

SYSTEM DYNAMICS REVIEW

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE EDITOR TO THE SUMMER POLICY COUNCIL (SEOUL, JULY 2010)

1. Volume 26

Issues 1 and 2 were distributed on schedule.

2. Accepted Backlog

There are still enough accepted papers to cover around three issues. These papers will be put on *Early View* and when they acquire a doi they are 'published'. This backlog has not reduced significantly since I last reported six months ago. It will also be held back by the Special Issue.

3. Special Issue on *Transportation*

The editors report that five papers (including a *Notes & Insights* paper) have been accepted following the review process. It is currently planned that this issue will be Issue 3 in 2010.

4. Impact Factor for 2009

The 2009 value has recently been released and SDR is back down to 0.73. (31/42). The jump last year can be attributed to more cites to the 2007 Special 50th Anniversary issue. This over-compensated for the increased number of articles, 42 as opposed to the more normal 32 over a 2-year period.

However, the numerator (No of cites) is, at 31, the high point of a strong 5-year trend, save for the 50th. So if that is maintained next year and the denominator falls to something more normal, we can expect a rebound in the Impact Factor. On top of this there were only 13 articles in 2009 as Wiley-Blackwell were insistent on me complying with the page count after the 50th went so far over budget. So the denominator will be lower next year, further forcing a rise in the Impact Factor.

5. Statistics

Exactly 42 articles have been submitted to the online system this year i.e. from 1st January 2010 to 6th July 2010. Over the prior 12 months 56 had been submitted. This suggests that in calendar 2010 we might see a challenge to the overall 12-month record total of 70 submissions.

The prior 12 months acceptance ratio is 0.368 (14/38). A total of 25 manuscripts are currently at various stages of review.

6. Publications Committee

The Society plans to re-vitalise the Publications Committee. Its role has not been prominent although the Society's bye-laws suggest it should be a highly visible and energetic body. I welcome this development. Deborah Andersen has always sought to maintain its presence through the regular submission of annual reports but has now decided it would be an opportune moment (especially in view of the plans for a stronger technical quality oversight role for the Committee) to hand over to someone else to oversee this change in the committee's work. I acknowledge with gratitude the contribution made by Deborah over these past six years as Chair of the Publications Committee. George Richardson has agreed to step in for the remainder of Deborah's term.

7. Contract Negotiations with Wiley-Blackwell

These are at an advanced stage. The current contract terminates on 31st December 2010 and Wiley-Blackwell has recently sent to the Society a revised financial offer which is being evaluated. I have an input to these negotiations particularly in respect of editorial matters. Here the page count is prominent. I would like to see a page limit set which will allow a minimum of 4 articles per issue.

I have expressed a desire to see some stability in staffing since I have had to deal with 4 Production Editors and 3 Marketing Leads since I assumed the role of Executive Editor. The production function for SDR has recently moved from the UK to Manila, in the Philippines.

BC Dangerfield
July 2010.