Scholarly Writing
From Abstract to Publication
May 29, 2017

Julio M. del Hoyo-Meléndez
National Museum in Krakow
JAIC, Editor-in-Chief (2014–present)
Publication history

Currently known as:
  • Journal of the American Institute for Conservation (1977 - current)

Formerly known as
Aims and Scope

JAIC is the primary vehicle of AIC for the publication of peer-reviewed technical studies, research papers, treatment case studies, and ethics and standards discussions relating to the broad field of conservation and preservation of historic and cultural works. JAIC welcomes short communications and longer submissions on subjects of interest to preservation and conservation professionals. Manuscripts are reviewed for their interest and overall suitability for the Journal, as well as for accuracy, clarity, and uniqueness.

The journal welcomes submissions especially in the following areas: Architecture, Archaeology, Books and Paper, Collections Care, Electronic media, Paintings, Photography, Preventive Conservation, Objects, Research and Technical studies, Textiles, Wooden Artifacts
Journal information
Print ISSN: 0197-1360  Online ISSN: 1945-2330

4 issues per year
Journal of the American Institute for Conservation is included in the following services:
Arts and Humanities Citation Index
Cabell’s Directories
Current Contents
European Reference Index for the Humanities (ERIH PLUS)
Periodicals Index Online
Scopus
Scopus is the largest abstract and citation database of peer-reviewed literature: scientific journals, books and conference proceedings.

covers nearly 36,377 titles from approximately 11,678 publishers, of which 34,346 are peer-reviewed journals in top-level subject fields Life Sciences, Social Sciences, Physical Sciences and Health Sciences
gives four types of quality measure for each title; those are h-Index, CiteScore, SJR (SCImago Journal Rank) and SNIP (Source Normalized Impact per Paper)
Differences between CiteScore and Journal Impact Factor:

- CiteScore calculation is based on Scopus data, while Impact Factor is based on Web of Science data.
- CiteScore uses a 3-year window while Impact Factor adopts a 2-year window.
- CiteScore includes all document types indexed by Scopus, include articles, reviews, letters, notes, editorials, conference papers, etc. while Impact Factor only includes "citable documents" which are articles and reviews.

### CiteScore Rank & Trend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Source Title</th>
<th>CiteScore 2016</th>
<th>Percentile</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>American Antiquity</td>
<td>1.57</td>
<td>98th percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>American Museum Novitates</td>
<td>1.37</td>
<td>94th percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>International Journal of Heritage Studies</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>93rd percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>American Historical Review</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>90th percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Visitor Studies</td>
<td>0.76</td>
<td>87th percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Journal of The American Institute for Conservation</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td>85th percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>PalArch's Journal of Vertebrate Palaeontology</td>
<td>0.57</td>
<td>82nd percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Curator</td>
<td>0.36</td>
<td>78th percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>International Journal of Cultural Property</td>
<td>0.36</td>
<td>78th percentile</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>International Journal of Intangible Heritage</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>74th percentile</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Annals of the Naprstek Museum</td>
<td>0.31</td>
<td>71st percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Terra Sebus</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>68th percentile</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Conservar Patrimonio</td>
<td>0.23</td>
<td>66th percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Boletín Científico del Centro de Museos</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>63rd percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Journal of Museum Education</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>59th percentile</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Visual Resources</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>59th percentile</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### CiteScore Trend

- **Data Source:** CiteScore
- **Period:** 2012 to 2016
- **Axes:**
  - X-axis: Year (2012-2016)
  - Y-axis: CiteScore Value
- **Legend:**
  - CiteScore Value
  - Percentile in Category

The trend shows an increase in CiteScore value from 2012 to 2016, with a peak in 2014.
Material Matters 2018
AIC’s 46th Annual Meeting in Houston, TX

Journal of Cultural Heritage
Scopus coverage years: from 2000 to Present
Publisher: Elsevier Masson
ISSN: 1296-2074
Subject area: Arts and Humanities: Conservation, Arts and Humanities: History, Social Sciences: Anthropology, Chemistry: Chemistry (miscellaneous)

CiteScore | SJR | SNIP
---|---|---
SIC | 0.55 | 0.401 | 1.107
JAIC | 0.70 | 0.504 | 0.927
JCH | 2.09 | 0.548 | 1.458

CiteScore trend

CiteScore rank & trend
Scopus content coverage
Why publish?

• Dissemination
• Extend knowledge
• Organize and describe
• Responsibility
• Support to your institution
• Essential for building your career

Literature

• Thorough review
• Novel topic – new knowledge
• Narrow your search down to your topic
• References important at planning and final stages
• Summary of state of the art → Introduction
Preparing your paper

• Structure
• Content - outline first and then fill gaps
• Identify knowledge gap
• Specify why the topic is new
• Message - one per paper
Outline

Title – concise and attractive
Abstract – short but informative
Introduction – state of the art
Methodology – others should be able to reproduce work
Results and Discussion – Use objective not subjective statements
Figures and Tables
Conclusions - summary
References
Figures

Fig. 1. (a) a 1/6 plate tintype from the study collection
Rogge and Lough JAIC 2016

Fig. 9 Parameters of color measurement geometry
Riedler et al. JAIC 2014
Table 2. Color and line contour plots for EEM fluorescent patterns of organic red Japanese colorants. Excitation and emission maxima are listed for the most intense spot.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assigned type</th>
<th>Colorant and Run parameters</th>
<th>Color contour plot</th>
<th>Line contour plot</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red 1</td>
<td>Safflower (benibana) On paper PMT=630 $\lambda_{ex}=530$/$\lambda_{em}=370$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red 2</td>
<td>Western madder (Seiko okane) On paper PMT=600 $\lambda_{ex}=550$/$\lambda_{em}=595$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red 3</td>
<td>Japanese madder (akane) On paper PMT=675 $\lambda_{ex}=545$/$\lambda_{em}=585$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red 3</td>
<td>Sappanwood (suo) On paper PMT=750 $\lambda_{ex}=560$/$\lambda_{em}=615$</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Checklist before submission

1. Author details
2. Abstract (200 words)
3. Graphical abstract (optional) *
4. 8 keywords
5. Funding details
6. Short biographical note for each author (~ 100 words)
7. Geolocation information
8. High quality figures
9. Tables
10. Units
11. Spelling and Grammar
What is the Process?

1. Author submits manuscript electronically
2. Editor assigns paper to an Associate Editor
3. AE selects reviewers, usually two and sometimes three
4. Within a few months, the Author receives the combined comments of the reviewers, the AE, and the Editor.
5. The Author revises the manuscript and addresses the queries.
6. The revised manuscript is reviewed by the AE and Editor.
Peer review

- Mechanism used to ensure that shared knowledge can be tested and evaluated in a rigorous and verifiable way
- Comments from editors and reviewers, not to be taken personally
- Remain respectful (author ↔ reviewer)
- Include a point by point response to comments
- Feedback helps to improve papers significantly
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Science</th>
<th>Pseudoscience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Willingness to change with new evidence</td>
<td>Fixed ideas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruthless peer review</td>
<td>No peer review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Takes account of all new discoveries</td>
<td>Selects only favourable discoveries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invites criticism</td>
<td>Sees criticism as conspiracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verifiable results</td>
<td>Non-repeatable results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limits claims of usefulness</td>
<td>Claims of widespread usefulness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accurate measurement</td>
<td>“Ball-park” measurement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conservation**

- Willingness to change with new evidence
- Constructive peer review
- Takes account of all new discoveries
- Invites criticism
- Verifiable results, transferrable skills
- Accepts both limitations and applications of work
- Complete and accurate reporting so others may replicate

Courtesy of Ellen Pearlstein
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Area(s) of expertise</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greg Bailey</td>
<td>Objects conservation: decorative arts including enamel, glass, and ceramics, as well as functional objects such as clocks and watches.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brenna Campbell</td>
<td>Book and Paper, Special Collections, Preventive Conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee Ann Dafner</td>
<td>Photographic materials conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joshua Freedland</td>
<td>Architectural conservation, built heritage, monuments conservation, historic preservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susanne Gänsicke</td>
<td>Objects conservation, ancient and historic metalwork and technology, treatment and relocation of monumental ancient sculptures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Hanson</td>
<td>Textile conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Himmelstein</td>
<td>Paintings conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie Lauffenburger</td>
<td>Objects conservation, archaeology, anthropology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellen Pearlstein</td>
<td>Conservation of ethnographic objects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie A Reilly</td>
<td>Objects conservation, preventive conservation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Rivenc</td>
<td>Modern and contemporary artists’ materials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corina Rogge</td>
<td>Conservation science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gregory Dale Smith</td>
<td>Art technological research, conservation science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine H Stephens</td>
<td>Conservation science, degradation of paper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
JAIC Editorial Team

• Managing Editor: Bonnie Naugle (AIC); bnaugle@conservation-us.org
  Carmina Lamare-Bertrand (AIC Communications Associate)
• Translation Editors:
  Beatriz Haspo (Library of Congress, USA)
  Esther Méthé (Private Practice, Canada)
  Amparo Rueda (APOYOnline, Colombia)
• Book Review Editor:
  • Cybele Tom (Art Institute of Chicago, USA)
Taylor and Francis

George Cooper – Managing Editor, Journals
Anthropology, Conservation, Museum Studies & Heritage

Elaine Roberts – Marketing Manager
Journals, Societies & Editors Team

Anna Scully – Production Editor
Journals Production
Crafting an Abstract

Robin Hanson
Textile Conservator, Cleveland Museum of Art
Associate Editor for Textiles, JAIC
Scholarly writing: From abstract to publication
What is an abstract?

• a short distillation of your oral or written presentation

• two types of abstracts: informative (a mini version of your paper or presentation) or indicative (a table of contents—descriptive)

• usually ranges from 200 to 500 words

• “a good abstract is highly structured, concise, and coherent” Edward Cremmins
Why is it so important?

- abstract as sales tool
- abstract as tool to navigate reams of information and determine if we want to read the entire article
How do I write a compelling one?

• for informative abstract include four elements:
  - purpose (primary aboutness)
  - methodology (secondary aboutness)
  - results (findings)
  - conclusions and/or recommendations
• must be a stand-alone document
When do I write it?

abstract
Bibliography


Postprint to Peer Review: Why bother?

Bonnie Naugle
Managing Editor, JAIC
Isn’t my conference postprint article peer-reviewed?

- Peers select abstracts
- Talks are developed after selection
- Papers are developed after talks
- Papers may be copy-edited

However, this is not peer review.
How is peer review different?

Your work is amazing! Your accomplishments astonish. Your writing, however, may:

• Be unclear or unfocused
• Omit necessary references
• Lack context
• Include the kitchen sink (or every stitch or every slide)
How is peer review different?

Peer review can help:

• Bring your paper into focus
• Highlight references you may have overlooked
• Encourage addition of context – help get the knowledge out of your head and onto the page
• Pare down your paper to only the very necessary
Features of journal peer review

- Blind or double blind reviews
- Edits and comments by experts in the field you may not have thought to approach
- A critical eye to help shape your paper for the betterment of the field
Conference proceedings vs Journals (Jphys+ Blog)

• A paper or a poster presented at a conference can appear like a rough block of marble; made of strong stuff, but unfinished and coarse.

• Good peer review is like a sculptor, chipping away at the unnecessary parts, sanding the rough edges and buffing it out to a high shine, ready to be admired by the world.

Benefit to the field

• Peer-reviewed literature is built upon for generations
• International community can find articles through scholarly databases
• Grey (non-peer-reviewed) literature may or may not be found via Google or CoOL search.
Which do you rely on to be more accurate and trustworthy?

- Research discussed at a conference
- Research published in a journal

Why?
Postprints are a great first step

• Most of AIC’s postprint articles are copy edited and in great shape.

• The first step is done. Review and refine with a critical eye, then submit!

• Why not take advantage of the free, expert help to shape an amazing article?
Questions? Resources!

- [www.conservation-us.org/jaic](http://www.conservation-us.org/jaic): Links to Guidelines for Authors and JAIC Style Guide
- JAIC’s editorial board: Editors are happy to answer questions about articles and ideas
- T&F’s Mentoring and Support for Authors: [https://authorservices.taylorandfrancis.com/category/insights/insights-mentoring-and-support/](https://authorservices.taylorandfrancis.com/category/insights/insights-mentoring-and-support/)