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Why Concetta Press Was Founded

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Problems with current publishing

Advancement of science is important to improve the quality of life. This involves scholarly research and investigation followed by the publishing of studies. However, many impediments and even perils in the current system of presenting one's work in journal article form are evident. Authors, reviewers, and editors often have difficulties large and small, which all hinder the process of advancing science. Publication fees for journal articles have become exorbitant. It is common for fees of US \$2000 - \$5000 to be charged per article, or even more. Many authors and scientific groups cannot afford this, particularly those working in developing countries. Furthermore, the journal often is very rigid about exactly where each section of the manuscript should be placed, what is included, the format to use for the Abstract, text and references, and the different statements and disclaimers needed. The process of submitting a manuscript is often quite complicated, and may take a half a day or more. Many publishing companies, for example, require the corresponding author to fill in information about each and every author on special forms, even though it is already included on the title page. Reviews for the manuscript may be unhelpful, and it can take many weeks or even months for authors to receive them. Once accepted for publication, proofreaders often completely change the meaning of the paper with their updates. The typesetting process is often abysmal. Typesetters frequently seem to lack experience with punctuation, scientific symbols, and equations, and they often botch them upon rendering a typeset version, malfom the figures, and garble the tables. It may be many months or even close to a year before the paper is published in final form. Many other difficulties also exist in contacting the editor and in the final appearance of the paper online and in pdf form, as well as the working of links placed in the manuscript. Furthermore, it is often difficult or nearly impossible to login to the website. On countless occasions, the system will say the password is incorrect, and it is impossible to divine the correct password.

Reviewers likewise face many problems including some of those above, and difficulties in reading a manuscript with poor grammar, problems faced in retrieving all parts of the complete manuscript and supplements, and low-resolution figures generated by the system. They are often required to respond to many form-based questions during the review process and to submit their review in a manner that does not coincide with their original draft review. Editors too, face many difficulties. These include problems with support for the journal, difficulties in website update, demands by the publisher such as to include more papers of type x or type y, and lack of good communication with them.

Motivation for founding Concetta Press

All of the above difficulties were instrumental in deciding to launch Concetta Press. Our vision is firstly to provide a scientific journal publishing platform at minimal fee. The current diamond open access is \$0, to increase to perhaps \$300 after establishment of the inaugural journals. We would like to make the submission process and reviewing process as simple as possible. As such, and to minimize cost, all correspondence and activity related to Concetta Press is currently done via email. Preparing your manuscript is as simple as following a few basic guidelines, including relevant forms, and then emailing your work to the appropriate editor. Likewise, reviewers, when contacted to review, should they decide to accept, simply send an email back to the editor so stating, and they will receive the manuscript via email. It is a simple and time-tested process with no more trying to remember passwords or experiencing snafus in the submission process. We want to publish high-quality work in an aesthetically pleasing format, with downloadable pdf typeset version, in a very short period of time, once an article has been accepted. We want authors, reviewers, and editors to love working with our journals. We do not wish to render an author penniless or bankrupt by charging \$5000 to publish an article. We do not want authors to wait months for a decision on their precious manuscript. We too, are authors who publish scientific articles.

Commitment to ethical open publishing

The most important aspect of any manuscript, when considering whether it is ready for journal submission, must be that it is completely ethically generated. All of the data and its analysis must be checked multiple times for errors. Triple-check! Or more. Pause a week or two and then reread before you submit. This often gives an author a fresh perspective. The source of the data must be reliable, and all needed permissions must be obtained. For clinical data, no patient identifiers should ever be included. The appropriate committee should approve the use of the data for the study (IRB or IACUC). The text must include relevant citations. The Discussion should state the article's relevance to similar works. The Conclusions must be derived from the study results. Although AI can be used in some generation of the initial aspects of the work, it should not be used for the final form or to write the paper. Reviewers should never generate a review just by asking AI, without actually reading the paper. AI can be used as a help in understanding but not in generating a final review. Editors are completely blinded to the review of any manuscripts that they submit to any Concetta Press journal.

Vision for the future

We surmise that once Concetta Press is established, it will be a place where authors, reviewers, and editors love to gather online and participate. We believe that glitches will be few, and scientists will be pleased with the finished production in terms of quality and aesthetics. We think that Concetta Press will subsequently become a model for how publishing companies and journals should be run. We hope that you will participate in this endeavor, and that you will be pleased with the result. We invite you to contribute to the process to improve the exchange of high-quality scientific information and the development of new techniques and methods for improving the public good.

Author Biography

Edward J. Ciaccio, PhD is a senior research scientist in Medicine at Columbia University Medical Center and an honorary principal research fellow at Imperial College London. He previously edited two journals, founding one, and brought them both to Q1 in rank. His interests include modeling heart arrhythmias and onset of celiac disease.