In my 2014 report on the journal, I described a series of changes that aimed to increase the journal's visibility and impact, and to more effectively promote our science to the general public. The last 2 years have been a period of relative stability as we have worked toward consolidating these changes. As hoped, we have experienced an increase in submissions suggesting that the journal is increasingly perceived as an attractive place to publish. Increased submissions will allow us to become more selective and drive up the impact and quality of the journal. Behavioral Ecology is currently delivered to 2,653 consortia customers with access to the journal via the OUP Collection and 1,413 institutions in developing nations accessing the journal through OUP's philanthropic initiatives.

New initiatives

Mandatory data archiving

In the interests of adopting the highest standards of scientific rigor, and responding to the increasing demands of public funding bodies to make research outcomes openly accessible, Behavioral Ecology worked during 2015 toward the adoption of mandatory data archiving, which was formally introduced on the 1st January 2016. As a service to our authors we are providing data archiving in DRYAD at no charge. We are sensitive to the concerns of researchers over the subsequent re-use of data, and as such have developed a policy of ethical data re-use. Along with the submission of any manuscript in which archived data are used, Behavioral Ecology will require copies of correspondences with the original data collectors that make it clear that data re-users and collectors have agreed to data re-use, and that issues surrounding co-authorship have been discussed to the satisfaction of all parties. Re-users of data will also be required to cite both the source of the data and the original article from which it was drawn. We hope that by adopting these explicit policies the journal will lead the way in ethical data re-use.

Twitter

Behavioral Ecology launched its Facebook page in 2012 to more actively disseminate its research, both to the behavioral ecology community and to the general public. In 2014 we added twitter to our social media outreach. The Behavioral Ecology twitter feed is curated by a member of the Editorial Board, currently Hannah Rowland. Currently the feed has >2,000 followers. 46% of our followers are male, and 54% are female. 30% of our followers are from the UK, 23% USA, 8% Australia, and the remainder are from Canada, France, Germany, Spain, Japan, Sweden, and South Africa.

We have around 113,000 views per quarter, which results in around 600 link follows to our journal articles. Each month the article receiving the greatest attention is made free to view for a period of 3 months.

One recent highlight has been a paper tweeted about on the 01/05 ('Partner fidelity and reciprocal investments in the mating system of a simultaneous hermaphrodite'). It has received an impressive Altmetric score of 169. It was tweeted about 30 times, picked up by 17 news outlets and mentioned in 2 blogs https://oxfordjournals.altmetric.com/details/7048847. Our hope is that we can use social media to increase attention to, and citation of, work published in the journal.

Altmetrics

As we strive to increase impact and reach of the research reported in Behavioral Ecology beyond traditional academic venues via twitter and Facebook, OUP began in 2015 to collect and provide article level altmetric data for the journal. The altmetric score is a measure of the amount of attention an article has received online, in social media and news sites. Altmetrics started in 2012. Thus far the article with the highest altmetric score is Barnaby Dixon and Paul Vasey's article on how beards affect perceptions of men's age, social status and aggressiveness, followed by Jean-Nicolas Audet and colleagues article on urbanization effects on problem solving and immunocompetence in birds. With scores of 550 and 312 (June 2016) respectively these articles are in the top 5% of all research outputs scored by altmetrics. The launch of Altmetrics was accompanied by an advertising campaign "Explore articles making the most impact" that aimed to increasing usage of the top 10 scoring articles by collecting them together on the journal's electronic home page and making them free to view. These articles received an increased usage of 60% during the campaign.

Editorial Board

There have been a number of changes to the Editorial team since my last report. Some of our Editors have finished their terms of office, including Alison Bell, Wolfgang Forstmeier, Alexi Maklakov, Nick Royle and Glauco Machado. I would like to formally thank each of these individuals for their hard work and dedication to the journal. Accordingly, we now have 5 new Editors, Naomi Langmore, David Stephens, Louise Barrett, Suzanne Alonzo and Jonathan Pruitt. I am extremely grateful to these individuals for agreeing to offer their time and expertise to build upon the strength of our journal over the coming years.

We have also seen changes to our Editorial Board. My thanks go to Susan Alberts, Doug Emlen, Eileen Hebets, I-Min Tso, Stuart West, Mariella Herberstein, John Skelhorn, Lutz Fromhage, Maria Servidio, Hanna Kokko and Carel ten Cate who have all completed terms on the Editorial Board, and I welcome new members.
Amanda Ridley, Hannah Rowland, Erik Postma, Tim Fawcett, Tim Caro, Elizabeth Tibbetts, Devi Stuart-Fox, Julia Schroeder, Andres Lopez-Sepulcre, Paula Stockley, Tom Reader and Ron Ydenberg. Our editorial board provide rapid reviews on up to 10 manuscripts per year, and serve as adjudicators when necessary. Our editorial structure aims to afford a broad area of expertise in behavioral ecology research, to be gender balanced and to represent the international community. We currently have 17 male and 12 female Editors from 10 Countries, that provide a broad coverage of research areas and taxonomic specialities.

**Manuscript Submissions, Decisions & production**

During 2014 (2015) Behavioral Ecology received 640 (644) Original Articles, an increase of ~17% on the last reporting period. We also Invited 7 (3) Reviews with associated Commentaries, and 8 (6) Ideas. During the same periods decisions were made on 694 (661) submissions. Of these 66% (63%) were rejected (22% (27%) without review) and 34% (37%) were accepted for publication.

Having reduced the overall time from submission to decision to 32 days in the last reporting period, decision times remained steady at 31 days in 2014 and rose slightly to 41 days in 2015. The longest wait period is when manuscripts are in the initial review process. This period was 45 days in 2014 and 55 days in 2015. The major rate limiting step in decision timing is now the time it takes our referees to return their reviews. Resubmission to final acceptance has been reduced from an average of 10 days in 2013 to an average of 4 days in 2014 and 2015. The time for immediate rejections remains steady at 3-4 days.

The time from final acceptance to publication in advance of print fell from 5 weeks in 2014 to 3.7 weeks in 2015. This 26% reduction in production time largely reflects processing changes made at the typesetter.

**Published Volumes**

Volumes 25 and 26 of Behavioral Ecology appeared in 2014 and 2015 respectively. Volume 25 comprised a total of 1533 pages with 160 original articles, 5 Invited Reviews with associated commentaries, 4 Invited Ideas and 8 Invited Anniversary Essays. Volume 26 comprised a total of 1596 pages with 164 original articles, 7 Invited Reviews with associated Commentaries, and 4 Invited Ideas. Collectively these articles have received 974 citations, an average of 2.79 citations per article, with the most cited being Noa Pinter-Wollman and her colleagues Invited Review in volume 25 issue 2, "The dynamics of animal social networks".

For each issue in 2014 and 2015 one article was highlighted as Editor's Choice. These articles have been made free to view and are archived in a collection that can be accessed via the electronic journal homepage.

Our authors come from 29 countries, with continental Europe, the USA and the UK still the largest represented groups.
Virtual Issues
Virtual issues were introduced in 2013. Behavioral Ecology published 1 virtual issue in 2014 and 2 in 2015. Our 2014 issue was a celebration of 25 years of the journal and highlighted 17 articles from the journal's archive, each selected by a current or former Editor of the journal. It also included an archive of Pitelka Prize articles. Virtual issues in 2015 were built around two of our Invited reviews "A focus on Cognition" around Candy Rowe and Sue Healy's review on measuring variation in cognition, and "Behavioral Ecology in a Changing World" around Bob Wong and Ulrika Candolin's review on behavioral responses to changing environments. All featured articles were made free to view. Virtual issues are proving effective in increasing usage of articles published in the main journal. For example, articles in "Behavioral Ecology in a Changing World" had an average increased usage of 60%, and for some articles up to 400%.

Electronic Journal Usage
Full text HTML and pdf downloads rose from 634,655 in 2014 to 641,714 in 2015. The monthly downloads were ~52,900 and 53,500 in 2014 and 2015 respectively, which is a 25% increase on the previous reporting period.

The journal currently has 5,724 email Table of Contents (eTOC) registrants, an increase of 2.3% upon the previous year (5,592 eTOC registrants in December 2014). Behavioral Ecology also has a further 1,578 individuals signed up to receive Advanced Access (AA) e-alerts, an increase of 4% from December 2014 (1,516).

The Behavioral Ecology mobile site launched in June 2011 and usage has been increasing steadily, from 4,737 in January 2014 to 6,792 in January 2015.

Journal Impact
The ISI Impact Factor for Behavioral Ecology fell from 3.177 in 2014 to 3.029 in 2015 and is currently ranked 15/51 in Behavioral Sciences, 42/149 in Ecology and 10/160 in Zoology. The slight decline in impact factor is symptomatic of the discipline as a whole. Behavioral Ecology ranks closely with Animal Behaviour (IF 3.169) and is increasing its gap with Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology (IF 2.382).

Facebook
The journal's facebook page @behecol has 6,170 followers. The page is used to highlight new articles in the journal that are particularly newsworthy, and our Invited Reviews. When each new issue of the journal is released a lay summary of the Editor's choice is posted, along with a "Focus on issue" post with images accompanied by author provided lay summaries. Posts typically reach an audience of ~3000-4000 people. The page is also used to post society information, such as ISBE conference announcements and the newsletter, and coverage in the media to papers published in Behavioral Ecology is shared on the Behavioral Ecology page. Perhaps not surprisingly the page is most popular among the younger cohorts.

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