

The professional association for the development and advancement of construction education.

April 15, 2022

Annual Meeting Update on International Journal of Construction Education and Research (IJCER)

Journal Highlights and other interesting statistics (annual report available upon request):

1. The journal's CiteScore increased slightly in 2020 (the most recent year reported). In 2018 it peaked at 2.1, dropped back to 1.9 in 2019, and then increased again to 2.0 in 2020 (see figure below). It is exciting to note that the our 2021 CiteScore is projected to have a substantial increase (see figure below). The 2021 CiteScore will be released in several weeks. The overall change in ranking was minimal this past year and we still compare well. In the Building and Construction category, the *IJCER* ranked 92 out of 185 journals (50th percentile). The Journal also ranked 484 out of 1,319 journals in the Education category (63rd percentile). The IJCER has an estimated 2020 impact factor of 0.969 (simply a "mock" impact factor reported to us by Taylor and Francis).



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2. Usage continues to be one of our most important metrics. The number of full text article downloads in 2021 was 23,156, an increase of 6% from 2020.



Another interesting trend is where the journal is being accessed from. Although the bulk of the ASC membership resides in the United States, North America downloads only account for 28% of the total access. Europe accounts for 32%.



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- 3. In 2021 the IJCER had 21 different articles published, 4 more than the previous year. This was due to the increased page count allocated through our new contract (up to 400 from the previous 320 pages). Article lengths continue to average just under 20 formatted pages. Although we've discussed pushing for shorter manuscripts, 20 pages still seems to be an appropriate article length, including references, figures, and tables.
- 4. In 2021 we had 120 manuscripts submitted and reviewed. As usual, there were also quite a few other submitted manuscripts that were unsubmitted at the initial paper processing stage for various reasons (most commonly formatting or length issues) and ultimately never resubmitted. These manuscripts are not included in the peer review process statistics. In 2021 there were 96 manuscripts that were rejected and 12 accepted for publication, corresponding to an 11% acceptance rate. The median days from submission to first decision is 40 days, with acceptance typically taking longer than rejection due to layered review process.
- 5. IJCER continues to have a strong backlog of manuscripts awaiting publication. There are 24 active papers within the ScholarOne system, at some stage of review/revision. There are also 24 papers awaiting an issue (already published and accessible electronically). The oldest paper not yet assigned an issue was published online in October 2020.
- 6. Something not previously contained in other annual reports were the results of an author satisfaction survey. The IJCER scores a 9.5 in author satisfaction regarding the peer review process. Although the number of responses is low (simply based on voluntary responses at the end of publishing process), the results are positive.



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7. Taylor and Francis (T&F) values the IJCER and continue to be pleased with the increasing demand of the journal. T&F indicates that 2,679 different institutions globally have access to the IJCER through various subscription options. The biggest change T&F recommends is generating a stronger Altmetric presence for published articles (essentially a reflection of social/digital media awareness). They also recommend a stronger push for open access publications. They believe both of these will lead to further increased accessibility to articles and ultimately a stronger journal impact.

Journal Staff:

We are once again exploring our overall peer review process, hoping to find efficiencies that can continue to increase the speed of publication even more while maintaining quality. We also continue to explore our strategy for succession planning as well as striving for increased diversity (gender, institutional, and international diversity) amongst our editorial staff/board.

Current Editorial Staff:

Editor: Clifton Farnsworth (*Brigham Young University*) Managing Editor: Mehmet Ozbek (*Colorado State University*) Associate Editor: Ben Bigelow (*University of Oklahoma*) Associate Editor: Somik Ghosh (*University of Oklahoma*) Associate Editor: Rodolfo Valdes-Vasquez (*Colorado State University*) Guest Associate Editor: Ulises Techera (*Colorado Mesa University*)

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