

ECOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
***Ecological Monographs* Editor-in-Chief Job Description**
APPLICATION DEADLINE: Sept 1, 2021

About *Ecological Monographs*

[*Ecological Monographs*](#) publishes and provides integrative and complete documentation of major empirical and theoretical advances in the field and establishes benchmarks from which future research will build. Justification for manuscript length must be based on characteristics of the research, analysis, and presentation of results, and not simply because large data sets or long-duration studies are involved.

Ecological Monographs was established in 1931 and publishes 4 issues per year. Currently, the journal receives approximately 200 submissions per year and publishes approximately 50 articles per year. Its 2019 impact factor was 7.722, ranking 8 of 168 journals in the Ecology category, and 62 of 380 in Environmental Science.

Position Summary

The Editor-in-Chief (EIC) of *Ecological Monographs* sets the editorial strategy and is responsible for implementing the editorial policies of the journal. As the most visible representative of the journal, the EIC serves as the chief ambassador for *Ecological Monographs* through personal outreach and attendance at meetings and conferences. The EIC is expected to uphold the Ecological Society of America (ESA) [Code of Ethics](#). A core value of the ESA is to foster diversity in all its programs, and the EIC will embody this core value of the Society and reinforce the ESA's commitment to fairness and inclusion in the peer review process. All Editors-in-Chief of ESA journals serve at the pleasure of the ESA Governing Board, and all EICs must maintain full membership in the ESA throughout the duration of the editorship.

Responsibilities

The EIC is expected to possess a core expertise in ecology and, as such, will drive the editorial strategy, vision, and development of the journal. The EIC will be responsible for either working with the Ecology Editorial Board which it shares with the journal or developing an independent editorial board. The EIC will also oversee the performance of an Associate Editor-in-Chief and Data/Statistics Editor. The EIC will serve as an arbiter in cases of controversy between authors, reviewers, or editors. The EIC will regularly revisit and update the journal's aims and scope as needed to uphold and further enhance *Ecological Monographs'* editorial quality, relevance, online usage, and Impact Factor. The EIC will be committed to equity and inclusion in all aspects of the publications process and is responsible for:

- Attracting submissions from authors representing the diversity of ESA membership and the ecology community
- Establishing the journal's standards for manuscript acceptance
- Setting standards for desk rejections and/or referrals to a more appropriate ESA journal
- Maintaining oversight of a well-defined peer-review process
- Maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of each author's work while that work is under peer review
- Corresponding with authors, editors, reviewers and readers regarding peer review and/or manuscript decisions

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- Handling incidences of error and allegations of misconduct and working with the Publishing Director and Commercial Publisher as appropriate
- Be conversant with issues and approaches around avoiding bias in evaluation and editorial processes
- Delivering adequate inventory of high-quality manuscripts to complete issues per the agreed-upon schedule

Additional Duties

All Editors-in-Chief participate in an annual Publications Strategy Meeting. Each EIC chairs regular Editorial Board Meetings for their journal. Additionally, the EIC will report annually to the Governing Board and Publications Committee regarding the editorial performance of *Ecological Monographs*, as well as notable editorial activities, significant publishing events, or articles that made a significant impact on the field.

The EIC serves as an ex-officio member of the ESA Publications Committee and will work together with the Governing Board, Publications Committee, Editorial Board, Executive Director, Director of Publishing, Society staff, and the publisher. The EIC is supported by ESA staff for administering the submissions and peer-review processes and assist authors and reviewers in preproduction and manuscript clean-up prior to production with Wiley. ESA's publisher. The ESA's Publishing Director assists with reports on the status of the journal and manuscript submissions, discusses new ideas, helps with requests for policy and procedural changes, and serve as liaison with Wiley.

Qualifications and Required Skills

The ESA seeks a creative, dynamic editor to lead *Ecological Monographs* into the future. The Editor-in-Chief must possess the energy and vision to sustain and further develop the journal as a leading voice in the field of ecology. The new editor will:

- Be an active researcher with a strong publication record and recognized expert in the field of ecology
- Be able to attract respected experts to Editorial Board
- Possess significant editorial experience with a scholarly ecology journal
- Be fair and trustworthy, while possessing the ability to make difficult decisions with a creativity in problem solving.
- Be interested in the evolving business models in journal publications and embrace relevant technological advances in publishing
- Demonstrate effective communication skills and use of social media and technology tools as a means of enhancing the journal
- Demonstrate strong leadership and support for diversity and inclusion with a focus on service and positive author experiences.
- Be conversant with issues and approaches around avoiding bias in evaluation and editorial processes.
- Be a member of the ESA

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The ESA expects that the EIC will perform the editorial obligations in a manner consistent with the highest standards of professionalism, competence, integrity, and ethics, and not engage in any conduct that may bring harm or disrepute upon the journal or the Society. This position will involve travel to the annual Publications Strategy Meeting, as well as the ESA Annual Meeting.

Term and Compensation

The Editor-in-Chief will serve an initial 3-year term, assuming full responsibility as EIC of *Ecological Monographs* as agreed with ESA. At the discretion of the ESA Governing Board, the EIC's contract may be renewed. The incoming EIC will work with ESA staff and the current editor to learn about the journal, its processes, and workflows.

Compensation for the position is commensurate with the workload. The ESA editorial office provides staff support for peer review, logistics, and pre-production efforts. Wiley provides production and distribution of the published manuscripts on Wiley Online Library and supports the EIC and ESA in advancing the journal. The Publishing Director and ESA Executive Director assist with business strategies and work with our commercial publisher, Wiley.

How to Apply

The ESA encourages individuals with diverse and global backgrounds to apply for this position. Interested parties should submit the following materials to the ESA's Search Committee:

- A current curriculum vitae
- A letter of interest that summarizes the candidate's qualifications relative to the skills above, including relevant journal experience; candidates will be assessed on their track record in academic publishing, leadership experience, overall strength of their CV, specific knowledge of *Ecological Monographs*, their connectivity to the Ecological community, their available time commitment, and their vision for the journal.
- A vision statement (1-2 pages) describing the applicant's goals for *Ecological Monographs*, including areas for growth or improvement across peer review, inclusivity, and breadth and scope of research.

Application materials should be sent to editorsearch@esa.org no later than **Wednesday, September 1st, 2021**. All application materials will be kept confidential. The ESA will acknowledge receipt of applications. No late applications will be considered.

Questions about the position may be sent, in confidence, to editorsearch@esa.org. An ESA representative will respond to your inquiries. No phone calls and no recruiters, please.