All Eyes On Asia: A Case Study in Singapore and China

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Agenda

• **Why?** Review why ISMTE’s leadership wanted a meeting in the Asian-Pacific region

• **Who?** Look at who attended our meetings

• **What?** Discuss what we expected and learned

• **How?** Consider how we can now use this information
About ISMTE

The mission of the International Society of Managing & Technical Editors (ISMTE) is to connect the community of professionals committed to the peer review and publication of academic and scholarly journals. ISMTE provides peer-to-peer networking, education and training, research and resources for best practices, and development of journal policy.
Why Go to Asia?
Meetings by the Numbers: Singapore

Attendees at the 2016 Singapore Meeting

- Australia: 16
- Bangladesh: 1
- Canada: 11
- China: 1
- Germany: 1
- Indonesia: 3
- Japan: 14
- Nepal: 1
- Philippines: 6
- South Korea: 1
- Singapore: 1
- Sri Lanka: 1
- Sweden: 1
- Thailand: 1
- United Kingdom: 12
- United States: 1
Who?
Meeting by the Numbers: Beijing

Attendees at the 2017 Beijing Meeting

- United States: 89
- United Kingdom: 5
- Singapore: 4
- Qatar: 4
- Ireland: 7
- Korea: 7
- Japan: 2
- China: 8
- India: 2
- Germany: 1
- Australia: 1
- Philippines: 1
What we expected and learned

Things That Keep Me Awake at Night
Predatory Practices

- Every facet of the ‘axis of publication’ now has predatory and irresponsible elements of activity associated with it:
  - Editorial Board solicitation
  - Peer Reviewer solicitation/fixing
  - Manuscript solicitation
  - Peer Review promises
  - Predatory Author Services
    - Authorship for sale
    - Plagiarism / data stealing
    - Manuscripts for sale
    - Writing fraud

- My greatest fear is that in 2-years’ time, an author will have a very hard time identifying what are ethical practices. We will not be able to educate fast enough as irresponsible practices become mainstream.

Challenges for China’s STM Journals

- Academic impact: How to improve reputation? How to attract more high-quality submissions?
- Digital platform: How to develop digital publishing platforms with high reputation and impact?
- Market operation: How to convert to marketing approach and get revenue from journal publishing?

Not all research articles are written in English.
- Many articles don’t even use the Latin alphabets
- What languages are used in articles written in Japan?

STM

English
Japanese

All areas

English
Japanese
True or False?

Editors, researchers, managing editors and publishers in Asian countries do not try to understand many journals’ established ethical requirements.

False!
True or False?

It will be a challenge to get the word out about the new Asian-Pacific meeting and get enough attendees to make it worth holding the meeting.

Mostly False!
True or False?

Language and cultural differences will be a barrier and will be difficult to overcome. 

False.... And True
How to use what we learned

• Adjust how we organize the planning committee
• Consider new features at future meetings
• Looking beyond Singapore and China
• Use connections to continue to grow membership and create local groups
Any Questions?