

New EASE President Announcement

The [European Association of Science Editors \(EASE\)](https://www.ease.org.uk) is pleased to announce the appointment of **Duncan Nicholas** as interim President of the organisation, as of 6th July, 2020.

Duncan succeeds Pippa Smart, who has served as President since 2018, on Council since 2015, and has been a pivotal member of the Association for many years previously.

Duncan has been a member of EASE for 12 years and part of the science editing community for 16, working with Taylor & Francis for over a decade, before launching [DN Journals](https://www.dn-journals.com) editorial consultancy in 2015. During this time he has played an active role in the global editorial community, participating in industry initiatives, chairing the conference organising committee for the [International Society of Managing and Technical Editors](https://www.ismte.org), regularly writing and advising members of the academic community on specialist areas such as Peer Review ([Unlock ways to share data on peer review](https://www.unlockways.com)), Journal Publishing ([IFIS Journal Publishing Guide](https://www.ifis-journal-publishing-guide.com)) and PlanS ([EMBO Press Publishing Costs](https://www.embo-press-publishing-costs.com)).



Duncan Nicholas

Message from Duncan

"I am delighted to be able to step up as Interim President for the next year, and look forward to continuing the work we have started over recent years. Now in particular feels like a very exciting time in the history of EASE, with some big changes and developments already implemented and more ideas to come which will support our members activities, champion the skills and services of our members, and bring even more unique features and benefits to the membership. EASE has a very long and prestigious history and I am honoured to be playing a part in continuing it into the next decade."

EASE Community Activity

Despite the tumultuous circumstances of the year, 2020 has nevertheless proven productive and successful for EASE, with several landmark developments in the Association's history.

Most recently the COVID-19 pandemic forced the scheduled conference in June to be postponed, which was replaced with a [two-day virtual conference](https://www.ease.org.uk). This event comprised one day of simultaneous Regional Chapter events, curated by each Chapter chair with a range of speakers addressing various topics, and a second day of sessions focussed on *"Editors and editing in times of crisis"* receiving over 600 attendees over the two days.



EASE Council at Brussels AGM, October 2019

Recordings of the plenary sessions from the second day of the event are available on the [EASE YouTube](#) channel, and write ups from the breakout sessions will be made available in due course.

The [15th Annual Conference](#) has been rescheduled to 2021 to be held from 25-27 June, in Valencia, Spain, on the topic of “*promoting sustainability and diversity in research: the role of editors*”.

In another first for the Association in 2020, the flagship journal of EASE, [European Science Editing \(ESE\)](#), converted from print-subscription to a fully open access platform (hosted on ARPHA), and birthed a sister print-publication, the [EASE Digest](#).



The journal maintains its focus on progressive primary research, review articles, editorials and correspondence in the broad fields which EASE supports, in a fully accessible publishing model on the ARPHA platform.

The change enables EASE to adopt many hi-tech industry standards and features such as Publons integration, Altmetrics, article commentary, optional open reviewing and many more of the advances that the Association champions. *European Science Editing* is indexed in major databases, and currently has a Scopus CiteScore of 1.3.

The physical *Digest* continues the EASE tradition of providing members with printed material, featuring articles from *ESE*, news notes, articles from our blog, summaries of Forum conversations, interviews with journal editors and industry figures, meeting reports, EASE activities and many other interesting articles.

2020 has also seen the 10th anniversary of the [EASE Guidelines for Authors and Translators of Scientific Articles to be Published in English](#), overseen by Sylwia Ufnalska. The Guide has been a foundational resource for EASE members since its inception, and is now available in 29 different languages to support the development and quality of our global editing community.



EASE has also published a series of new [statements, manifestos and resources](#) that have been circulating widely, including an *Environmental Manifesto* which addresses sustainability in scientific publishing, an official address on *Maintaining Quality Standards* during the coronavirus pandemic; endorsement for the *Leiden Declaration on transparent editorial policies*, and the *Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication*; and a report with a series of recommendations for the publishing industry on implementation of GDPR.

The [Gender Policy Committee](#) continues to produce brilliant and inspiring work; with the [SAGER Guidelines](#) continuing their adoption across research communities and publishers, and key members being heavily involved in research projects investigating gender-related trends in bibliometrics and the publishing arena, we are immensely proud of the achievements of this group.



The [Peer Review Committee](#) has collaborated with PEERE to deliver training workshops, and is heavily involved in the organisation of Peer Review Week – a global initiative that highlights the value of peer review. This year addresses the theme of Trust. The Peer Review Group also set up our latest Toolkit, with a host of resources, tools, training aids and insights.



Participants of the PEERE / EASE Peer Review Summer School in Split, Croatia, May 2018

The [Toolkit for Peer Reviewers](#) is the latest addition to our series, which also includes a Toolkit for Authors, and Editors. The [EASE Toolkit for Authors](#) features General Writing Tips, Navigating Peer Review, Ethics for Authors, Publishing & Editorial Issues, and a host of other resources. The [EASE toolkit for journal editors](#) is our handy resource containing training frameworks, best practice tips, guidelines, and advice on the art of heading up a scientific journal.

Activities of the Association are regularly documented on the EASE website and [Blog](#), and discussed across several social media channels – EASE and ESE Twitter, Facebook Page and Group, LinkedIn Group and now a Linked in Page too, plus a member-only email listserv and monthly member newsletter.

History of EASE

EASE was formed in May 1982 at Pau, France, from a merger between European Life Science Editors' Association (ELSE) and the European Association of Earth Science Editors (Editerra), meaning its' roots begin in 1968, making it one of the oldest professional editing and publishing associations in the world.

The EASE membership encompasses many disciplines and trades including commissioning editors, editors-in-chief, academics, translators, publishers, indexers, statistical editors, science and technical writers, authors' editors, journalists, corporate communicators, copyeditors and proofreaders.

Despite its name and its European roots, EASE welcomes members from every corner of the world. The Association's 500 members can be found in over 50 countries, with Regional Chapters in Turkey, Vietnam, Russia, Mexico, Ukraine, Croatia, Bulgaria, Italy, Peru, and more in development.



Members of the EASE Turkish Chapter, 2019

The Association holds Annual Group Meetings, and biennial conferences for its members and the wider editing community addressing specialist topics, including a variety of session formats such as discussion sessions, debates, lectures, workshops, poster presentations and more. The five most recent events were held in Bucharest (Romania), Strasbourg (France), Split (Croatia), Blankenberge (Belgium), and Tallinn (Estonia). The next Conference and General Assembly will be held in Valencia, Spain, in June 2021.

Becoming a member

Membership is available to anyone with an interest in scientific editing of any kind, residing anywhere in the world. The Association offers individual and group memberships at various rates. EASE also offers sponsorship schemes, and a range of reduced rates to make the Association as inclusive as possible.

As an EASE member you can:

- Meet others that share your interests through EASE events and networking opportunities
- Keep up with trends in the rapidly changing environment of scholarly publishing
- Develop your own skills and learn from the experiences and expertise of like-minded professionals
- Raise your profile within the academic, science editing community
- Participate in EASE Community Groups and initiatives
- Support the professional development of editors and quality editing
- Promote your services through the Member Directory and Member Services listings.

Consider becoming part of this progressive, active network of professionals; read more about the benefits of joining EASE, the types of membership available and the costs [here](#).



Delegates of the 14th EASE Conference in Bucharest, Romania, June 2018

Useful links

EASE Website: www.ease.org.uk

ESE Journal: <https://ese.arphahub.com/>

EASE Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EASEeditors>

ESE Twitter https://twitter.com/Eur_Sci_Ed

EASE Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/EurSciEd/>

EASE Blog: <https://ese-bookshelf.blogspot.com>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/easeeditors/>

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