

# Knowledge Exchange: Roundtable Discussions

**MODERATOR:****Anna Jester**

Director of Sales & Marketing  
eJournalPress  
Washington, DC

**SPEAKERS:****Maria Kowalczyk**

Biology Editor, Research  
Integrity  
BioMed Central  
London, United Kingdom

**Dianne King-McGavin**

Peer Review Manager  
American Society for Pharmacology  
& Experimental Therapeutics  
New Market, Maryland

**Keith Gigliello**

Senior Manager, Digital  
Publications  
American Society of Hematology  
Washington, DC

**Glenn Landis**

Editorial Director  
American Society of Hematology  
Washington, DC

**Jim Gilden**

Business Development Manager  
PRE  
Ventura, California

**Kelly Hadsell**

Managing Editor  
KWF Editorial  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Melissa Junior**

Associate Director, Journals  
American Society for Microbiology  
Washington, DC

**Kerry Kroffe**

Senior Editorial Manager  
PLOS  
San Francisco, California

**Jennifer Lin**

Crossref Director of Product  
Management, Dryad Board of  
Directors  
Crossref  
San Francisco, California

**REPORTER:****Anna Jester****Journal Audits: What & Why**

Within both groups of participants, nobody had tried—or was aware of—a process that would be similar to the round of audits that has been performed for BioMed Central journals, so this topic was new and generated a lot of interest.

The rationale, implementation, and potential interventions resulting from journal audits were discussed. The process requires time and resources but provides useful insights into journals, helps identify any pain points in journal processes, and finds practical ways to support editors.

The questions from the participants were mostly about the practicalities of running the audits, and what to do with any findings. This involves a fair amount of discussion with the in-house staff who are performing the audits and with the editors of the journals, which in itself is a useful learning experience for everyone involved.

**Thanking Reviewers Monthly**

Reviewers are essential to the peer review process, and publishers would be wise to acknowledge their key role in the process in some way. Reviewers want to know the status of the papers they review after publication, so publishers should inform them of the final decision on the paper. Reviewers are also highly responsive to thanks, no matter how small. A simple “thank you” is always appreciated. Some publishers include small tokens such as gift cards or lapel pins for top reviewers. A list of all reviewers can be published or posted online, but top reviewers should receive personalized notes.

Junior reviewers count too! Some journals include areas on their submissions sites for reviewers to include names of junior reviewers who have helped with a review. When this occurs, it is best to thank ALL who have contributed to the review.

The Knowledge Exchange provides attendees the opportunity to discuss a rotating selection of topics with speakers and fellow attendees in an intentionally interactive format. Two 25-minute rounds of discussion keep the conversation flowing. Summaries from two of the conversations from the 2017 CSE Annual Meeting follow.