



## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Wednesday 16 May 2012**

### **Committee on Publication Ethics receives top award from Council of Science Editors**

COPE, the Committee on Publication Ethics, has been awarded the Council of Science Editors (CSE) highest honour for its significant contribution to improving scientific communication by promoting high editorial standards.

The award will be presented to Dr Virginia Barbour, Chair of the COPE council, in a ceremony scheduled for the CSE Annual Meeting, which will be held this year in Seattle, Washington, USA on 20–21 May 2012.

“We are delighted to receive this prestigious award from CSE and to join the distinguished list of individuals and organisations that have been honoured for their meritorious achievement” says Dr Barbour. “Working with like-minded organisations is a fundamental part of COPE’s work and this award underlines the increasingly important role we are playing in the international scientific publishing community.

"The importance of ethics, specifically publication ethics, has never been more critical in global research and publishing. COPE's expansion in membership and activity is a reflection of how seriously editors worldwide take their role in ensuring standards of publication ethics are upheld."

COPE was established in 1997 by a small group of medical journal editors in the UK and now has more than 7,000 members worldwide, from all disciplines. Membership is open to editors of academic journals and others interested in publication ethics. Many of the world’s largest international publishers have signed up their journals as COPE members.

The charity provides advice to editors and publishers on all aspects of publication ethics, in particular how to handle research and publication misconduct. COPE also provides a forum for members to discuss individual cases, funds research on publication ethics, publishes a quarterly newsletter and organises annual seminars. Members are expected to follow

the Code of Conduct and the organisation has also developed Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors.

The Council of Science Editors is a dynamic community of editorial professionals dedicated to the responsible and effective communication of science. Its mission is to serve editorial professionals in the sciences by creating a supportive network for career development, providing educational opportunities and developing resources for identifying and implementing high-quality editorial practices.

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#### Notes to Editors

For more information about COPE:

Website - <http://www.publicationethics.org>

Twitter - @COPE

Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/publicationethics>

Linkedin - <http://www.linkedin.com/groups/COPE-Committee-on-Publication-Ethics-4040884/about>