

Proceedings of the International Workshop on Forest
Science Publishing
Helsinki, Finland, 15-16 October 2015



Eds. Pekka Nygren and Heidi Hintikka

Foreword

Several editors of forest science journals gathered in the IUFRO's (International Union of Forest Research Organisations) World Congress in Salt Lake City, USA, in October 2014 for discussing timely editorial issues in a session devoted for forest science publishing. After this event, a proposal to establish a IUFRO working party on forest science publishing was presented by four editors: Erwin Dreyer of *Annals of Forest Science*, Douglass F. Jacobs of *New Forest*, W. Keith Moser of *Forest Science*, and Pekka Nygren of *Silva Fennica*. The working party proposal was accepted by the IUFRO's International Board in March 2015. The aim of the IUFRO's Working Party 9.01.06 (Forest Science Publishing) is to provide a forum for discussions, training, exchange of ideas, and development of editorial practices of journals dealing with forests, wood science, and related research.

Editors of scientific journals are typically scientists who have been selected for the editorial responsibilities without having had much training on the main issues underlying scientific publishing. Publishing scientific articles differs from publishing other material in the need for strict control, mostly implemented by peer review, to maintain scientific quality and integrity. In addition to the scientific community, scientific knowledge should also be efficiently disseminated to disparate target audiences, e.g., policy makers, industry practitioners, and on-the-ground foresters. With the advent of on-line publishing and novel electronic media, the growing demand for open access publications, and the emergence of new ethical issues in publishing, the scientific publishing field is undergoing profound changes and confronting new expectations. Although some well-established publishers provide their journal editors training and opportunities for professional development, most forest science journal editors are still learning their work by doing rather than through specialized training. This is particularly true for professional and learned societies that publish journals, even as these publications continue to contribute significantly to the promulgation of forest science knowledge.

This on-line publication contains the abstracts of the presentations in the first workshop organised by the working party. Based on prior proposals collected from working party members, the first workshop discussed especially problems and solutions related to peer-review and openness of research publishing.

Peer-review is a centuries old tradition for assuring the quality of scientific work. The first written source referring to a kind of peer-review is a book *Ethics of the Physician* by Ishap bin Ali Al Rahwi (CE 854–931) of Syria. He requested physicians to keep notes on their patients and cures applied. These notes would be evaluated by peer physicians in the case of a treatment failure. However, the modern systematic peer-review of all manuscripts submitted to a journal by two or more knowledgeable scientists covered all scientific journals only in the 20th century. The wide-spread use of peer-review is in a way also its major problem: As manuscript submissions increase in a fast pace, the knowledgeable peers simply do not have time to respond positively to all review requests, leading to saturation of the system. In the workshop, we heard a keynote talk on the solution proposed by Peerage of Science service: The manuscripts are submitted to peer-review before submission to a journal. Anonymous manuscripts are accessible to peers willing to comment them, thus, widening the pool of potential reviewers. Other innovations were discussed in the working groups.

Many major agencies funding science request open access to the publications derived from research funded by them. This is especially true for major public agencies like the National Institutes of Health of the USA or the European Union but some major foundations have followed the lead. While open access certainly improves dissemination of research results, it also requires reorganisation of the publishing field as the journals do not receive any subscription income. Main question for many journals to stay alive is if the science funders are willing to pay for article processing. A keynote dealt with these issues, as well as the dealing of open data in forest sciences. Voluntary presentations presented some interesting case studies on several forest science journals.

Training the next generation of science authors, reviewers, and editors is an important objective of the working party. Thus, an open session for early-career scientists was organised as a part of the workshop. The editors gathered in the workshop gave talks on the scientific publishing process for the audience that consisted of young Finnish scientists in forest, agricultural, and environmental sciences. Strong participation to the open session clearly indicated the need for these kinds of activities.

The workshop was hosted by the Finnish Society of Forest Science and its organisation was supported the International Organising Committee formed by Dr Erwin Dreyer (*Annals of Forest Science*), Prof. Douglass F. Jacobs (*New Forests*), Dr W. Keith Moser (*Forest Science*), Dr Harri Mäkinen (*Forest Ecology and Management*), Asst. Prof. Danielle Way (*Tree Physiology*), and the undersigned. The organising committee reviewed all contributions to workshop. This and all other work of the committee is highly appreciated.

Pekka Nygren

Finnish Society of Forest Science
Silva Fennica

International Workshop on Forest Science Publishing, Helsinki, Finland, 15-16
October 2015

IUFRO Working Party 9.01.06 “Forest Science Publishing”



Organising Committee

Dr Pekka Nygren (chair), Finnish Society of Forest Science, Finland (Silva Fennica)
Dr Erwin Dreyer, INRA, France (Annals of Forest Science)
Prof. Douglass F. Jacobs, Purdue University, USA (New Forests)
Dr W. Keith Moser, Society of American Foresters, USA (Forest Science)
Dr Harri Mäkinen, Natural Resources Institute Finland (Forest Ecology and Management)
Asst. Prof. Danielle Way, Western Ontario University, Canada (Tree Physiology)

Technical Assistance

Heidi Hintikka, Uniforst Cooperative

Sponsors

Metsämiesten säätiö, Helsinki, Finland
Doctoral Program in Sustainable use of renewable natural resources (AGFOREE), University of Helsinki,
Finland

Workshop Programme

Thursday, 15 October

- 8:00 - 9:00** Registration and morning coffee, Room 504 (5th floor)
- 9:00 - 9:30** Opening (Room 505, 5th floor)
- 9:00 - 9:15 Welcome words by *Prof. Lauri Valsta, University of Helsinki and IUFRO's International Council*
- 9:15 - 9:20 Welcome to the House of Sciences and Letters, *Johanna Lilja, Federation of Finnish Learned Societies*
- 9:20 - 9:30 Practical issues on the workshop, *Pekka Nygren, Finnish Society of Forest Science*
- 9:30 - 12:30** Keynote talks and discussion
- 9:30 - 10:15 Scientific peer review – a time for renovation? *Mikko Mönkkönen, University of Jyväskylä and Peerage of Science, Finland* (Room 505)
- 10:15 - 10:45 Discussion on the keynote talk
- 10:45 - 11:15 Coffee break, Room 504
- 11:15 - 12:00 Open science: challenges for a forest science journal, *Erwin Dreyer, INRA and Annals of Forest Science, France* (Room 505)
- 12:00 - 12:30 Discussion on the keynote talk
- 12:30 - 13:30** Lunch
- 13:30 - 14:30** Voluntary presentations (Room 505)
- 13:30 - 13:50 Bibliometric analysis of publications of research groups in the fields of forestry, wood and paper science: case study of Slovenia, *Maja Peteb, University of Ljubljana & Slovenian Forestry Institute, Slovenia*
- 13:50 - 14:10 The Spanish Journal of Rural Development (SJRJ): An example of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary journal on issues of rural areas, *Ignacio J. Diaz Maroto, University of Santiago de Compostela, Spain*
- 14:10 - 14:30 Australian Forestry: The challenges of sustaining a strong regional journal, *Mark Brown, University of Sunshine Coast, Australia*
- 14:30 - 15:00** Poster session (Hall of 4th floor):
- The publishing centre *Silva Slovenica* and monograph series *Studia Forestalia Slovenica*, *Peter Železnik¹, Tina Drolc¹, Maja Peteb², Tom Levanič¹ & Hojka Kraigher¹, ¹Slovenian Forestry Institute, ²University of Ljubljana & Slovenian Forestry Institute, Slovenia*
- SciVie – Sciences de la Vie from the past and for the future, *Maja Peteb¹, Irena Rebor², Tina Drolc², Tom Levanič² & Hojka Kraigher², ¹University of Ljubljana & Slovenian Forestry Institute & ²Slovenian Forestry Institute, Slovenia*
- Acta silvae et ligni*, *Tine Grebenc¹, Maja Peteb², Tom Levanič¹, Hojka Kraigher¹, ¹Slovenian Forestry Institute, ²University of Ljubljana & Slovenian Forestry Institute, Slovenia*
- Making it viable - enabling Open Access for Finnish scholarly journals, *Johanna Lilja¹, Jyrki Ilva², ¹Federation of Finnish Learned Societies & ²National Library of Finland*
- 15:00 - 15:30** Coffee break (Room 504)
- 15:30 - 17:00** Working groups (small rooms of 4th floor):
- Multidisciplinarity of forest science journals
- Challenges and solutions for peer-review
- Open access and open data in forest sciences
- 17:00 - 18:00 Presentation of and common discussion on working group ideas (Room 505)
- 19:00 ->** Workshop dinner, Restaurant Atelje Finne, Arkadiankatu 14

Friday, 16 October

- 8:30 - 12:00** Open session on scientific publishing for early-career scientists (Room 104, 1st floor)
- 8:30 - 8:35 Opening, *Erwin Dreyer, Annals of Forest Science*
- 8:35 - 9:30 Scientific publication viewed from the Editor's chair, *Pierre Bernier, Canadian Journal of Forest Research*
- 9:30 - 10:00 Selecting the right journal for my manuscript, *Johanna Witzell, Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research*
- 10:00 - 10:30 Coffee break
- 10:30 - 11:00 Reproducibility in forest sciences, *Pekka Nygren, Silva Fennica*
- 11:00 - 11:30 Respond to peer review in the spirit of helpfulness, *Sari Palmroth, Tree Physiology*
- 11:30 - 12:00 Questions and answers
- 12:00 - 13:00** Lunch
- 13:00 - 15:00** IUFRO Working Party 9.01.06 Organising meeting (Room 505)
- 13:00 - 13:45 Setting the agenda: Summary on working group ideas
- 13:45 - 15:00 Organisation of the Working Party
- selection of office holders
 - work practices
 - Net site?
 - Next meeting
 - Other issues
- 15:00 - 15:30 Farewell coffee