Ethical Issues in Physics
Bibliography assembled by
Marshall Thomsen
Eastern Michigan University
February 2012
Publication/Authorship

BEGIN LINK

ENE, PUB
Physics Today—February 2010
Volume 63, Issue 2, pp. 10
Muons, deuterium, and cold fusion
Jacques Read

Physics Today—June 2010
Volume 63, Issue 6, pp. 10, 59
Hot topics in cold fusion
Melvin H. Miles and Ludwik Kowalski
These letters discuss issues relating to Cold Fusion and Condensed-Matter Nuclear Science, including the extent to which such research should be treated seriously by the mainstream physics community.

END LINK

Copyright 2012 Marshall Thomsen

BEGIN LINK

PUB
Physics Today—January 2010
Volume 63, Issue 1, pp. 40-45
Bell Labs and the ruby laser
Donald F. Nelson, Robert J. Collins, and Wolfgang Kaiser
This historical account raises issues related to scientific communication through the publication process and how priority for discovery is determined.

Physics Today—May 2010
Volume 63, Issue 5, pp. 8-10, 59
More light on ruby laser's history
Jeff Hecht, Ralph F. Wuerker, Isaac D. Abella, Viktor Evtuhov, Donald N. Langenberg, William Joyce, Donald F. Nelson, Robert Collins, and Wolfgang Kaiser

END LINK

PUB
Physics Today -- December 2009
Volume 62, Issue 12, pp. 10-11
Evaluation by citation: An imperfect system
Peter Sigmund and Johan Wallin
Citation history is used by some to evaluate the quality of a publication, but is it a valid measure?

PUB
Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 15, Number 2 / June, 2009 pp. 161-167
Image Manipulation as Research Misconduct
Debra Parrish and Bridget Noonan
This brief article looks at ORI cases involving manipulation of images prior to publication.

PUB
Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 15, Number 1 / March, 2009, pp. 1-2
On the Ethics of Using Citation Indices in Evaluations
Raymond E. Spier
The author concludes, "that although the number of citations of a given paper is a measurable parameter—that is all it is."

PUB
Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 14, Number 3 / September, 2008, pp. 305-310
Perceptions of Ethical Problems with Scientific Journal Peer Review: An Exploratory Study
David B. Resnik, Christina Gutierrez-Ford and Shyamal Peddada
The authors report on a survey of workers at National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences. The respondents reported having experienced a range of problems with peer review, from incompetent reviews (68%) to theft of ideas (5%).

PUB
Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 14, Number 3 / September, 2008, pp. 311-322
Plagiarism: Words and Ideas
Mathieu Bouville
The author argues that it is important to distinguish between the theft of ideas and the less important re-use of a few unaltered sentences.

PUB
Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 13, Number 2 / June, 2007, pp. 147-157
A comparison of conflict of interest policies at peer-reviewed journals in different scientific disciplines
Jessica S. Ancker and Annette Flanagin
The study included seven physics journals (none of which had conflict of interest policies), but not necessarily the cross section that physicists would choose to survey.

Copyright 2012 Marshall Thomsen

PUB
Physics Today -- March 2007
Volume 60, Issue 3, pp. 30-31
Experimenting with Plagiarism Detection on the Arxiv
Toni Feder
Brief report on this preprint server's intention to begin checking all submissions for plagiarized passages from their existing database.

PUB
Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 12, Number 3 / September, 2006, pp. 543-554
Duplicate publication and 'paper inflation' in the fractals literature
Ronald N. Kostoff, Dustin Johnson, J. Antonio Del Rio, Louis A. Bloomfield, Michael F. Shlesinger, Guido Malpohl and Hector D. Cortes
A mostly technical paper describing the process used to identify redundant publications with the help of the SCI database.

BEGIN LINK

PUB
Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 12, Number 3 / September, 2006, pp. 555-565
An analytic hierarchy process model to apportion co-author responsibility
Theodore J. Sheskin
The author proposes a way of quantifying the contributions of individuals on a project as a way of establishing authorship and authorship order on manuscripts.

Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 12, Number 3 / September, 2006, pp. 567-570
Commentary on "an analytical hierarchy process model to apportion co-author responsibility"
Michael C. Loui

END LINK

BEGIN LINK

PUB
Physics Today -- September 2005
Volume 58, Issue 9, pp. 43-48
Einstein Versus the Physical Review
Daniel Kennefick
Historical account on Einstein's reaction to a negative review on a paper submitted to Physical Review. The account is based in part on recently uncovered logbooks at Physical Review.

Physics Today -- June 2006
Volume 59, Issue 6, pp. 9-10
Expanding the Record on Einstein and Peer Review
Martin Blume and Robert K. Adair

END LINK

BEGIN LINK

PUB
Physics Today -- June 2005
Volume 58, Issue 6, pp. 49-54
Citation Statistics from 110 Years of Physical Review
Sidney Redner
This study of citation statistics provides insight into the publication process and arguably is of relevance to attempts to develop quantitative measures of article or journal impact.

Physics Today -- December 2005
Volume 58, Issue 12, p. 12
Weighing the Value of Physical Review Citation Statistics
J. C. Phillips, Rustum Roy, Bryan Suits, and Sidney Redner

END LINK

BEGIN LINK

PUB
Physics Today -- March 2004
Volume 57, Issue 3, pp. 61-62
Publish or Perish—An Ailing Enterprise?
Mohamed Gad-el-Hak
The author provides some cases illustrating excessive publication and then makes concrete suggestions to reverse the trend of quantity rather than quality in publication.

Physics Today -- September 2004
Volume 57, Issue 9, pp. 11-13
Publish-or-Perish Perspectives: Dividing Coauthors, Valuing Referees, Taming Expectations
Lance Nizami, Vladimir A. Krasnopolsky, Michael Ibison, and Mohamed Gad-el-Hak

Physics Today -- March 2005
Volume 58, Issue 3, pp. 12-14
Publish-or-Perish Postscripts
A. Jeffrey Giacomin, Michael Ibison, and Loc Vu-Quoc

Physics Today -- April 2006
Volume 59, Issue 4, p. 16
Unintended Impact of Author Impact Factor
James F. Scott and Loc Vu-Quoc

END LINK

PUB
APS Forum on Physics and Society Newsletter
Volume 32, Number 3 July 2003
Letters from Italy: A Physicist's Decision not to Review Papers for Phys. Rev., Daniel Amit
This brief exchange between an editor and a “retiring” reviewer illustrates an interesting intersection between publication issues and international policy issues.

PUB
Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 9, Number 2 / June, 2003, pp. 221-241
Roles for scientific societies in promoting integrity in publication ethics
Addeane S. Caelleigh
The author argues that there is a gap between authors/researchers and editors in the perception of publication ethics. This gap cannot be closed merely by ethics education; scientists need to promote high standards among students through their actions.

PUB
Physics Today -- January 2003
Volume 56, Issue 1, p. 71
Sometimes It's the Ref Who Fouls Out
Richard Branham
Letter to the editor on journal referees.

BEGIN LINK

PUB
Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 8, Number 4 / December, 2002, pp. 529-539
Seven ways to plagiarize: Handling real allegations of research misconduct
Michael C. Loui
The author looks at the definition of plagiarism, presents several case studies, and concludes with recommendations to authors and to those who investigate plagiarism allegations.

Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 8, Number 4 / December, 2002, pp. 540-542
Exploring the role of the research integrity officer
Commentary on 'seven ways to plagiarize: Handling real allegations of research misconduct' (M. C. Loui)
Lisa N. Geller

Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 8, Number 4 / December, 2002, pp. 543-544
Self-plagiarism and dual and redundant publications: What is the problem?
Commentary on 'seven ways to plagiarize: Handling real allegations of research misconduct' (M. C. Loui)
Stephanie J. Bird

END LINK

PUB
Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 8, Number 2 / June, 2002, pp. 155-174
Responsible authorship and peer review
James R. Wilson
A broad overview of the topic with examples taken from physics. Can be used as a starting point for the discussion of ethics and the publication process.

PUB
Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 8, Number 2 / June, 2002, pp. 175-190
Coauthorship in physics
Eugen Tarnow
A survey taken of APS members suggests that often individuals listed third or below on the authorship list are not entitled to authorship.

BEGIN LINK

PUB
Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 8, Number 1 / March, 2002, pp. 98-108
Peer review and innovation
Raymond Spier
The author looks at peer review in the U. K. of innovative research in the context of journal articles and grant proposals and concludes it is much easier to submit an article to an alternative journal for publication than it is to submit a proposal to an alternative agency for funding.

Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 8, Number 1 / March, 2002, pp. 109-112
Mu h Ado about peer review, part 2
Commentary on "peer review and innovation"
Daryl E. Chubin
Commentary includes a brief discussion of the U. S. perspective on the above article.

END LINK

BEGIN LINK

PUB
Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 7, Number 1 / March, 2001, pp. 147-150
"Sherry's Secret"
Case study and commentary on research ethics
Leslie R. Sims
This case study focuses on issues relating to data fabrication, publication, collaboration, and mentorship. While one hopes the situation is well outside what a typical graduate student will experience, the resulting conflicts the student in this case study experiences are still useful to explore.

Science and Engineering Ethics
Volume 7, Number 1 / March, 2001, pp. 151-152
Commentary on "Sherry's secret"
Deborah G. Johnson

END LINK

PUB
APS Forum on Physics and Society Newsletter
Volume 30, Number 1 January 2001
The APS in an Age of Litigation
Harry Lustig
Text of a talk that discusses lawsuits in which the APS has had to defend its view of the publication process.

PUB
Physics Today -- August 2000
Volume 53, Issue 8, pp. 35-38
Physicists in the New Era of Electronic Publishing
James Langer
An early look at the impact of electronic publishing on scholarly writing, including a discussion of the role of scientific societies in maintaining peer-reviewed journals.