My Most Problematic Issues as an Editor

This session aims to discuss the different problems editors face that are specific to their different readerships, publishers, scope of the journal (specialist or generalist), whether they are member-based, national or international, and the level of input and/or control by the owners or boards of the journal.

Some of the issues will include:
  • the problems of producing a generalist journal when the subject is becoming increasingly specialised
  • the challenges of bridging the gap between research contributors and practitioner readers
  • commercial pressures
  • challenges associated with society journals being moved into the large publishing groups
  • specific issues associated with covering news and politics as well as research
  • the problems of geographic distance
  • using volunteers
  • coping with the wide range of expertise of referees
  • the amount of copyediting done by the journal/reviewers/authors
  • managing disagreements between authors and reviewers (especially over statistics)
  • time spent dealing with antagonistic reviewer comments
  • using and/or dealing with copyeditors
  • coping with unreasonable or aggressive authors