

# News from the Journal

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# Publication Situation

- Issue 9: 2014 conference papers and small cluster of articles on “TEI and Materiality”
  - 3 articles published
  - additional articles in final review stages
- Issue 10: 2015 conference papers
  - resubmissions are being reviewed
  - revised papers moving to copyediting, will be sent back to authors after copyediting...
- Long publication loop, a problem faced by many DH and academic publication venues.

=> How to improve workflow without (negatively) impacting publication quality?

# Improving Publication Workflow

- Currently submissions are solicited and limited by thematic scope of issues (either conference issue or thematic issue).
- Plan is to retain conference issues and move to open open submission/theme model for other issues.
  - At any time we could accept for review any article on a topic relevant to the TEI community
- Review and resubmission process tends to drag...
  - Plan to be firmer with resubmission and revision deadlines (not > 5 months after revision/resubmit request)
  - More frequent email reminders of review and resubmission deadlines.

# Improving Publication Workflow (continued)

- Sometimes reviews conflict because of differing opinions on appropriateness of project reports and technical reports (as opposed to “research” articles).
  - We propose to accept submissions in both “research article” and “project report and technical notes” categories, making it clear to reviewers that we value both types of research output, though we have to have different criteria for evaluating the different categories.
- Publication of complete Issues delays publication of papers ready to be published long before others from the same issue.
  - Papers should be available as soon as they are ready
  - We are proposing a Preview area that will publish articles immediately as they are ready
  - When we have a sufficient number of articles for an issue, the articles will be bundled together, removed from the Preview area (though old links will continue to work), and published as a new issue.

# New Publication Model

Submitting our proposal for advice and feedback to Journal's recently reconvened Advisory Board:

- Two submission tracks:
  - conference issues: with a firm submission deadline.
  - open topic issues: with open or “rolling” submissions.
- Papers made available in the **Preview** area as soon as they are ready, independently from the rest of the Issue
- Two categories for submissions
  - research articles
  - project reports / technical notes
- Encourage authors to publish pre-prints of articles and related slides or data in institutional repositories or similar open-access repositories.

# A (short) Ode to the Journal's Reviewers

- Quality of the Journal relies on quality of its peer review - a great thanks to all reviewers for their high-quality contribution
- Encouraging younger scholars to become reviewers is essential
- Reviewers are encouraged to communicate with the editorial core team in order to fluidify the workflow
- Reminder: resubmissions are being re-sent to the initial reviewers if they have ticked the corresponding boxes during the first round. Don't forget to re-accept to do the review for the second round

# Technical Updates

- Upgraded our installation of OJS (Open Journal Systems, <https://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs/>) to version 2.4.8 in August 2016. (And then OJS 3.0 was released on August 31st!)
- Set up of a development version for testing workflow changes.
- Workflow changes discussed earlier have been investigated, as well as required configuration changes for OJS.
- Difficult point remains lack of flexibility in scheduling automated email reminders to authors and reviewers in OJS.