

JARE Editors' Report

June 1, 2019–May 31, 2020

The *JARE* editorial team of Dragan Miljkovic, Anton Bekkerman, Darren Hudson, and Richard Woodward began their three-year term on January 10, 2018.

There are a few areas from last year's goal that were accomplished or significant progress made. First, a primary goal of our team was to get the *JARE* listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), which was completed this year. As a member, it will draw attention to our articles as being easily accessible to global researchers and enhance visibility of the journal. As a part of that process, we have altered our copyright policy. From this point forward, authors will retain copyright ownership of their articles for their use under the Creative Commons policy. For prior published articles, permissions must still be granted as those copyrights are owned by the Western Agricultural Economics Association. The WAEA can, if it chooses, alter those copyrights to be consistent with future articles.

We also wanted to enhance our website access and information. That was accomplished as well this year. The new website is a significant improvement, with increases in usability, information about the journal, and searchability. A few highlights include showing the latest and most viewed articles, allowing searching of archived *JARE* articles, viewing of advance articles, easy access to online article supplements, and displaying the current and five-year impact factors of the journal. We continue to work on the issue of indexing which seems to be a perennial problem for non-publisher affiliated journals.

The editors have also continued to improve the new article emails that go out to *JARE* subscribers. Upon a paper's acceptance, authors are strongly encouraged to provide a 280-character mini-abstract that is included with the article's title and author information in the email newsletter. This is intended to increase visibility of the work to those receiving the email and potentially provide future opportunities to promote the Journal and its works in social media. The editors support the WAEA leadership and future editors to consider whether this is an appropriate approach for further increasing the Journal's impact.

Finally, the editors and publications editor have worked with the Journal's printer, Sheridan Press, to establish a small repository of past issues that could be provided on request by authors and organizations. While it will take some time to build the repository, it is believed to be a cost-effective approach for fulfilling these requests in the future.

The WAEA has named a new editorial team beginning January 1, 2021. They are Jeff Reimer, Christian Langpap, Dayton Lambert, and Timothy Park. Congratulations to this group. As editors, we know the time commitment required to perform this function and greatly appreciate their willingness to do the job.

Table 1 reports publication details for the two issues published to date by the team in 2020.

Table 1: Articles and Page Counts

January 2020 (Volume 45, Issue 1)	May 2020 (Volume 45, Issue 2)	September 2020 (Volume 45, Issue 3)	Total
10 articles (178 pages, plus 24 pages online supplements)	12 articles (217 pages, plus 44 pages online supplements)	12 articles (208 pages, plus 22 pages online supplement)	34 articles (603 pages, plus 90 pages online supplements)

JARE Publication Costs: *JARE* publication costs are incurred in three general areas: Editorial Team, Publications Editing, and Printing. The Editorial Team manages the review and publication process. The Team's costs are fixed on an annual basis and include editors' stipends (\$3,500/year/editor) and subscription fees for the manuscript submission software and database (\$2,500/year). Assuming that each volume (a total of three issues) contains 500 printed pages, these costs total approximately \$33/page.

Publications Editing involves both copyediting and formatting final documents into pdfs that are used by Sheridan Press during the printing process and posted online in various locations. This process involves line editing, formatting text and figures, checking references, resolving technical errors, and formatting figures/tables to maintain consistency and fit within available space. These costs are approximately \$22–\$24/page.

Finally, Sheridan Press prints, binds, and mails print versions of the Journal to members and other subscribers. Some of these costs are fixed and some are variable. Total costs for the most recent issue were approximately \$8/page.

In summary, *JARE*'s costs per printed page are approximately \$65/page. These costs are met through a combination of page charges (\$79–\$89/page), member dues, subscriptions, royalties, and WAEA assets. Thus, the *JARE* averages a net income of approximately \$14–\$24/page, or \$7,000–\$12,000, assuming 500 pages per volume.

JARE Manuscript Management: Table 2 reports submission details from June 1, 2019, to May 31, 2020. The team handled 273 submissions, which is approximately 5% higher than the 10-year average (see Table 3). The acceptance rate was 17.10%. Almost 50% of submitted articles are desk rejected, consistent with previous years.

Table 2: Status of Manuscripts Submitted June 1, 2019–May 31, 2020

Submissions:	273	(4 pending)
Total Rejected:	223	(82.90%)
Desk Rejected:	126	(46.84%)
Rejected after Review:	36	(13.38%)
w/ Option to Resubmit:	61	(22.68%)
Accepted and Published:	46	(17.10%)

To situate these numbers in some historical context, Table 3 provides the same information beginning with the 2009–2010 journal year. Please note that these numbers are not directly comparable, as all of the submissions from these previous years have been completed.

Table 3: Manuscripts Submitted, June 2009–May 2020

	Total	Rejected (Total)	Rejected (w/o Review)	Rejected (w/ Review)	Revise & Resubmit	Accepted	Acceptance Rate
2009–2010	231	195	81	38	76	36	15.06%
2010–2011	220	182	92	47	43	38	17.27%
2011–2012	219	187	106	39	42	32	14.61%
2012–2013	267	245	145	45	55	22	8.24%
2013–2014	273	243	128	61	54	30	10.99%
2014–2015	255	235	128	53	54	20	7.84%
2015–2016	301	268	131	82	55	32	10.63%
2016–2017	236	216	105	63	48	19	8.05%
2017–2018	264	231	101	58	72	33	12.50%
2018–2019	269	230	116	55	59	39	14.50%
2019–2020*	273	223	126	36	61	46	17.10%
Average	256	224	115	52	57	32	12.30%

*At the time of publication, 4 articles remained in process for this year.

Table 4 reports summary statistics for reviewers. As can be seen, roughly 60% of closed reviewer assignments were completed, which is slightly below the long-term average (see Table 5). This past year saw a slightly lower than average rate of reviews declined. Mean and median review times were lower than the long-term at slightly over one month.

Table 4: Reviewer Details, June 1, 2019–May 31, 2020*

Total reviews assigned:	332
Pending:	2
Closed:	330
Status:	
Expired or unassigned:	60 (18.18%)
Declined:	74 (22.42%)
Completed:	196 (59.39%)
Completed review time (in days):	
Mean:	36.43
Median:	35

*At the time of publication, 2 reviews are pending for the year.

To provide context, Table 5 presents review information from previous years. Data suggest that mean review times have continued to decline, although median times are fairly consistent. This, we believe, is the result of terminating reviews that drag on too long and moving to alternate reviewers in a more timely manner, resulting in fewer “extreme” review scenarios. Our goal is to continue to move reviews through the process as quickly as possible to expedite decisions and improve the time between acceptance and publication.

Table 5: Reviewer Details, April 2009–May 2020

	Reviews Assigned	Expired or Unassigned	Declined	Completed	Mean Review Time	Median Review Time
2009–2010	296	47	40	209	43.78	39
2010–2011	229	16	45	168	47.70	37.5
2011–2012	230	26	48	156	41.80	36
2012–2013	370	60	79	231	43.28	36
2013–2014	433	66	109	258	43.96	36
2014–2015	391	61	94	236	53.09	41.5
2015–2016	427	66	90	271	54.07	37
2016–2017	322	53	55	214	43.17	36
2017–2018	372	69	88	215	37.46	37
2018–2019	349	73	71	205	40.40	37
2019–2020	330	60	74	196	36.43	35
Average	339	54 (15.95%)	72 (21.21%)	213 (62.78%)	43	37

*At the time of publication, 2 reviews are pending for the year.

Additional Updates: During the June 1, 2019–February 29, 2020, period, *JARE*'s website averaged approximately 1,500 views per month.¹ Approximately 200 more users engaged with the website during September–November and in January, which corresponds to the period when the academic year is in session. Over 50% of visits to the *JARE* website originated from the United States.

Table 6 provides a historical overview of *JARE* website use. The data indicate that total and average pageviews have consistently decreased over the past five periods. However, the bounce rate has decreased, suggesting that users may be more engaged with the content on the website than in the past. Our goal is to continue to understand what aspects of the *JARE* communication strategy and website design can help improve the *JARE* website to be an effective resource to disseminate journal publications.

Table 6: JARE Website Pageviews, June 2014–May 2020

	Total Pageviews	Average Pageviews per Month	Users' Average Time on Page ^a	Bounce Rate ^b
2014–2015	25,003	2,084	1.40	73.48%
2015–2016	26,249	2,187	0.91	71.24%
2016–2017	22,940	1,912	1.25	71.19%
2017–2018	22,335	1,861	1.25	73.60%
2018–2019	20,347	1,696	1.52	78.13%
2019–2020 ^c	12,471	1,454	1.20	46.41%
Average	22,527	1,866	1.26	69.01%

^a Measured in minutes.

^b Bounce rate refers to percentage of individuals who leave a website after visiting only a single page on that website.

^c This period covers July 2019 through March 15, 2020. Website management was transferred from EDI to IMI in mid-March 2020, and statistics from the period after the transition are not yet accessible.

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Conclusion: The editors greatly appreciate the efforts of Amy Bekkerman, our Publications Editor; Kelley Mazur of IMI; and Lisa Darrow, Jane Baker, and the staff of Sheridan Press for overseeing the review process, publication, and distribution of each issue. The editors would also like to offer much appreciation to Matthew McFadden (MM Outreach Solutions) for working with the editors to redesign and launch a much-improved new Journal website. We also wish to thank the hundreds of reviewers who have provided us with extensive comments on the suitability of submitted manuscripts. We have also enjoyed working with George Chronis of the University of Missouri's FastTrack electronic submission management system. Some goals for the coming year include

- Successfully completing the three-year term and transitioning the Journal leadership to the new team,
- Working with the WAEA leadership team to determine and potentially implement a strategy for reaching a broader audience with the Journal's email newsletters, and
- Improving indexing and citation information to enhance member/author impact for their articles.

Respectfully submitted.

Dragan Miljkovic, Anton Bekkerman,
Darren Hudson, and Richard Woodward, co-editors
Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics

WAEA Past Presidents

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Darren Hudson (co-editor)	2018–20
Richard Woodward (co-editor)	2018–20

WAEA

2020 Award Winners

Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award

Kathleen Brooks, University of Nebraska, Lincoln (less than 10 years' experience)

Outstanding Extension Program Award

Emmy Kiphen, Tiffany Dowell Lashmet, and Greg Kaase, Ranchers Leasing Workshop Team, Texas A& M AgriLife

Outstanding Extension Career Award

Jim Robb, Livestock Marketing Information Center

Outstanding Published Research Award

Paul M. Jakus and Sherzod B. Akhundjanov, Utah State University. 2019. "The Antiquities Act, Large National Monuments, and the Regional Economy." *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 95(2019): 102–117.

Outstanding Graduate Paper or Master's Thesis Award

Ethan Sabala, Texas Tech University. "Essays in Trade Policy Analysis: Chinese Tariffs on U.S. Agricultural Markets."
Advisor: Stephen Devadoss.

Outstanding Graduate Paper Competition

Joshua Olsen, Washington State University. "Homes and Havens: The Relationship between Homes and Unburned Areas within Wildfire Perimeters."
Co-author: Jonathan Yoder.

JARE Outstanding Journal Article Award

Gregmar Galinato and Tristan D. Skolrud. 2019. "Revenue-Neutral Pollution Taxes in the Presence of a Renewable Fuel Standard." *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics* 44(3).

JARE Outstanding Journal Reviewer Award

Bachir Kassas, University of Florida (fewer than 10 years in the profession)
Yann de May, Wageningen University (more than 10 years in the profession)

2020 WAEA Fellows



Ashok K. Mishra, Arizona State University

Ashok Mishra holds the Kemper and Ethel Marley Foundation Chair at the Morrison School of Agribusiness at Arizona State University. Among his substantial contributions to the Western Agricultural Economics Association and to the profession at large, he is a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics*.

Beyond the WAEA, Dr. Mishra's service to the profession at large has been extensive and of outstanding quality. Since 2007, he has served as editor and/or associate editor for three additional journals: co-editor of *Agricultural Economics: An International Journal*; editor of *Journal of Agribusiness in Developing and Emerging Economies (JADEE)*; and associate editor of *Agricultural Finance Review* (2010 to present).

Dr. Mishra brings global recognition to the agricultural economics profession in the West through his service to the advisory boards of European Commission Projects on Sustainability and CAP reform. He has also been a research fellow at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) since 2010. Dr. Mishra's work has been utilized by a wide range of U.S. government agencies and organizations, including the U.S. National Public Policy Education Committee (NPPEC), the National Agricultural Research Council (NRC), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and the Council of Economic Advisors (CEA). Dr. Mishra has also served on the Advisory Board of the European Commission on Agriculture Reform, the Advisory Board of the Italian Ministry of Education University and Research, and the United Nations Committee on Science and Technology.

Dr. Mishra has published over 150 articles in peer-reviewed journals, including several very well-cited papers. He is a prolific scholar whose work has been influential in many policy spheres in the United State, Europe, India and other countries in Asia.



T. Randall Fortenbery, Washington State University

T. Randall Fortenbery's contributions to agricultural economics in general, and to the WAEA specifically, have been substantial over the course of his career. He has established an excellent teaching record, with high performance evaluations, but his greatest contributions have been through his extensive outreach program, supported by a rigorous research program, and impactful leadership.

Since joining WAEA in 1988, Randy has created and implemented highly effective Extension programs at North Carolina State University, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Washington State University. He has supported informed decision making by producers, producer groups, agribusiness leaders, state and federal legislators, and policy makers. He has influenced market outlook, risk management, market structure and performance, contract design, policy, and trade in both agricultural and energy markets. He has had major international outreach projects in Ukraine, Norway, Bangladesh, Viet Nam, Honduras, Costa Rica, South Africa, Mozambique, Zambia, Namibia, and Rwanda focused on agrarian land reform, market development, and market information delivery.

In support of his outreach efforts, Randy has authored or co-authored 11 computer-based decision aides spanning a wide range of topics. At WSU he created a web-based set of dynamic models that update daily to provide local price and price basis forecasts for 42 wheat markets in Washington using time series ARMAX methodology. His expertise in agricultural markets has been recognized nationally, including appointments as Chairman of the Agricultural Markets Advisory Committee and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC).

At his universities, Dr. Fortenbery has served as director of graduate and undergraduate committees, directing an agribusiness institute, co-directing an academic service center, serving on several legislative and governor appointed boards, serving on boards of directors for several private sector companies, and serving as president of the WAEA.