Appointment of two Associate Editors for Contemporary Social Science

The Academy wishes to appoint two Associate Editors for its journal Contemporary Social Science and now invites applications from social scientists from any academic discipline.

The appointments will be for three years from September 2017.

Background

The Academy’s journal was established in 2006 as 21st Century Society, but changed its name in 2011 to the current title. This interdisciplinary, cross-national journal provides a forum for disseminating and enhancing theoretical, empirical and/or pragmatic research across the social sciences and related disciplines. Reflecting the objectives of the Academy of Social Sciences, it emphasises the publication of work that engages with issues of major public interest and concern across the world, and highlights the implications of that work for policy and professional practice. It is published quarterly and since 2015, solely by way of themed issues. Further details are set out here: https://www.acss.org.uk/contemporary-social-science/ and here: http://www.tandfonline.com/action/journalInformation?show=aimsScope&journalCode=rsoc21

There is an associated book series entitled Issues in Contemporary Social Science.

The journal is provided to every individual Fellow and member Learned Society as a member benefit in both electronic and hard copy formats, as well as being made available by subscription to libraries and individuals generally.

The journal is published by Taylor & Francis Group currently under a contract expiring at the end of 2020. It is designated as a hybrid journal for open access purposes.

Journal Strategy

The journal is still relatively young, but the Academy’s Council has asked the publisher to seek SSCI listing for the journal as soon as practically possible in the next two years. Currently, the journal has a Cite Score of 1.03, placing it 48th out of 188 in the social sciences; and a mock Impact Factor for 2015 of 0.914, ranking the journal as 44th out of 96 in the Social Sciences JCR category.

The Editor

The current Editor is Professor David Canter FAcSS, Professor of Psychology, and he has made great strides to build the content and reputation of the journal, as the above-mentioned scores indicate. The two Associate Editors will assist him in this work.
He has written an honest and humble account of the joys, learning and challenges of editing themed issues entitled *The Theme’s the Thing – Editing Contemporary Social Science* which can be found here: https://www.acss.org.uk/news/the-themes-the-thing/

David retires from the role of Editor at the end of 2018. The new Associate Editor roles are part of the succession planning for the Editorship and for the journal contract tendering process 2019.

An honorarium is paid to the Editor.

**Organisation and Governance**

An Editorial Assistant, currently Jordene Sewell, is provided by the Academy to support the flow of papers through the ScholarOne submission process and coordinate contact between the Editor, Guest Editors/authors and Publisher as necessary.

The journal is overseen by the Academy’s Publications Committee, chaired by Professor Malcolm Johnson FAcSS, and comprising senior academic and learned society representatives. The Editor is *ex officio* a member of this committee and it is expected that the new Associate Editors would join the committee too. It meets two to three times a year in London.

The [Editorial Board](#) is international.

**The Roles**

The need is to appoint two new Associate Editors who will support the Editor in taking responsibility:

- In respect of the first role, for working with the designated guest editors of agreed themed issues and bringing them through to submission for publication. This includes supporting the peer review process and giving advice to themed issue guest editors, where necessary, monitoring the flow of papers on Manuscript Central, Scholar One’s web-based online manuscript tracking system, commenting on and contributing to Editorials and encouraging submissions and themed issues from leading writers in their fields.
- In respect of the second role, for promotion of the journal and its contents by active engagement with social media, to include blogging, tweeting and podcasting the contents and outlining why articles may be of particular interest.
- And – for both roles - in discussion with the editor and other associated editor, researching possible topical issues and inviting appropriate guest editors.

As both roles are new, there is a certain amount of flexibility possible in shaping them around the core requirements in discussion primarily with the Editor and the Chair of the Academy’s Publications Committee.
Contact Us

Both Professor David Canter and Professor Malcolm Johnson are available for informal conversations about the roles and suitability. Contact details are available from the Academy office by emailing Jordene on j.sewell@acss.org.uk

Application procedure

Please provide a letter of application, together with a relevant CV, and indicate for which role you are applying. Please outline your interest in the role, availability and credentials for undertaking it. Where necessary, please also indicate the support of your HEI.

Please submit your application by email to:

Helen Spriggs
Office and Membership Manager
Academy of Social Sciences
33 Finsbury Square
London EC2A 1AG
E: administrator@acss.org.uk

Applications should be received by 30th June 2017.

Stephen Anderson
Executive Director