



Report of the IAVS Vice President for Publications: 2016-2017

Peter R. Minchin

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1. Publications Committee

The IAVS Publications Committee consists of Peter Minchin, Chair (US), Bob Peet (US), Hans Henrik Bruun (DK), Jessica Gurevitch (US), Tomáš Herben (CZ), Michael Manthey (DE), Norman Mason (NZ), Laco Mucina (AU), and Martin Zobel (EE).

2. State of the Journals

Both the *Journal of Vegetation Science* (JVS) and *Applied Vegetation Science* (AVS) continue to do very well. Extensive data on circulation and sales, readership, article downloads, content management, and various impact metrics are given in the Publisher's Report, along with information on Wiley's efforts in marketing, platform development, open access publishing, and various other topics.

Availability & Usage

The total number of institutions that purchased a license for JVS and AVS stayed relatively steady (from 4,920 in 2015 to 4,823 in 2016, a decrease of 2%). As in 2015, the majority of institutions purchased a Wiley license, which gives access to the full range of Wiley titles, rather than a traditional subscription. There was a small decline in the number of institutions accessing our journals through an EBSCO subscription. Based on preliminary data, Individual ordinary and student subscriptions decreased markedly from 559 in 2015 to 233 in 2016 (58%). We will check these figures against FASEB membership and subscription data and, if the decline is really this big, will investigate the reasons. It may be that many members are abandoning their personal subscriptions, since the journals are now freely available online through their institutional libraries.

In 2016, Wiley philanthropic initiatives gave low-cost or free access to current content in JVS and AVS to 7,711 institutions in developing countries. This represents a massive 43% increase from 2015 (5,400 institutions). We should applaud Wiley's generosity that allows so many of our colleagues and their students in the developing world have access to our journals that they would otherwise not be able to afford.

Institutional and individual print subscriptions continued to decline in 2016. The average print run for JVS currently stands at 181 copies per issue (a decline of 19%). For AVS, the average print run is 164 copies per issue (a decline of 21%). These numbers are still high enough that Wiley will continue to offer print as an option for at least the next couple of years. Ultimately IAVS will have to decide when we abandon the print option.

Authorship & Readership

Our journals continue to be highly international in both authorship and readership. The 130 articles published in JVS in 2016 had corresponding authors from 31 countries with the largest numbers being from the US (17), Czech Republic (15), Germany (12), and Canada (10). The 74 AVS articles published in 2016 had corresponding authors from 25 countries, with the largest numbers from the US (16), Australia (6), Italy (6), Germany (6), and Spain (6).

The international nature of our readership is shown by the statistics for article downloads and online traffic by country. The top ten countries for online downloads of JVS in 2016 were US, China, Germany, UK, Brazil, Australia, France, Canada, Spain, and Japan. For AVS, the top ten countries for downloads in 2016 were the US, China, Czech Republic, UK, Germany, France, Australia, Brazil, Canada, and Spain.

In last year's report, I expressed concern about a decline in article downloads for JVS and AVS. Fortunately, this trend was reversed in 2016. Data for the number of article downloads from Wiley Online Library, EBSCO, and other third-party databases, show a 6% increase for JVS, and an 18% increase for AVS.

Revenue

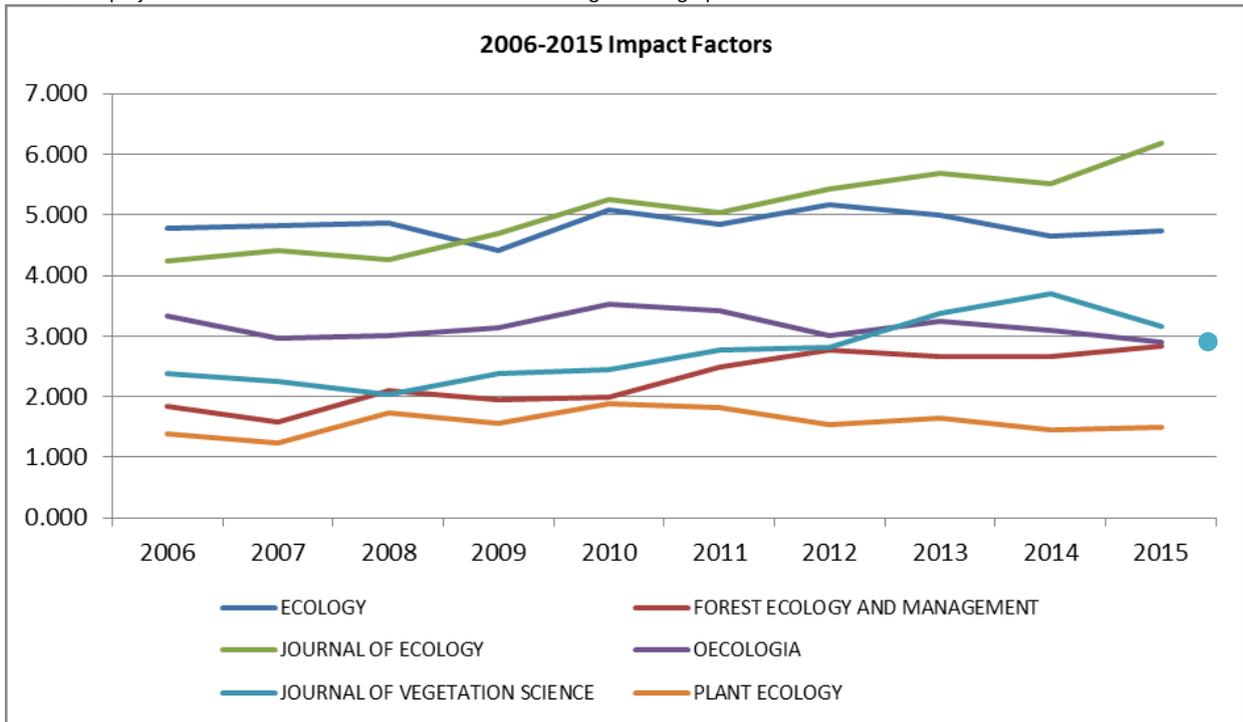
Total net revenue received by IAVS from Wiley in 2016 was £114,873, which is an 11% increase over 2015 (£ 103,475).

Impact Factor

Impact Factors for 2016 were not yet available when this report was written. Based on available data, Wiley’s projections of the 2-year IF for 2016 is 2.916 for JVS and 2.451 for AVS. If correct, these would represent a 7.5% decline for JVS and a 6.2% increase for AVS. Tools are not available to project 5-year IFs. Trends over time show that the IF for JVS peaked in 2014 and has since declined, while AVS has remained relatively steady since 2014 (see graphs below).

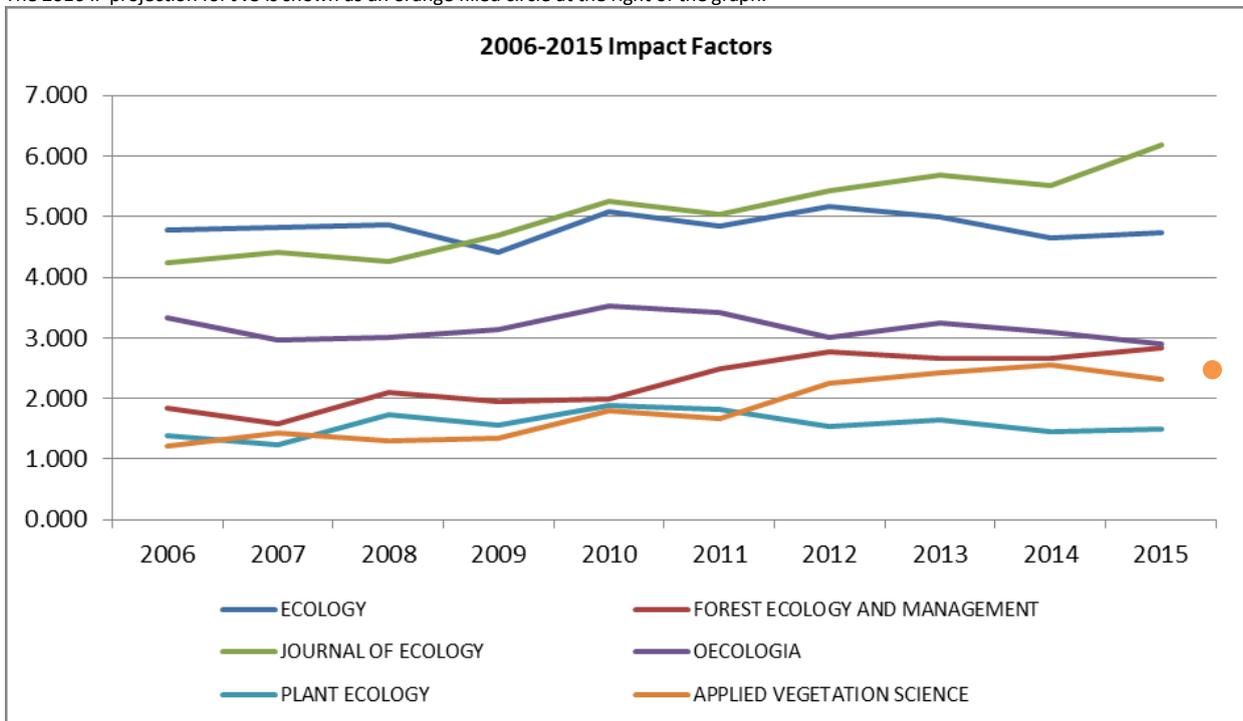
Journal of Vegetation Science: trend in 2-yr IF relative to competitor journals

The 2016 IF projection for JVS is shown as a blue filled circle at the right of the graph.



Applied Vegetation Science: trend in 2-yr IF relative to competitor journals

The 2016 IF projection for AVS is shown as an orange filled circle at the right of the graph.





Production time

In 2016 the production data show an increase of 11 days for JVS and 13 days for AVS in the average time between receipt of the final ms at Wiley to Early View publication. We will be following up with Wiley to determine the reason for these increases. On the other hand, the average time between receipt of the final ms at Wiley to print publication dropped by 7 days for JVS and 20 days for AVS in 2016. Adoption of a standard journal design for JVS and AVS in 2018 is expected to result in fewer errors and an increased production speed.

Journal of Vegetation Science

| Year | Volume/s | Number of issues | Number of pages | Number of articles | Average days from receipt at Wiley to Early View publication | Average days from receipt at Wiley to print publication |
|------|----------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 2016 | 27 | 6 | 1323 | 130 | 51 | 146 |
| 2015 | 26 | 6 | 1234 | 119 | 40 | 153 |
| 2014 | 25 | 6 | 1509 | 145 | 38 | 220 |
| 2013 | 24 | 6 | 1211 | 118 | 38 | 226 |
| 2012 | 23 | 6 | 1197 | 112 | 33 | 182 |
| 2011 | 22 | 6 | 1154 | 104 | 36 | 121 |

Applied Vegetation Science

| Year | Volume/s | Number of issues | Number of pages | Number of articles | Average days from receipt at Wiley to Early View publication | Average days from receipt at Wiley to print publication |
|------|----------|------------------|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 2016 | 19 | 4 | 748 | 72 | 51 | 143 |
| 2015 | 18 | 4 | 738 | 73 | 38 | 163 |
| 2014 | 17 | 4 | 796 | 75 | 43 | 203 |
| 2013 | 16 | 4 | 716 | 69 | 40 | 218 |
| 2012 | 15 | 4 | 607 | 55 | 37 | 185 |
| 2011 | 14 | 4 | 606 | 51 | 44 | 153 |

3. Relationship with Wiley

Wiley Team

Our relationship with Wiley remains excellent. I list here the staff involved in publication of our journals, as of June 2017, with some information about their roles.

Journal Management

Rosie Trice, Senior Journals Publishing Manager, Life Sciences

Tel: +44 (0)1865 476217

Email: rtrice@wiley.com

Rosie is responsible for the publication and financial performance of IAVS journals. She is our contact for any matters not directly handled by the Editorial Assistant, Production Editor or Marketer. If you are unsure who to contact, please contact Rosie in the first instance. Anything about Special Issues or Supplements should be directed to Rosie.

Production

Rose Hoshia, Production Editor

Email: rjhoshia@wiley.com

Rose is responsible for the production of IAVS journals from receipt of the accepted manuscript through to online publication and delivery of printed issues. She should be contacted for any issues relating to production, including changes to instructions to copy-editors, author queries and graphics.

Marketing

Becky Harfield, Marketer Manager

Tel: +44 (0)1243 770246

Email: reharfield@wiley.com



Becky is your direct contact for marketing related queries regarding the IAVS journals. She will coordinate the planning and implementation of campaigns for the journals, including the production of promotional material, attend meetings and conferences and analyse trends and usage data.

Membership Subscriptions

Matthew Hunt, Membership Services Specialist

Tel: +44 (0)1865 476016

Email: mhunt2@wiley.com

Matthew is your direct contact for membership subscription queries. He oversees the sending out of each print issue and setting up online access for our members. IAVS membership itself is no longer handled by Wiley, but by Silvy Song (ssong@faseb.org) at our management company, FASEB.

Editorial Office

Karen Russell, Editorial Assistant, Editorial Office Ltd

Email: jvsci@editorialoffice.co.uk

Karen is the contact for all queries relating to manuscripts from submission to final decision. Karen is a key contact for the Editors and usually the first point of contact for authors and reviewers.

Renewal of the IAVS contract with Wiley

After careful consideration by the Governing Board, a new contract between IAVS and Wiley was signed in October, 2016.

4. Other IAVS-related Publications and Issues

Bulletin

In 2015, Martin Diekmann worked with Stefan Bradham at FASEB to develop a partnership between FASEB and IAVS officers to expedite production of the *Bulletin*. The new arrangements continue to work well and our *Bulletin* Editor, Monika Janišová, produced four excellent issues in 2016 (and already two great issues in 2017). The *Bulletin* is e-mailed directly to IAVS members and also made available through the IAVS website.

Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs)

IAVS has now joined CrossRef, allowing us to have DOIs assigned to publications of the Association and its Working Groups (note: DOIs for papers published in JVS and AVS are handled by Wiley). Our DOI prefix for other IAVS publications is 10.21570.

Each issue of the *Bulletin* now has a DOI and DOIs are also assigned to selected articles within issues (typically research articles or other articles that people are likely to want to locate in future). Publications by Working Groups are also eligible for DOIs. The first WG publication to obtain DOIs in 2016 was the newsletter of the European Dry Grassland Group (EDGG).

Officers of Working Groups who wish to obtain DOIs for their publications should first contact the Vice President for Publications, Peter Minchin (minchin.peter@gmail.com). Since there are charges associated with DOIs, the Publications Committee must first approve the proposal. Upon approval, the process of obtaining DOIs is performed by Silvy Song of FASEB. Application for DOIs should be done well in advance, so that the DOIs can be assigned in time for inclusion in the published documents.