Publication ethics: the last 20 years

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Life in 1997-8
(in case you can’t remember)

- Tony Blair becomes UK Prime Minister
- Clinton denies Lewinsky affair
- Hong Kong returned to Chinese rule
- Princess Diana dies
- 1st Harry Potter book published

Didn’t exist yet:
- Google (1998)
- iTunes (2001)
- Facebook (2004)
- YouTube (2005)
- Twitter (2006)

This was the latest mobile phone
COPE founded

- 1st meeting, April 1997
The world has changed …

Source: Internet Live Stats
http://www.internetlivestats.com/internet-users/

World population internet access
<1% in 1995
Now 40%
Increase in retractions

Scope of “non-PubMed” retracted articles

Medline retractions

![Graph showing the number of Medline retractions over the years from 1996 to 2016. The x-axis represents the years, and the y-axis represents the number of retractions (in thousands). The bars indicate the number of retractions on Medline and citations added.](image)
Justifications for retraction stated in the notices consulted, which accounted for 4,232 retracted articles

Yearly distribution of retracted articles based on author affiliation countries

What are editors worried about?
COPE case topics over time

Irene Hames et al, Peer Review Congress, 2013
New types of misconduct

1. Image manipulation
2. Fake peer review
3. Predatory journals
Image manipulation

Photoshop launched (for Mac) 1990
Compromised peer review (unpublished)

CASE NUMBER: 12-15

YEAR: 2012

RESOLUTION: Case Closed

It was determined that the reviewer suggestions were faked; a previous publication by the same fake reviewers was identified. Following the recommendations of COPE regarding the fake reviewers' reports indicating very high interest. At that point the manuscript had

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Fake peer review

Elsevier retracting nine papers for fake peer review

with 9 comments

The fake peer review retraction count continues to mount.

Elsevier is retracting nine papers from five journals because fake email addresses for reviewers were provided during submission of the original manuscripts. According to a statement from the publisher.

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64 more papers retracted for fake reviews, this time from Springer journals

with 7 comments

This is officially becoming a trend. Springer is pulling another 64 articles from 10 journals after finding evidence of faked peer reviews, bringing the total number of retractions from the phenomenon north of 300.

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In more faked peer review news... 10 papers pulled by Hindawi

with 7 comments

Guess what? We've got more cases of fraudulent peer review to report — our second post of the day on the subject, in fact. In the latest news, Hindawi Publishing Corporation has retracted 10 papers for "fraudulent review reports," after an investigation of more than 30 papers that had been flagged this summer.

The investigation found that author Jason Jung, a computer engineer at Yeungnam University in Korea, "was involved in submitting the fraudulent review reports" for four of the retracted papers, according to the publisher's CEO. In the case of the other six, the authors didn't appear to be involved.

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17 retractions from SAGE journals bring total fake peer review count to 250

without comments

On Monday, we reported on 64 new retractions from Springer journals resulting from fake peer reviews. Yesterday, SAGE — which retracted 80 papers for the same reason just over a year ago — added 17 additional retractions to their list.

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Springer, BMC retracting nearly 60 papers for fake reviews and other issues

with 3 comments

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A new record: Major publisher retracting more than 100 studies from cancer journal over fake peer reviews

with 16 comments

Springer is retracting 107 papers from one journal after discovering they had been accepted with fake peer reviews. Yes, 107.
Growth of predatory publishers

Rapid growth of probable predatory publishers charted by Beall’s list (923 companies in 2016)

https://scholarlyoa.com/2016/01/05/bealls-list-of-predatory-publishers-2016/
More media coverage

Prominent Japanese Cardiologist Accused of Scientific Misconduct

Following accusations by independent bloggers in Japan and Germany, the American Heart Association (AHA) has issued an Expression of Concern about five papers published in AHA journals co-authored by Hiroyuki Matsubara, a prominent cardiologist and researcher at Kyoto Prefectural University in Japan. In addition to his many papers exploring the basic science of the renin-angiotensin system, Matsubara was the chief investigator of the KYOTO HEART Study, a randomized, open-labeled study studying the add-on effect of valsartan to conventional therapy in high-risk hypertension.
and blogs / social networks

PubPeer launched 2012

Retraction Watch launched 2010

TRIGGERED fate conversion of somatic cells into pluripotency

Stimulus-triggered fate conversion of somatic cells into pluripotency

PubPeer & Nature

Retraction Watch

Search Results

Tokyo panel calls for retraction of 43 Kato papers

The University of Tokyo panel investigating the work of a former professor there, Shigeaki Kato, has recommended the retraction of 43 of his group’s articles, according to a report in the Asahi Shimbun newspaper.

57166 views

BioMed Central blog

Free Internet based paraphrasing tools: further threats to academic integrity

Science Insider

Breaking news and analysis from the world of science policy

Whistleblower Uses YouTube to Assert Claims of Scientific Misconduct

An anonymous whistleblower has created a YouTube video that details alleged duplication of images by a prominent Japanese scientist.

By Dennis Normile | 25 January 2012 10:59 am | 1 Comment

Retraction Watch

Go to Article PDF

Get alerts for new activity

Invite others to the conversation

review-of-obokata-stress-reprogramming-nature-papers/
New detection tools

- JCB image guidelines (2004)
- ORI “forensic droplets”
- CrossCheck (now CrossRef Similarity Check) launched 2008
Publication guidelines

ICMJE

CSE White Paper

WAME Policy Statements

GPP

JCB images

COPE code of conduct

ALLEA Euro Code RI

World Conferences on Research Integrity

- 2007 – Lisbon
- 2010 – Singapore
- 2013 – Montreal
- 2015 – Rio de Janeiro
- 2017 – Amsterdam
We are not alone …

- ISMTE 2007
- CrossRef 2008
- CASPA 2008
- DORA 2012
- APAME 2013
- WAME
- Many editors organizations
- International Academy of Nursing Editors
- EMAME
- Council of Science Editors
- European Association of Science Editors
- AllTrials 2013
- The Reward Alliance 2014
Search: publication ethics

Scholarly articles for publication ethics

Best practice guidelines on publication ethics. A ... Graf - Cited by 165
... editors' views on publication ethics: results of an ... Wager - Cited by 134
Publication ethics in the ghost management of ... Biamondo - Cited by 72

Committee on Publication Ethics: COPE | Promoting integrity in ...
https://publicationethics.org/ •
COPE is a forum for editors and publishers of peer reviewed journals to discuss all aspects of publication ethics. It also advises editors on how to handle cases ...
About COPE | Resources | Guidelines | Become a member

Publication Ethics (@COPE) • Twitter
https://twitter.com/COPE

Tomorrow is the last day you can register for @COPE European Forum. See full programme and register here owlyGpE3b3bwC0WY #COPE2017
1 hour ago • Twitter

Publications ethics and institutions' @COPE European Forum. Register today owly7nCM3OlwPhR #COPE2017
6 hours ago • Twitter

Article on PMC: Gender bias in scholarly peer review owlymF1e30bwXlI0
23 hours ago • Twitter

Guidelines | Committee on Publication Ethics: COPE
https://publicationethics.org/resources/guidelines •
COPE is just one of a number of organisations that is seeing a large rise in applications for membership from new journals. Although we very much want to ...

Flowcharts | Committee on Publication Ethics: COPE
https://publicationethics.org/resources/flowcharts •
The flowcharts are designed to help editors follow COPE's Code of Conduct and implement its advice when faced with cases of suspected misconduct and have ...

Resources | Committee on Publication Ethics: COPE
COPE has made a big impact since 1997.
“COPE may not prove useful in the long term, and we will be delighted if it is made unnecessary because the international profession produces an adequate response to research misconduct”
Richard Smith (COPE co-founder)

COPE’s not unnecessary yet …
Many happy returns!