NARST
National Association for Research in Science Teaching

Call for New JRST Editor for 2010 - 2014

The National Association for Research in Science Teaching is searching for the new Editor of the Journal of Research in Science Teaching for 2010 - 2014. Applications will be welcomed either by individuals for the position of sole Editor or for the position of Co-Editors. JRST is a leading international journal and as such applications are encouraged from international members. The position provides the person(s) chosen, as well as the host institution(s), with international visibility in the area of science education. The JRST Editor provides the world’s science educators with the organization’s broad views and goals as illustrated by published manuscripts. By providing editorials, the Journal can and should assume a leadership role in science education, as well as influence policy and practice.

Upon approval by the NARST Board of Directors, the new JRST Editor(s) will begin working with the current Editors for transition purposes during the calendar year 2009. Full responsibilities as Editor will be from January 2010 through December 2014, with the Editor(s) on the cover of JRST 2011 – 2015. The first issue for which the new Editor is fully responsible (January 2011) would be due to the publisher, Wiley - Blackwell, three months in advance of the publication date.

Responsibilities of the Position

Vision: Each applicant should indicate very clearly the vision, innovation, and creative leadership that will be provided, thereby ensuring JRST continues to be a premier journal.

Individual qualifications: Each applicant must be a respected scholar in science education. Please articulate how you will be committed to: 1) publishing a diversity of styles of research; 2) ensuring the review process remains international, so as to reflect multiple perspectives and diversity; and 3) being highly visible and active within NARST and other science education organizations (e.g., being a regular attendee / presenter at conferences). Each applicant should possess a strong research record of publications in high-quality journals, excellent writing and editing skills, and the ability to work with an Editorial Board and reviewers to maintain the high quality of manuscripts published in the Journal. The individual(s) selected must possess the ability to work with the staff of the publisher, Wiley-Blackwell, to assure an efficient manuscript flow and publication process. The Editor must possess skills in computer technology to work within the online submission and review system, ScholarOne, which is maintained by Wiley-Blackwell. Regular, reliable online access is imperative to the success of the Journal.
Institutional qualifications: The Editor(s) must demonstrate the abilities to: 1) manage approximately 450-500 manuscripts each year; 2) conduct extensive correspondence with authors, reviewers, and the Wiley-Blackwell publication and production staff; 3) be responsible for producing 10 issues of JRST per year comprising 1,160 journal pages annually; 4) attend meetings of the NARST Board of Directors at the NARST annual conference and during the 3rd weekend of October each year; 5) solicit and nominate NARST members for the Editorial Board when required; 6) acquire institutional office space for accommodating Journal production activities; 7) provide computers to process the Journal, and 8) possess the e-infrastructure to efficiently and securely manage the electronic submission and review system.

NARST Commitments

The NARST organization will provide: 1) financial support up to $35,000 per year to cover office expenses, clerical support, and communication costs; 2) financial support to attend the NARST Board Meeting in October; and 3) reasonable efforts by the NARST Board to facilitate the Editor’s responsibilities, as directed by the Board from time to time and consistent with previous expectations.

Applications

Interested persons are encouraged to discuss the nature of this position informally with the current Editors (Randy McGinnis and Angelo Collins; jrst@umd.edu) and / or NARST Executive Director Bill Kyle (bill_kyle@umsl.edu). A letter of intention is due by August 10, 2008 to Penny J. Gilmer, Search Chair, (gilmer@chem.fsu.edu) in which the rationale for seeking the position is described in detail.

The complete proposal for JRST Editor is due September 12, 2008. The proposal should be submitted to Penny J. Gilmer in a single Adobe document (.pdf) file. Finalists may be invited to attend a portion of the NARST Board of Directors meeting (October 17 to 19, 2008) in Reston, Virginia (USA) for the purpose of interviewing for the position. Applicants are expected to be available to travel to Reston, VA, USA at NARST expense during these dates.

The proposal should address, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Your vision for JRST
   - What will you do to further enhance the Journal’s reputation beyond the status it already enjoys?
   - What is your view/vision of science education research over the next five years? How will this view/vision affect how you plan to manage the Journal?
   - Are there aspects of the Journal that you would wish to change and what new approaches are you considering that may move the Journal forward?
2. Management structure and procedures
- What management structure do you envisage for the Journal?
- How will you structure the relationship between the Editor(s) and Associate Editor(s)? Will you be the sole Editor and have support from Associate Editors?
- What will be the specific logistics of review and editorial decisions? Can you provide the Board with details about how this will be put in place within the opportunities and constraints of ScholarOne?
- How will the structure and procedures that you create produce a reduction in the time required for editorial review while maintaining the quality of the journal congruent with journal rating systems?
- Please specify the names, institutions, departments, and specialties of your Associate Editors?

3. Financial arrangements
- Specify the financial support required of NARST
- Specify the contribution (financial / physical / and release time) provided by your institution. Provide evidence of this contribution by including letters from the Dean of your faculty and/or other such administrators.

4. Professional Details
- Submit abbreviated vitae (maximum of three pages each) for all Editor(s) and Associate Editors.

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