

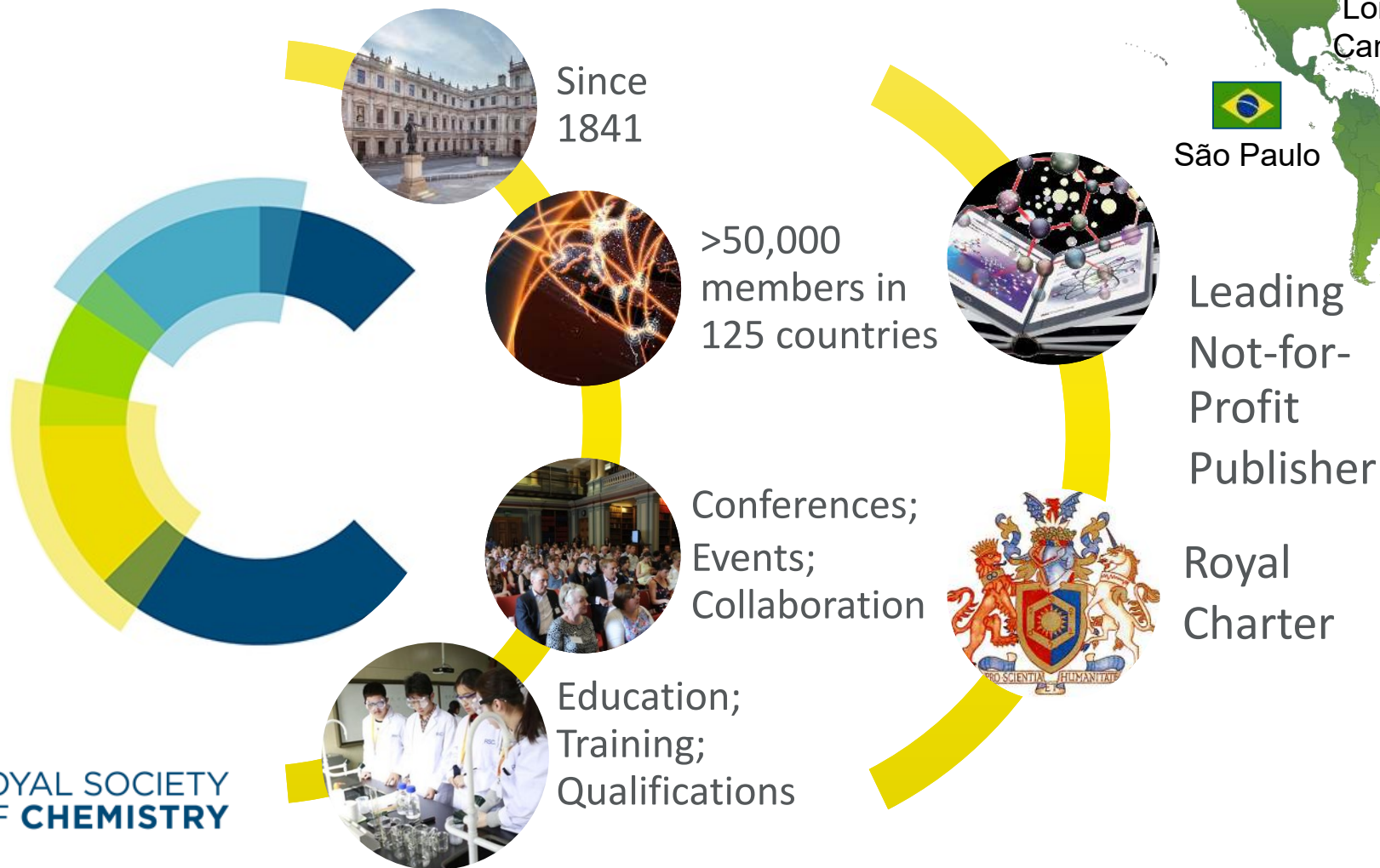
Publishing in High Impact Journals

Women's Day Workshop

May Copsey
Editor Chemical Science



Royal Society of Chemistry

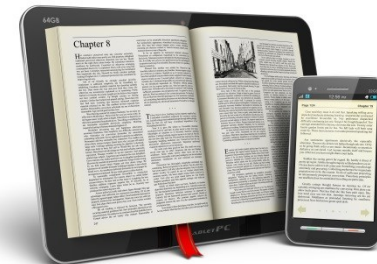


Society Publisher



- Help researchers communicate their results to scientists around the world
- Help researchers find the most important chemical research, information, data and news
- Invest any surplus back into the chemical sciences
- Peer review, production, dissemination, and archiving of research

What does a publisher do?



- **Support the community** by providing journals that offer access to the latest research
- Assist/**collaborate** with authors to publish their work
- Manage submissions and **peer review**
- **Recruit, train and support** editors & editorial boards
- Edit / typeset / produce issues
- Publish (online & print) & **disseminate research**
- Create & curate the permanent scientific record
- Ensure discoverability and **promotion** of research
- Innovate and develop new technology & **author tools**



DIAMOND
OPEN
ACCESS

Chemical Science

Home to exceptional research
and thought-provoking ideas

Open and free, for authors and readers

Choose Chem-Sci

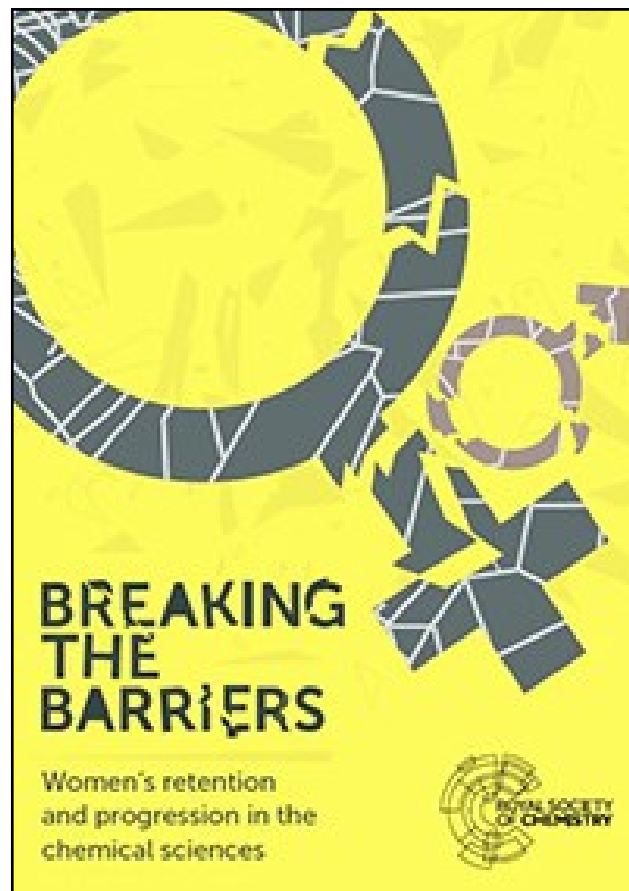
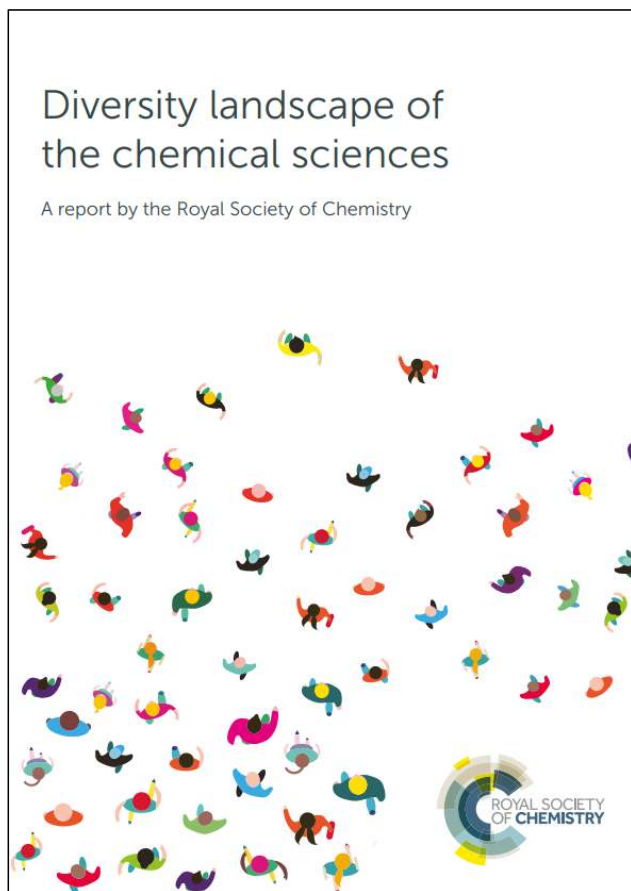
Fundamental questions
Elemental answers

My role



- Worked as an Editor since 2006 at Royal Society of Chemistry
- Previous research experience as post-doc and PhD
- Worked on a range of journals, Executive Editor for Chemical Science since 2015
- Manage journal, attract best new science and promote articles
- Ensure journals have rigorous, fair, efficient peer review
- Meet scientists to keep aware of field and attract top research
- Advise researchers on publishing best practice

Inclusion & Diversity at RSC





Is publishing in the chemical sciences gender biased?

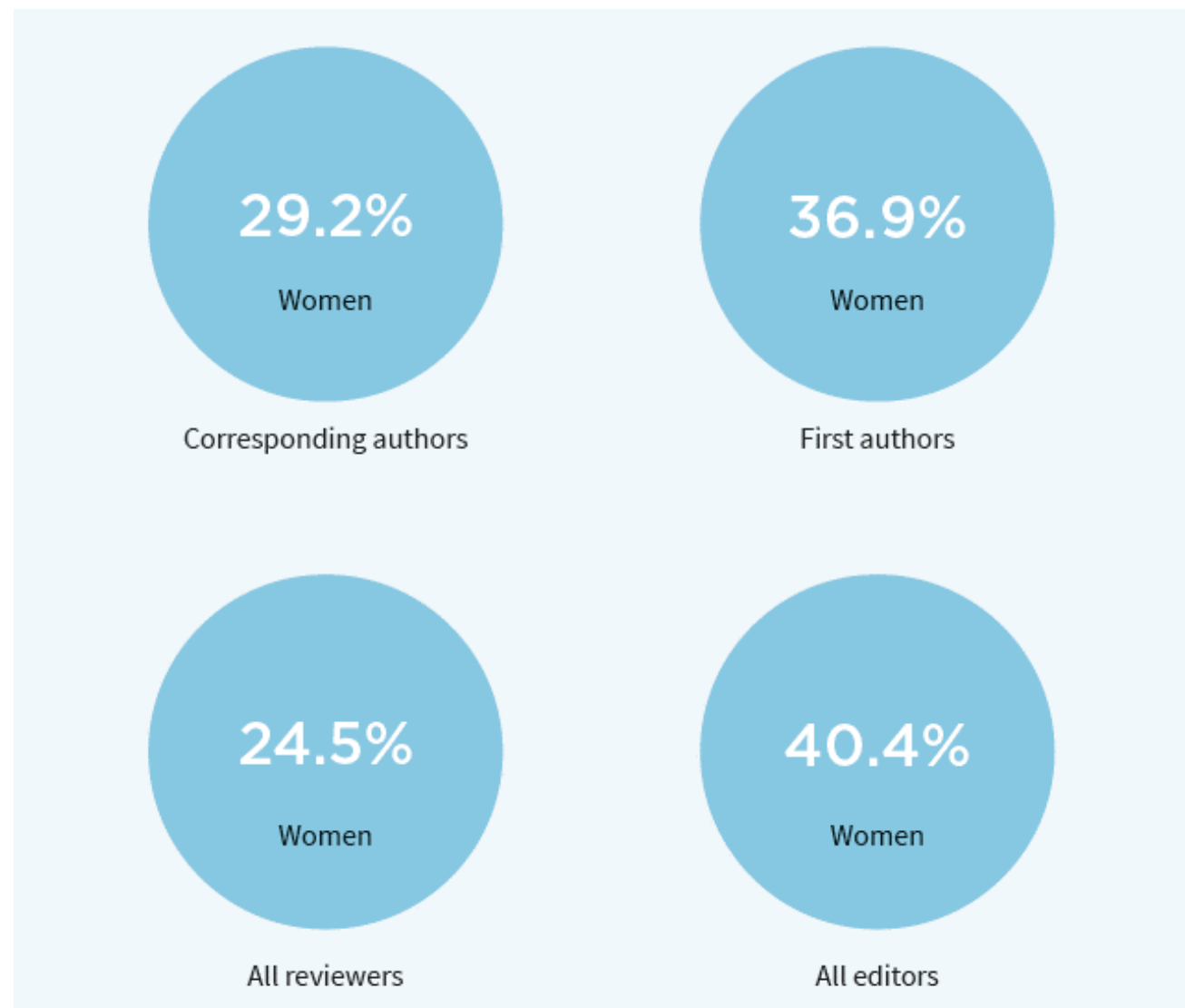
TALENT



Community



proportion of journal
submissions from
women



Women are less likely to submit journals with higher impact factors

“I think women are much more careful about looking at the criteria. Men will say, ‘my paper doesn’t meet those 100% but I’ll go for it anyway’, whereas women tend to say: ‘I don’t meet that particular criterion, I should therefore moderate which journal I go for’”

Author, reviewer and guest editor

TALENT

**Papers written by women are cited on average 5.6 times;
men are cited 7.2* times**

“I’ve experienced times where my papers have not been cited. I reviewed a book where there are two chapters devoted to research in which I had published seminal papers. There are about 300 references in there and I’m not cited at all.”

Author, reviewer and contributing editor

* between RSC journals

Our analysis of over 700,000 papers concludes:

“Biases exist at each step of the publishing profile. Many of these appear minor in isolation, yet their combined effect puts women at a significant disadvantage.”

To combat gender bias in chemical science publishing we will:



1 Increase transparency



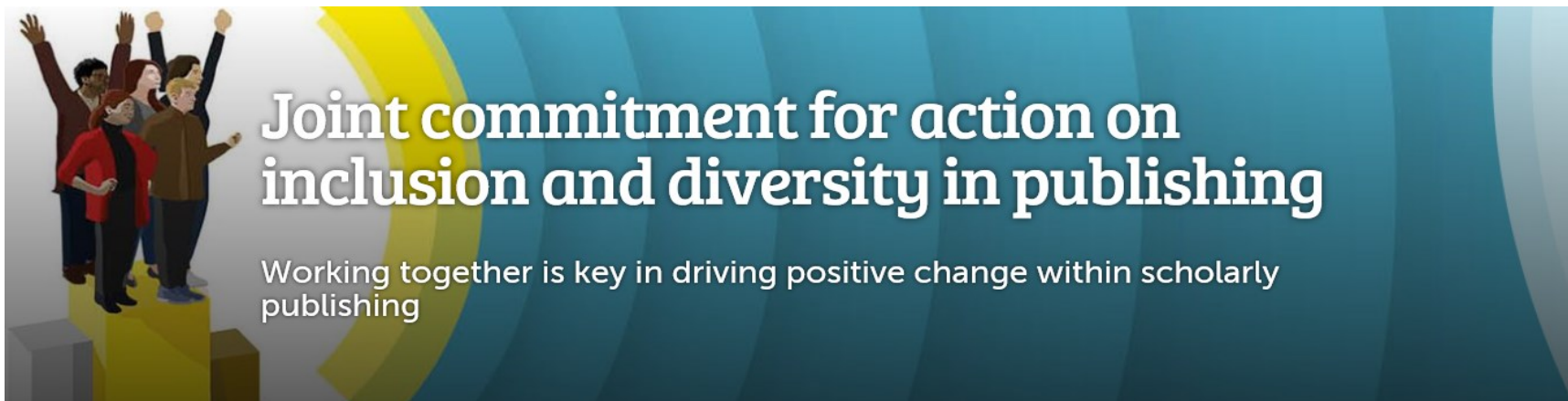
2 Reflect our research community



3 Empower and innovate



4 Encourage intervention



- We will:
- Understand our research community
- Reflect the diversity of our community
- Share success to achieve impact
- Set minimum standards on which to build

52
publishing
organisations
working together

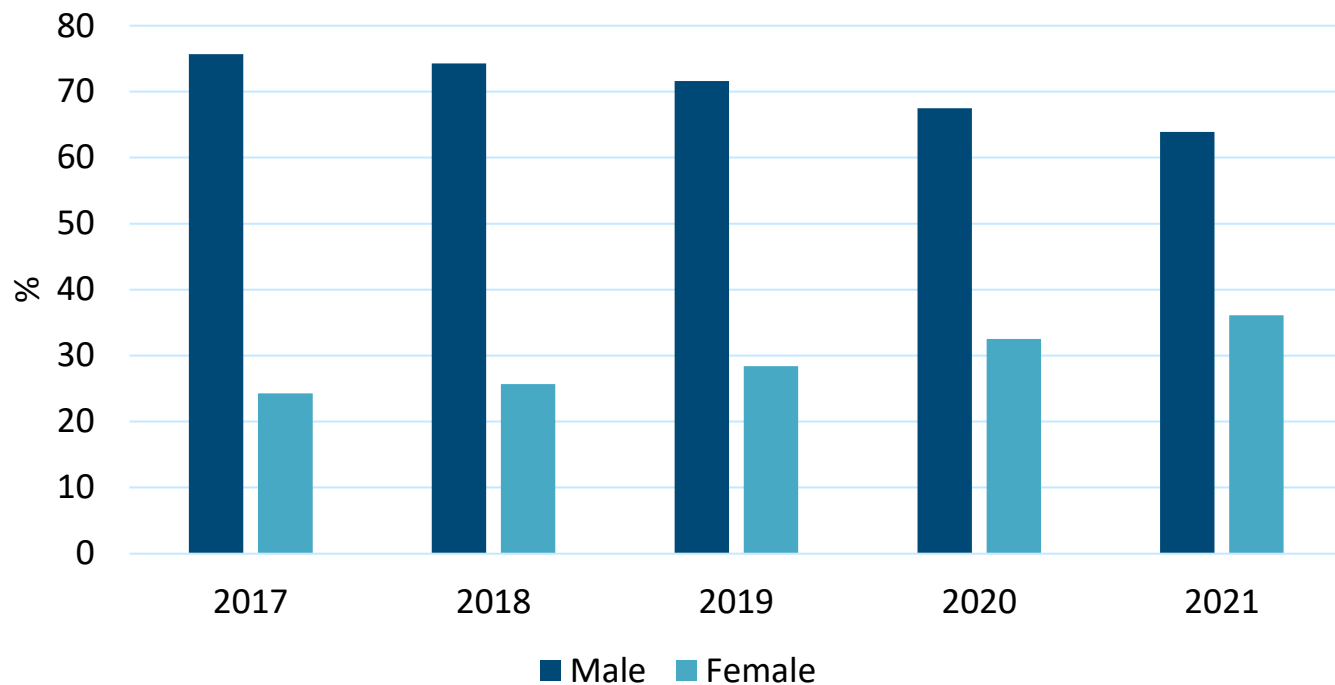
15,000+
journals owned by
participants

4
commitments are
being addressed by
sub-groups

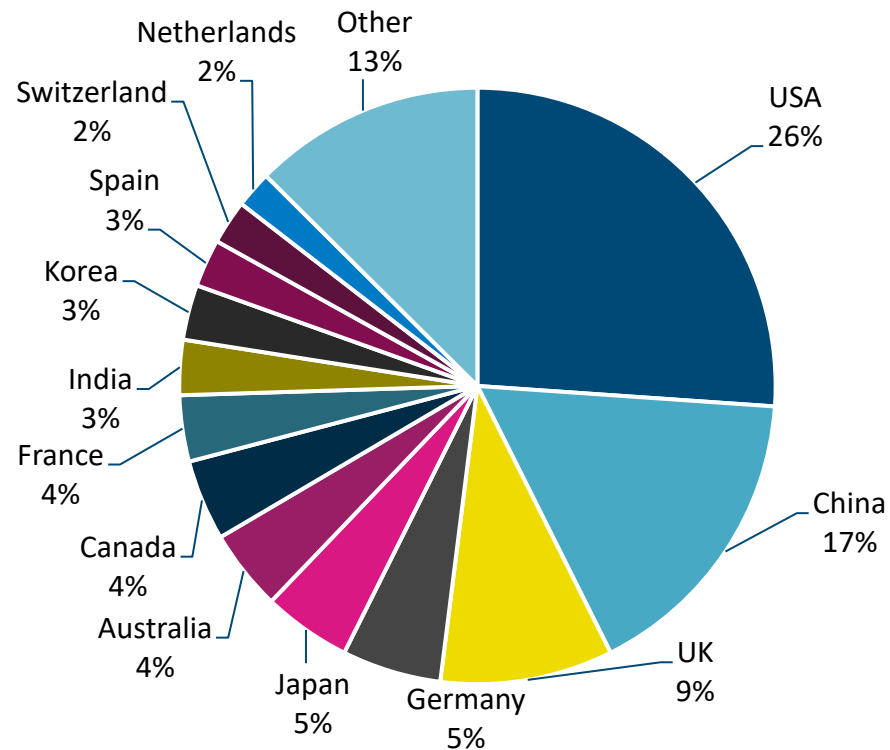
6
miminimum
standards agreed on
which to build

Diversifying our Editorial Boards

Gender of Editorial Board Members



Geographic distribution of EB Members in 2021



Diversifying reviewers

The RSC considers diversity in reviewers to be an important aspect of peer review. Therefore, wherever possible please consider diversity when recommending reviewers, for example in terms of career stage, gender, geographic location, race and ethnicity, and so on.

Collecting data

Collection of gender information

[We are committed to improving inclusion and diversity within chemical sciences publishing.](#) As part of our work in this area we are asking authors, reviewers and editors to provide information on their gender. The information we gather will be used to analyse trends within our journals, and to identify where improvements are needed. We ask authors to self-describe their gender, and give the option of “prefer not to say”.

What best describes your gender?
For more detail on why we collect this information, please see our [policy page](#)

Female
Male
Prefer not to say
Self describe (please write in the box to the right)

+ Add

req

Author name change policy



The image shows a screenshot of a Twitter thread. The top tweet is from the Royal Society of Chemistry (@RoySocChem), posted on December 1, 2020, at 12:26 PM. The text of the tweet reads: "We know authors change their name for a variety of personal reasons, and this can negatively impact their ownership of their research – an impact that is particularly severe for #transgender researchers. [Pt/1] #ChemEquality #STEM #DeadName #Authors". Below the tweet, it shows 73 Retweets, 35 Quote Tweets, and 220 Likes. The bottom tweet is a reply from the same account, dated December 1, 2020. It says: "We're extremely proud to join the growing number of publishers who have adopted policies to enable authors to retain credit for their work, no matter their personal circumstances. [Pt/2] Learn more [rsc.org/journals-books...](https://www.rsc.org/journals-books-databases/journal-authors-reviewers/processes-policies/#Author-name-changes-after-publication) #Authors #DeadName #STEM #Journals".

Royal Society of Chemistry @RoySocChem

We know authors change their name for a variety of personal reasons, and this can negatively impact their ownership of their research – an impact that is particularly severe for #transgender researchers. [Pt/1] #ChemEquality #STEM #DeadName #Authors

12:26 PM · Dec 1, 2020 · Twitter Web App

73 Retweets 35 Quote Tweets 220 Likes

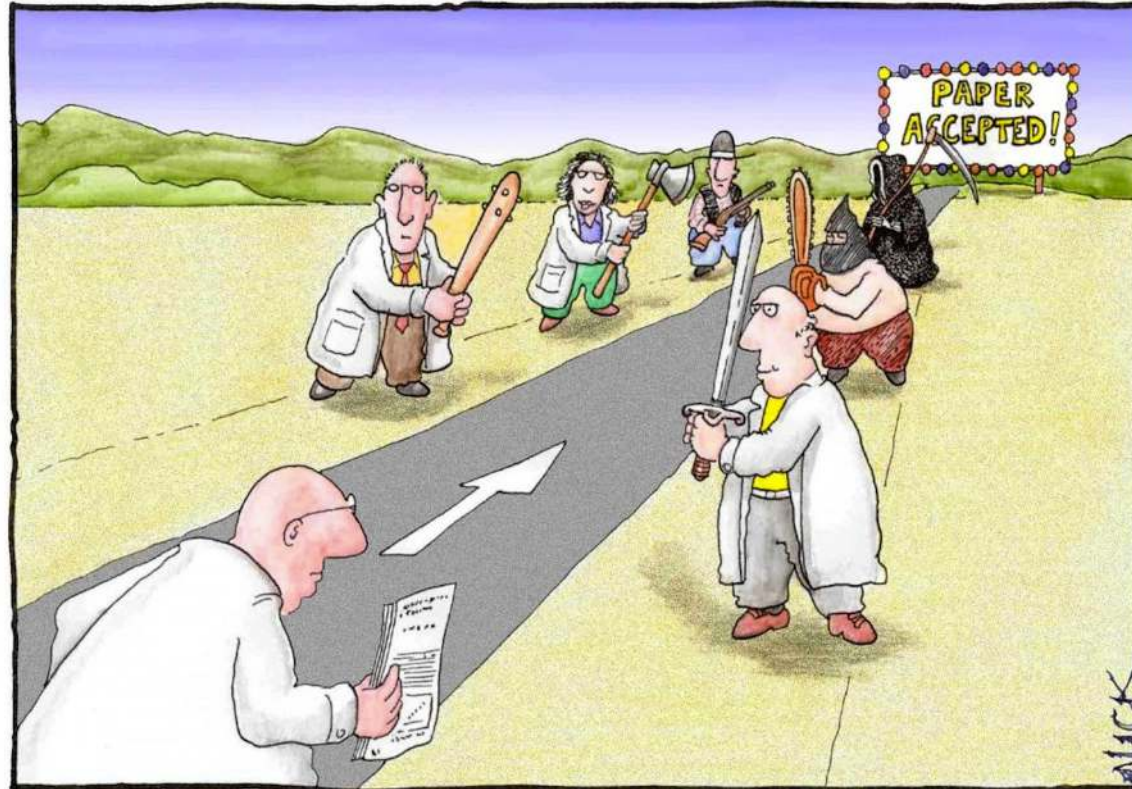
Royal Society of Chemistry @RoySocChem · Dec 1, 2020

Replying to @RoySocChem

We're extremely proud to join the growing number of publishers who have adopted policies to enable authors to retain credit for their work, no matter their personal circumstances. [Pt/2] Learn more [rsc.org/journals-books...](https://www.rsc.org/journals-books-databases/journal-authors-reviewers/processes-policies/#Author-name-changes-after-publication)

#Authors #DeadName #STEM #Journals

The peer-review process



Most scientists regarded the new streamlined peer-review process as “quite an improvement”

Why use peer review?

Authors

- Validates
- Improves article
- Mark of quality
- Requirement for publication

Readers

- Validates
- Mark of quality
- Improves article and journal
- Selection process

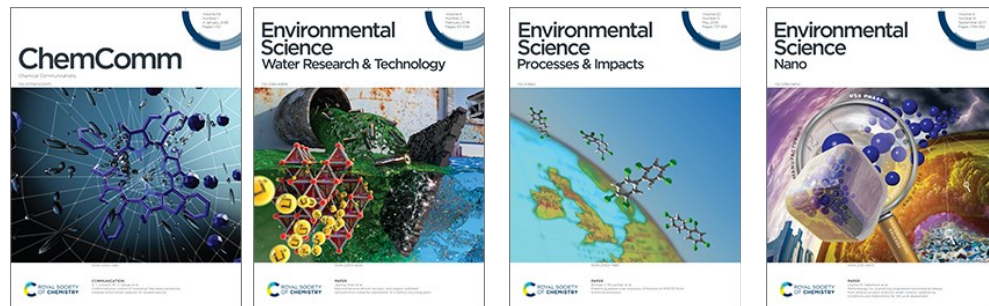
Reviewers

- Reciprocal activity
- Keep up to date with field
- Professional activity
- Enjoy reading new work

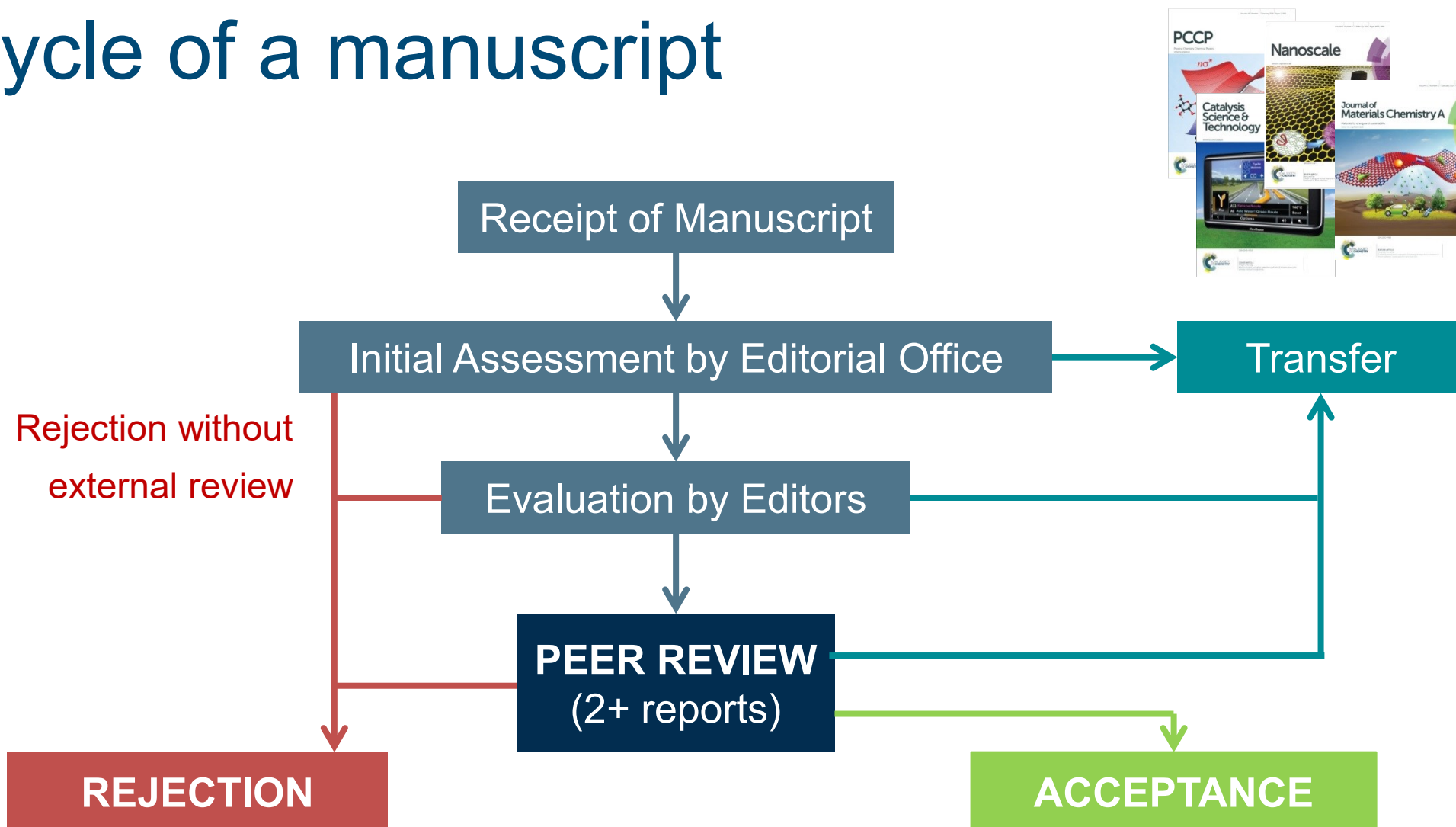
The aim is always to improve the paper and assure the **quality of the research**

Peer review models

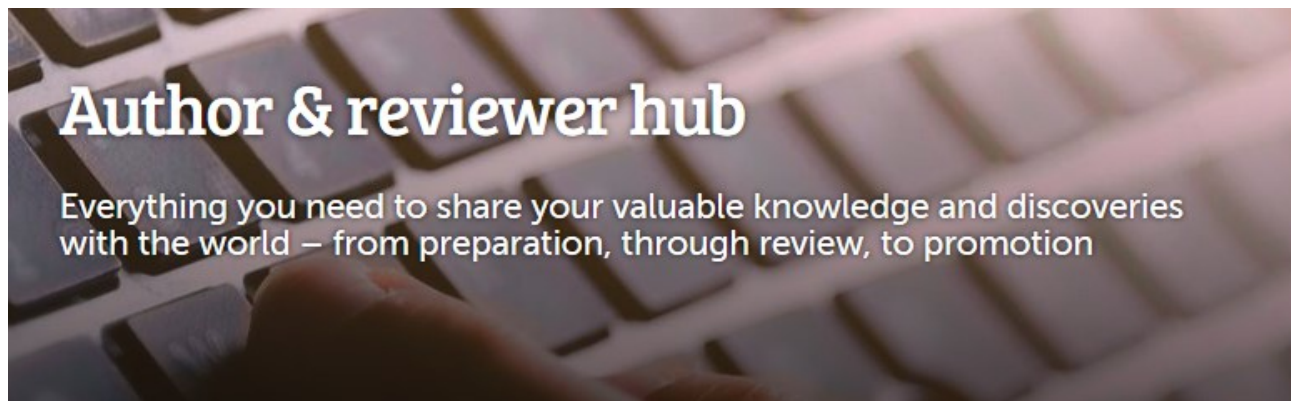
- **Single-anonymised**
 - Traditional peer review model
 - Reviewer(s) anonymous
 - Author(s) name and affiliation are on the manuscript
- **Double-anonymised**
 - Reviewer(s) anonymous
 - Author(s) anonymous
 - An option on some of our journals
- **Transparent**
 - Reports and Editors letter are published alongside article
 - Reviewers can choose whether to sign their review
 - An option on some of our journals



Life cycle of a manuscript



Writing the Paper



Author & reviewer hub

Everything you need to share your valuable knowledge and discoveries with the world – from preparation, through review, to promotion



Author information



Reviewer information



Processes & policies

2018 Journal Impact Factors



Our impact factor results this year are a testament to the talent of the chemical scientists we work with.

Because of your high standards and excellent work, we are accelerating the growth, dissemination, application and impact of chemical science knowledge through our journals.

[See the latest figures](#)

The secrets of successful self-promotion



Publishing an article is only the first step to sharing your research with the world. We have some tips and tricks to help you get efficient about making an impact:

- > Get prepared with our pre-publication guide
- > Reach a global audience after publication
- > Start promoting in 15 minutes using Kudos

[Get my work seen](#)

Finding your article's true home




If your article turns out to be better suited to another journal in our portfolio, we will recommend a transfer as part of the submission process.

- > No need to resubmit your information
- > Finalise in a few clicks
- > Your paper is automatically provided to the recommended journal for consideration

[Learn more](#)

Building an open future



We're working to make sure that the transition to open access (OA) publishing is smooth, fair and sustainable. Find out more about the benefits of publishing OA in a Royal Society of Chemistry journal.

- > Improved visibility
- > Our usual high standards
- > A clear and simple process
- > Low APCs and a range of discounts

[Find out about publishing OA](#)

Getting your paper noticed

- **Tip:** Put yourself in the shoes of the individuals assessing your work. **Have you included everything they are looking for?**



Editor



Reviewer



Reader

Editor Considerations

- Is the research scientifically correct and robust?
- Is the paper ethically sound?
- Is the science communicated clearly, in a way that it can be easily understood?
- Does the manuscript present new insights that will genuinely add to the existing literature?
- Is the research of broad interest (will people want to read this)?



How to get your paper noticed



Editor

- Be realistic and ensure your manuscript is appropriate for the scope
- Editors are unlikely to be specialised in your exact field
- **Do not assume** the novelty/impact of your work is obvious



Reviewer

- The cover letter, abstract, introduction, and conclusions are places to highlight the importance of your work, make sure you clearly:

- Describe the **problem and challenge** your work is tackling
- **Contextualise** your results against the current state-of-the-art
- Suggest the **impact** your work will have on the community (or communities)



Reader

- Discuss what **future directions** the work could take

How to get your paper noticed



Editor

Reviewers are probably in a very similar field

Do put in all experimental details you would want to see – including raw data



Reviewer

Do put some effort into formatting and organising the Supporting Information

Do be open about difficulties you experienced – they've probably had the same trouble



Reader

Don't make problems seem bigger than they are

Don't ignore or hide inconvenient references

How to get your paper noticed



Editor

Title and abstract “sell” your article to the reader. They should:

- Be easy to read
- Clearly show what your research is about
- Emphasise why the work is important



Reviewer

A good title and abstract will result in:

- Your paper appearing in search results
- Researchers wanting to read your paper



Reader

A bad title and abstract will mean few people will find or want to read your paper

Writing your title

- Make your title discoverable (easy to search)

COMMUNICATION View Article Online
View Journal

 CrossMark
Click for updates

Cite this: DOI: 10.1039/c5cc09951j

Received 3rd December 2015,
Accepted 5th January 2016

Durable and self-healing superamphiphobic coatings repellent even to hot liquids†

Bucheng Li and Junping Zhang*



‘Novel superamphiphobic coatings’ – **too vague**



‘Superamphiphobic coatings prepared by the combination of palygorskite and organosilanes’ – **too specific**



‘Fabrication of superamphiphobic coatings under PAL, 1H,1H,2H,2H-perfluorodecyltriethoxysilane and tetraethoxysilane – **too specific**



The importance of references

Editors and reviewers check references – and check if something isn't referenced!

References can also back up prior opinions about a paper:

- No references from the last few years ~ dubious relevance
- No references in same or similar journal ~ out of scope
- Lots of references from same or lower impact journals ~ dubious importance
- Mostly references from your other papers ~ self-promotion



Good publishing practice

- Read and follow author and ethical guidelines

- Check authorship
- Avoid plagiarism
- Avoid fragmenting your work
- No unsupported claims
- Only submit to one journal at a time

- Scientific progress depends on the integrity of the scientific record



| C | O | P | E |



Crossref
Similarity Check
Powered by iThenticate

Related papers

- Think about the reader...
- Avoid breaking up work into too many papers (fragmentation)
- Thorough literature search
- To support effective peer review...
- Provide related articles that are:
 - 'in-press'
 - submitted
 - in preparation

Avoiding plagiarism

- Use your own words
 - Clearly reference sources
 - Do not copy and paste text from other papers
 - Avoid reusing portions of text from your own publications
 - Cite direct quotes and use “quotation marks”
 - Request permission to reproduce figures and images (RightsLink service)

Submission - Improving the author experience

We are simplifying the submission process for Chemical Science.

- Faster file uploads
- Only the minimum information is required
- Prefilling of information
- Appears in your ScholarOne author portal

To use our new submission system click the link below.

SUBMIT NOW

SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH TO

Chemical Science

Please select the type of article you would like to submit.

Edge article

Original research of exceptional significance and novelty, appealing to a wide general interest readership. Edge articles have no page limit.

SUBMIT NOW

Mini review

A short, personal account of an emerging area of research. Minireviews are typically three to four pages in length, and are normally submitted upon invitation.

SUBMIT NOW

Perspective

A concise and critical appraisal of a research area that will be of interest to the broad general readership of the journal, normally submitted upon invitation.

SUBMIT NOW

Comment

A medium for the discussion and exchange of scientific opinions concerning material published in Chemical Science.

SUBMIT NOW

MANUSCRIPT TRACKER



CHEMICAL SCIENCE

Cathodized Copper Porphyrin Metal-Organic Framework Nanosheets for Selective Formate and Acetate Production from CO₂ Electroreduction

Great news! We have sent your manuscript for review.

Your Associate Editor is **Stephen Goldup** who is now inviting reviewers to review your manuscript.

We will let you know how many reviewers have accepted this invitation and how many of those have supplied their report.



AGREED

3 reviewers agreed to review your manuscript



RECEIVED

2 reviews received on your manuscript

What's next?

Our Associate Editor will email the corresponding author once they have reached a decision on your article.

Revising your manuscript

- Do not take criticisms personally – they could be fair and can help you improve your manuscript
- Do not try to guess who the referees were, or speculate about their motivations
- Do not feel obligated to make all changes, however...
- Do address all comments/concerns raised
- Do be aware of when your manuscript goes online – making revisions after this time may require publishing a correction



What if I spot a problem?



- It's not too late...
- Contact the editorial office who will advise you
- Correcting the scientific record:
 - Correction notice
 - In serious cases, may need a retraction notice

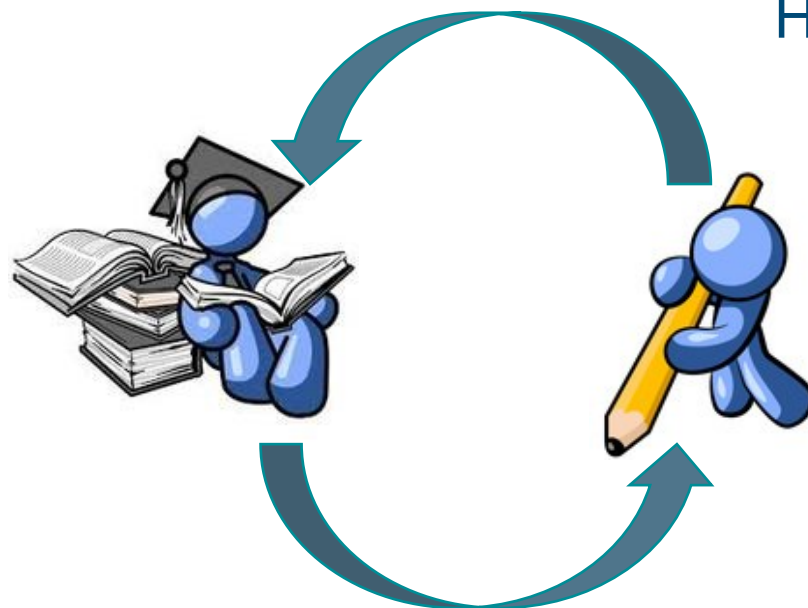
- We use CrossMark to help readers find the latest updates to articles

Become a reviewer

Reviewing will develop your skills

Increased understanding
of journal standards

Insight into how articles
are assessed



Helps keep you up to date with
the field

Giving constructive
feedback

Critical evaluation skills

Reviewer recognition

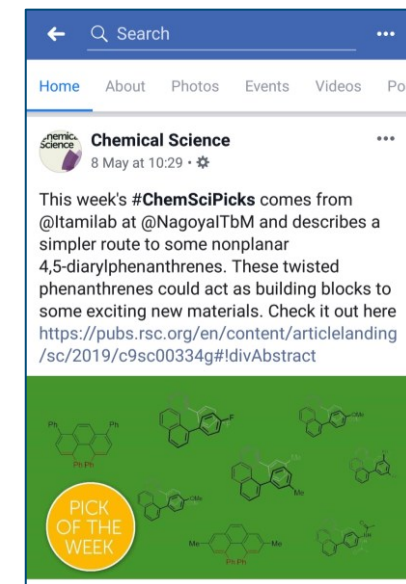
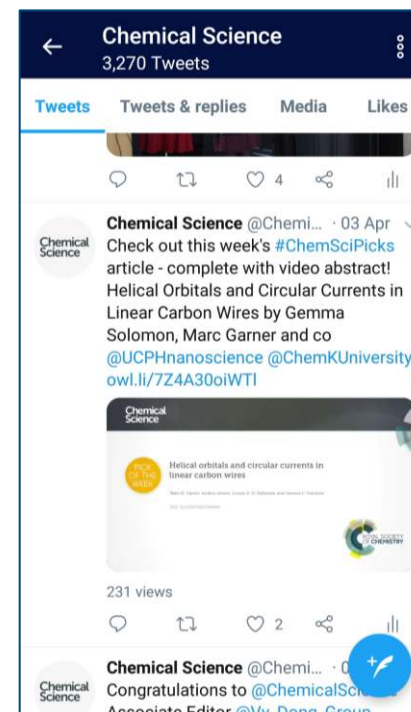
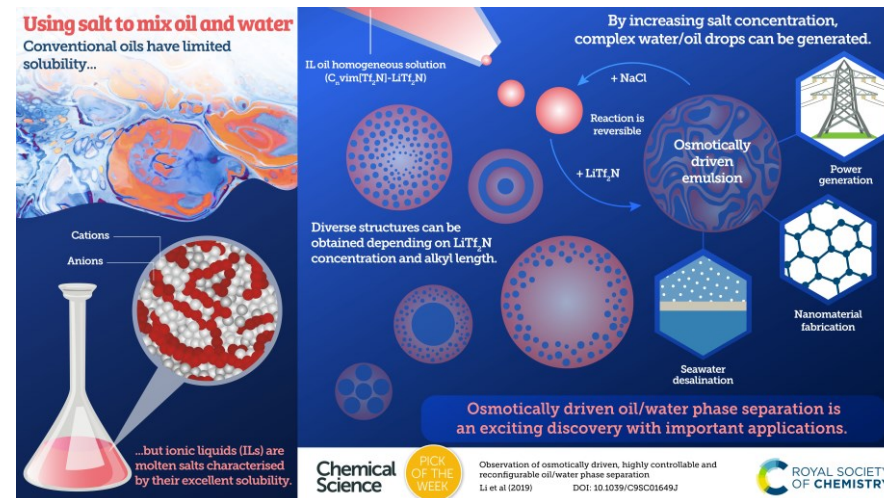


- Partner with Publons across all our journals
- A single, verified record of all your reviewing activity
- Use in your CV, funding applications and performance evaluations
- Also...
- 25% discount on all RSC books
- Annual *Outstanding Reviewers*



Promoting your work

- Promote work on social media
- Send to your institution's press office
- Ask journal about the possibility of having a cover
- Check databases to make sure articles are listed correctly – particularly reviews!



Any questions?



www.rsc.org
copseym@rsc.org