's duties including using an electronic manuscript review system. And, the Editor-in-Chief will no longer be burdened with copy-editing and production editing, enabling the Editor-in-Chief to focus on scientific content. As in the past, a stipend, the amount of which is yet to be determined, will be provided to the Editor-in-Chief.

The Editor-in-Chief position is the most important position relating to SRM's scientific journal. Our journal is critical to the dissemination of knowledge and an important revenue source for SRM.

Qualifications:

1. SRM member of good standing.
2. A record of scientific publishing, including publication in JRM.
3. An actively publishing (or recently retired) scientist who is current with the scientific literature relevant to JRM.
4. Served as an associate editor for a scientific journal.

Term of Office:

The term of office is 5 years subject to annual performance reviews by the JRM Steering Committee with input from the JRM Editorial Board.

Duties:

1. Chair the JRM Editorial Board and organize meetings of the associate editors at annual SRM meetings.
2. Select associate editors based on criteria developed by the JRM Steering Committee.
3. Provide training sessions for newly appointed and continuing associate editors (i.e., duties of associate editors and publication standards for JRM).
4. Monitor performance of associate editors.
5. Manuscript responsibilities:
 - Screen manuscripts for general appropriateness for JRM and for acceptability for review.
 - Assign subject matter category to manuscripts and transmit manuscripts to appropriate subject-matter associate editors.
 - Oversee final acceptance of manuscripts to assure consistency in editing, format, and scientific quality.
 - Reply to author(s) with a letter of manuscript acceptance or rejection, following recommendation by the associate editor. The technical editor

communicates in writing the final publication decision to the author(s) and to the associate editor.

- Accept and coordinate appeals of reviews.

The Editor-in-Chief is expected to be visionary as the Journal of Range Management experiences rapid changes in our science, resources, processes, format, and delivery. Fierce competition for authors and readers make this position key to the future success of our journal and our profession.

Applicants should submit their vita including a list of previous editorial experience and a one-page vision for JRM by January 5, 2004 to David M. Engle, preferably electronically at dme@mail.pss.okstate.edu; or mailed for receipt by January 5, 2004 to David M. Engle, 477 Ag Hall, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078; Fax: 405-744-5269.

Steering Committee Members Needed for JRM

The Society for Range Management is soliciting nominations for members of the Journal of Range Management Steering Committee. This is a new committee approved by the SRM Board of Directors on October 23, 2003. The purpose of the Steering Committee is to focus on issues that are strategic in nature as contrasted to the JRM Editorial Board, which manages peer reviews of manuscripts. As such, the Steering Committee's overall goal is to position JRM for successful competition for authors and readers in the competitive world of science publishing and thereby promote excellence in our science and profession.

Duties of the Steering Committee:

1. Establish criteria for acceptable subject matter for volunteered and invited manuscripts.
2. Develop criteria and guidelines for selecting and dismissing associate editors.
3. Set term limits for associate editors and the number of associate editors.
4. Develop the criteria, in conjunction with the Editor-in-Chief, for training new associate editors to effectively execute their responsibilities (e.g., revise JRM Instructions to Authors as necessary).
5. Provide guidance and approval for continuous improvement of JRM, including format and content, after receiving input from the JRM Editorial Board.
6. Develop a process for evaluating the Editor-in-Chief.
7. Revise and monitor appeal policy for rejected manuscripts.
8. Recruit nominees for associate editors.

For tasks resulting in direct financial impact on SRM, the Steering Committee will provide the SRM Board of Directors and the Executive Vice President with the following as needed. Items are listed in order of descending priority.

1. Proposed changes in appearance of the journal cover and print format.
2. Evaluation of current publishing quality and recommendations for corrective changes.
3. Evaluation of publishing proposals and publishing contracts.
4. Assessment and recommendations on electronic access and indexing.
5. Evaluation of co-sponsoring arrangements and development of proposals for co-sponsoring JRM.
6. Recommendations regarding page charges and subscription rates.

Composition of the Steering Committee:

The Steering Committee will be composed of a diversity of disciplines, geographic representation, and scales of ecological interest. The primary emphasis of Steering Committee composition will be disciplinary representation. The Steering Committee will include at least one international (i.e., non-U.S.)

member. Membership will also include one former and one current member of the JRM Editorial Board, one of which will serve as liaison to the JRM Editorial Board. Eligible members are SRM scientists with a record of publishing in JRM and other scientific journals.

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