

Irene Hames Wins Publons' Sentinel Award for Championing Peer Review

19 September 2017 (London, England): Publons today named Irene Hames the winner of the 2017 Sentinel Award - for outstanding advocacy, innovation or contribution to scholarly peer review.

Irene Hames was a significant contender for the inaugural Sentinel Award, having spent much of her long career in scholarly publishing working on peer review and publication ethics. She has worked tirelessly to help editors, journals and publishers improve the quality of their peer-review and editorial processes, and championed the critical importance of robust peer review amongst the research community.

A video of Irene receiving the Award can be found here: <https://publons.com/blog/2017-sentinel-winner-announced/>

The Sentinel Award is the final, much-coveted accolade in Publons Peer Review Awards, celebrating the essential role that peer review plays in maintaining scientific quality. A panel of judges from across the publishing industry shortlisted eight finalists for the award, and voted on the winner.

The shortlist consisted of individual reviewers, career peer review advocates and experts:

- [American Geophysical Union](#)
- [Michèle B. Nuijten for the project: StatCheck](#)
- [Irene Hames](#)
- [Retraction Watch](#)
- [ORCID](#)
- [F1000Research](#)
- Kyle Martin and [Gareth Fraser](#)
- [Committee on Publication Ethics](#)

Special mention also goes to Michèle B. Nuijten as runner-up for her project, Statcheck.

Andrew Preston, co-founder and Managing Director of Publons, remarked *“Irene has been a phenomenal servant to research ethics and peer review over an esteemed career and is a thoroughly deserving recipient. She has added significant value to scholarly peer review, helping to define and establish a more robust and transparent process so that sound research is communicated to the world.”*

Irene said...*“The 40 years I've spent in research communication and scholarly publishing have made me aware of the value of peer review - when carried out effectively and efficiently it's a very powerful tool. The quality of peer review varies enormously, however, and so it's terrific that there are so many current efforts to improve and innovate it. It's great, too, that contributions to peer review are being recognised. I'm really delighted, and deeply honoured, to receive the*

inaugural Sentinel Award. There are many dedicated people carrying out high-quality peer review, so this award is for all of them too, not just me!"

About Publons Peer Review Awards

Publons Peer Review Awards were established in 2016 to honor the heroes of peer review across all the world's journals. Various categories were included in the 2017 installment to celebrate the quality and quantity of their efforts, many of which were announced on September 12th.

The winners of all categories can be found here:

The Publons Peer Review Awards are sponsored by Catalyst Grant by Digital Science, SAGE, Web of Science, Wiley and Wolters Kluwer.

Publons expert panel of judges for the Sentinel Award were:

Andrew Preston, Co-founder and Managing Director of Publons
Tessa Picknett, Executive Director, Editorial STM Journals, UK
Alice Meadows, Director of Community Engagement & Support for ORCID
Stephanie Dawson, CEO ScienceOpen
Phil Hurst, Publisher at the Royal Society
Nicko Goncharoff, Chief Business Development Officer at Digital Science
Nicole Nogoy, Editor with GigaScience

About Publons

Publons is the home of reviewer recognition, peer review training, post-publication review and statistics. Academics can effortlessly track, verify and, where permitted, showcase their peer review contributions across the world's journals as evidence of their standing and service in their field. Publons is part of Clarivate Analytics, the global leader in trusted insights and analytics that accelerate the pace of innovation.