



Publication Ethics and Policy

Rob Skilton, Head CB&ID

July 14th 2017

Publication ethics?

- Publishing: essential component in the development of a reliable and respected body of knowledge
- Scientific truth: foundation of scientific advancement
- Publications must embody intellectual integrity
- A publication directly reflects quality of the work of the authors and the institutions that support them.
- Peer-reviewed articles support and embody the scientific method.
- Important to agree upon standards of expected ethical behavior for all parties involved in the the writing and publishing of science.
- Ethical violations affect the quality and integrity of science.

The contents of this slide were adapted from: <https://www.elsevier.com/editors/publishing-ethics>

icipe Publication Policy



- Knowing your obligations and rights in this area can often avoid unwanted tension and conflict down the line.
- Please read the *icipe* publication policy:
http://intranet.icipe.org:8000/intranet/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=810%3Aicipe-publication-policy-march-2010&catid=29&Itemid=40
- *icipe*'s publication policy has been formulated in consultation with Wageningen University, in The Netherlands. The policy borrows heavily from experiences and practices of Wageningen University.
- A large part of this presentation is based on the policy.

Why do we need a publication policy?

- Essential for good science. Ensures the high quality of published material.
- Guards against the publication of fraudulent data.
- Guides us on best practices.
- Avoids confrontation and bad feelings. Maintains good relationships between partners and co-authors so that everyone feels that have been treated fairly.
- By acknowledging all support to your research, you are demonstrating your integrity as a researcher, which consequently encourages continued collaboration and support.
- Deciding on authors and their order on a publication is an essential part of doing science responsibly.

Defining the Role of Authors and Contributors

- Authorship confers credit and has important academic implications.
- Authorship implies responsibility and accountability for published work.
- Authorship does not communicate what contributions qualified an individual to be an author. *However, some journals now request and publish information about the contributions of each author, at least for original research.*

Adapted from: <http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html>
https://www.researchgate.net/post/Difference_between_Corresponding_author_and_First_author_and_what_are_all_their_responsibilities

Who can be an author?

All authors of a paper must

- Contribute substantially to the paper
- Contribute intellectually
- Review the final version of the manuscript
- Approve it for publication
- Take public responsibility for the content of the paper

Who can be an author?

- Someone's contribution is substantial if they contributed to **at least 2** of the following 4 aspects:
 1. Problem definition, design of the experiment or research project, planning. This may include acquisition of the project, writing of the project proposal, designing the experimental setup.
 2. Practical execution of the lab or field work. Production of data.
 3. Analyses and interpretation of the results.
 4. Writing of the manuscript.
- The contribution to two of these four aspects must really have made a difference. This does not necessarily mean that the contribution took much time.
- Someone who supplies data can only be an author if he/she also contributes to one of the other three aspects.

Who can be an author?

- Just providing the laboratory space for a project or furnishing a sample used in the research is not sufficient to be an author.
- It may help to be clear about this in an early stage of the research, for instance when you ask someone for data.
- The senior author (usually the last author) has a special responsibility: *they should personally review the original data generated by the research, ascertaining that the data selected for publication is accurate and has been appropriately presented.*

Order of authors

- The first author contributes most and takes the lead in writing.
- The order of the authors used to be based on the measure of their contribution, i.e. the first one contributed most, the last one contributed least. This is still true, with one exception: the final author is usually the leader/supervisor of the research project.
- In practice the only authors that will be credited by the outside world will be the first and the last, and sometimes the second.

Order of authors

To decide the relative value of contributions, you may wish to score each of the four aspects: (1) problem definition/project design; (2) Project execution; (3) Analysis/interpretation; (4) Writing

- ‘none’ (score 0)
- ‘minor’ (score 5)
- ‘moderate’ (10)
- or ‘major’ (20)

The highest total score means the largest contribution.

Who decides the order of authors?

- The list of authors should be a result of consensus.
- The first author makes a proposal for discussion and takes the final decision, unless the first author is a PhD or MSc student. In that case, the proposal is made by the student together with his/her supervisor. The final decision on the author list and order of the authors is taken by the supervisor.
- If no consensus can be reached, the *icipe* Director General (an “outsider”) would be asked to check if the criteria given above are correctly applied.

Submitting author

- Submits the paper to the journal
- Usually the 1st author
- Takes primary responsibility for communicating with the journal during the manuscript submission, peer review, and publication process
- Ensures that all the journal's administrative requirements, such as providing details of authorship, ethics committee approval, clinical trial registration documentation, and gathering conflict of interest forms and statements, are properly completed (although these duties may be delegated to one or more coauthors).
- Available throughout the submission and peer review process to respond to editorial queries in a timely way

Adapted from: <http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html>

Corresponding author

- Available after publication to respond to critiques of the work and cooperate with any requests from the journal for data or additional information should questions about the paper arise after publication
- Usually the senior author
- Corresponding author is decided by the senior author

Adapted from: <http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html>

Acknowledgements

- People who contributed to a paper, but whose contribution does not meet the above-mentioned criteria for an author should be mentioned in the acknowledgements of a paper.
- An acknowledgment is a formal statement that recognises funding bodies, institutions, departments and individuals (non-authors) for their particular contributions to the research being reported.
- Acknowledgement demonstrates your integrity as a researcher, which consequently encourages continued collaboration and support.

Acknowledgements



You should mention the following individuals/institutions:

- Persons who provided scientific guidance, including advice on data analysis
- Persons who gave critical feedback on the paper during its drafting and revising stages
- Persons who shared unpublished results
- Persons/institutions that provided facilities/equipment
- Persons or institutions who provided protocols, specific reagents or samples
- Technicians and lab assistants who provided technical support who required full supervision for the work
- Funding agencies/donors

Adapted from:

<http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html>

icipe's Directive on Acknowledgements



ALL *icipe* scientists, visiting scientists, post-doctoral scientists, and graduate students are required to include the following funding acknowledgment statement in ALL *icipe* publications (peer reviewed journal articles, brochures, posters, presentations and press releases).

“We gratefully acknowledge the financial support for this research by the following organizations and agencies: *the specific restricted project donor (written out in full) and grant number (xxx)*; UK Aid from the UK Government; Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida); the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC); and the Kenyan Government. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the donors.”

If an author on the paper is an *icipe* student, then in addition to this statement please include the donor that provided the scholarship and the name of the scholarship programme, *e.g.* “A.B.C. (*the initials of the student*) was supported by a German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) In-Region Postgraduate Scholarship.”

In addition, PI’s should be aware of the requirements of donors relating to acknowledgments.

Institute affiliations



- Institute affiliations are the addresses of authors on a paper, poster or presentation.
- If you are a student, visiting scientist or staff member who used *icipe* resources in the form of *icipe* facilities or financial support from an *icipe* led grant then it is appropriate that you give *icipe* as your affiliated institution when authoring a publication (DRP, March 2015).
- *icipe* should be your primary affiliated institute on the publication.
- The correct format for the *icipe* affiliations is:

International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (*icipe*), P.O. Box 30772-00100, Nairobi, Kenya

Do not include the *icipe* theme/department/unit in your affiliation

e.g. do not write

Molecular Biology and Bioinformatics Unit, International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (*icipe*), P.O. Box 30772-00100, Nairobi, Kenya

Institute affiliations



- If you have a second host institution, for example a University in the case of a postgraduate student, then you can also list this affiliated institution. Usually, the order of priority is *icipe* first, University second.
- If you undertook the work whilst at *icipe* and leave before publishing the results then you should still give *icipe* as your affiliated institution for the purpose of the research. However, you may also want to include your current address for correspondence.

DRP, March 2015

Institute affiliations



Genome-Wide Comparative Analysis of Chemosensory Gene Families in Five Tsetse Fly Species

Rosaline Macharia^{1,2}, Paul Mireji^{3,4*}, Edwin Murungi⁵, Grace Murilla⁴, Alan Christoffels², Serap Aksoy³, Daniel Masiga^{1*}

1 **Molecular Biology and Bioinformatics Unit**, International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology, Nairobi, Kenya, 2 South African National Bioinformatics Institute, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa, 3 Department of Epidemiology of Microbial Diseases, Yale School of Public Health, New Haven, Connecticut, United States of America, 4 Biotechnology Research Institute, Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization, Kikuyu, Kenya, 5 Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Egerton University, Njoro, Kenya

* peterpaul.mireji@yale.edu (PM); dmasiga@icipe.org (DM)

Citing unpublished information

- You can cite unpublished work if the correct citation is given (e.g. J. Mvumbi, unpublished data)
- You must obtain permission from the owner of the unpublished information before you include it in your paper or thesis.
- You can cite your own unpublished information e.g. (R.S., unpublished observations).
- Do not include many 'unpublished' citations in your paper. One or two 'unpublished' citations is acceptable. More than two may lead to your paper being rejected or a request to change the paper by the journal editor.

Plagiarism

- **Never plagiarise!!!**

“Plagiarism is the appropriation of another person’s ideas, processes, results or words without giving appropriate credit.”

<https://ori.hhs.gov/definition-misconduct>

- If you don't cite your sources you will be committing an act of plagiarism.

“If you copy any words without citing a source, then it’s plagiarism. You can paraphrase a source (rewrite it with your own words), or you can quote directly (using quotation marks), but you always have to cite the source. When paraphrasing, if three words are the same, you are probably not going to be cited for plagiarism....”

<http://www.plagiarism.org>

- Many journals now employ powerful plagiarism detection software. You face outright rejection of your paper if you plagiarise.

Plagiarism

“Plagiarism of words can be divided into:

1. Direct form - completely or partially copying of text...;
2. Mosaic form – borrowing ideas and opinions from the original source, or few words and phrases without citing this source;
3. Self-plagiarism – reuse of one’s own work without quotation and permission to reproduce text.”

Izet Masic. PLAGIARISM IN SCIENTIFIC PUBLISHING

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3558294/>

Plagiarism

Replicate publications

*“If the author has published an article in a scientific journal it **cannot** publish the article in any other journal with a few minor adjustments or without quoting parts of the first article, which are used in another article.”*

Izet Masic. PLAGIARISM IN SCIENTIFIC PUBLISHING

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3558294/>

Plagiarism

Consequences of plagiarism

Plagiarism can result in

- Expulsion from your course/programme
- Expulsion from your institution
- Loss of reputation
- Legal action

Plagiarism checking software

Free Plagiarism Checking Software

- <https://elearningindustry.com/top-10-free-plagiarism-detection-tools-for-teachers>
- <https://www.digitalgyd.com/top-20-best-online-plagiarism-checker-tools-free/>

Commercial Software

- Grammarly.com
- iThenitcate

Choice of journal

- In the case of postgraduate students, the journal is chosen in consultation with *icipe* supervisors.
- The journal should have a current impact factor, and it should be listed in the SCIENCE CITATION INDEX <http://ip-science.thomsonreuters.com/cgi-bin/jrnlst/jloptions.cgi?PC=K>
- It is unethical to publish in a Predatory journal. For more information on Predatory journals and lists of these journals go to:
 - <https://predatoryjournals.com/journals/>
 - <http://beallslist.weebly.com/>
 - <https://scholarlyoa.com/2016/01/05/bealls-list-of-predatory-publishers-2016/>

Some golden rules

- Follow the *icipe* Publication Policy
- Give proper acknowledgement or authorship for all contributions to published research
- Always cite sources
- Never plagiarise
- Do not use unpublished data, methods or results without permission
- Never submit to a journal until ALL authors have read and approved the manuscript for submission to the *agreed* journal
- Publish in good journals
- Never publish in predatory journals

Useful resources

Defining the Role of Author and Contributors. CMJE guidance that describes the importance of authorship and defines the basis for authorship and non-author contributors. <http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/roles-and-responsibilities/defining-the-role-of-authors-and-contributors.html>

Research and publishing ethics: Authorship, plagiarism and responsibilities
https://www.publishingcampus.elsevier.com/websites/elsevier_publishingcampus/files/Guides/Quick_guide_Research_Ethics.pdf

Publishing & Research Ethics. Discussing the major types of scientific misconduct and how to avoid them
<https://www.publishingcampus.elsevier.com/pages/63//ethics/Publishing-ethics.html>

Acknowledgments

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support for icipe by the following organizations and agencies: UK Aid from the UK Government; Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida); the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC); and the Kenyan Government. The views expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the official opinion of the donors.



OUR CONTACTS



International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (*icipe*)

P.O. Box 30772-00100, Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: +254 (20) 8632000

Fax: +254 (20) 8632001/8632002

E-mail: icipe@icipe.org

Website: www.icipe.org

 facebook.com/icipe.insects/icipe

 twitter.com/icipe

 linkedin.com/company/icipe