

What do we really know about editorial peer review in scientific publication?

Something, but not enough.

- We know that peer review is widely used, but how widely?
- We know that peer review suffers from bias and conflicts of interest, but what biases and conflicts really matter? And how do we get rid of them?
- We fear that peer review suppresses innovation, but to what extent?
- We know that peer review has existed for years without scientific proof of its worth, but will it hold up under the same rigor and scrutiny we demand of science itself?

To answer many of these questions, editors, scientists, and scholars will gather to present and discuss research findings at the Second International Congress on Peer Review in Biomedical Publication, September 9-11, 1993, at the Fairmont Hotel in Chicago, Illinois.

The Second International Congress on Peer Review in Biomedical Publication

September 9-11, 1993 Chicago, Illinois

Topics will include

- The mechanisms of peer review and editorial decision making in different journals, including blind review
- The relationships between authors, editors, and reviewers, and how each is educated, selected, and evaluated
- Allocation of responsibility for published material and the meaning of authorship
- Quality assurance and standards for reviewers and editors
- Breakdowns, weaknesses, and biases in the system
- Conflicts of interests
- Fraud and scientific misconduct
- Peer review of grant proposals

The subject of the Congress is biomedical publication, but scholars in other disciplines are urged to participate, so that we may examine editorial peer review in the context of the overall scientific enterprise.

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