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PRESS RELEASE



Your Peers, Your Science
Academic Publishing is Evolving

PeerJ marks 5th anniversary with editorial model reboot

The open access journal *PeerJ* is marking its fifth anniversary by restructuring its editorial model to incorporate wider community involvement, providing a reboot to its innovative megajournal.

Five years ago PeerJ launched its flagship journal to improve the distribution and accessibility of research and to be a catalyst for change within the system of academic communication. A key feature of the *PeerJ* journal is that it efficiently and rigorously publishes across a breadth of subject areas. While this has improved the availability of research, readers and authors also value the community elements of the PeerJ platform, where shared values and human interaction facilitate engagement with scientific content.

Beginning 1 February 2018, subject areas within *PeerJ* will be grouped into 12 sections to incorporate wider community involvement, each with 2 to 4 Section Editors leading it. Section Editors will be given greater responsibilities and have “sign off” authority over Academic Editors within their section for editorial decisions. Section Editors will also help to curate and highlight important new research findings published within their sections.

Jason Hoyt, CEO and Co-founder of PeerJ said: “Multidisciplinary journals with hundreds of subjects areas and thousands of publications, i.e. the “megajournal” model, have been made practical thanks to powerful search engines. However, communities aren’t built with search engines or filters. We are giving the megajournal a reboot by building a community feel and human curation for our authors and readers.”

To celebrate the five-year anniversary, PeerJ is also providing full fee waivers for all manuscripts submitted to the journals *PeerJ* and *PeerJ Computer Science* in February. Researchers can take advantage of PeerJ’s innovative community editorial model, rigorous peer review and speedy publication by submitting their manuscripts at <https://peerj.com/manuscripts/start/>

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About PeerJ: PeerJ is an Open Access publisher of two peer-reviewed journals and a preprint server. PeerJ's mission is to help the world efficiently publish its knowledge. All works published by PeerJ are Open Access and published using a Creative Commons license (CC-BY 4.0). PeerJ is based in San Diego, CA and the UK and can be accessed at peerj.com/

PeerJ is the peer-reviewed journal for Biology, Medicine and Environmental Sciences. PeerJ has recently added 15 areas in environmental science subject areas, including Natural Resource Management, Climate Change Biology, and Environmental Impacts.
peerj.com/environmental-sciences

PeerJ has an Editorial Board of over 1,900 respected academics, including 5 Nobel Laureates. PeerJ was the recipient of the 2013 ALPSP Award for Publishing Innovation. PeerJ Media Resources (including logos) can be found at: peerj.com/about/press

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