The Path to Getting Published: *Energy Economics*

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Energy Economics: Overview

- Stated purpose: A serious forum for research papers concerned with the economic and econometric modeling and analysis of energy systems and issues.
- Audience: Energy economists, consultants, corporate planners, economic researchers in universities, banks, energy companies, finance houses, and government.
- Abstracted: 9 abstracting and indexing publications including the *Journal of Economic Literature*. 

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September 19, 2005
Editorial Process

- How to submit: Electronic submission only
- Number of external reviewers: Two
- Average length of time between submission and first decision: Historical--6 months (6 months for resubmission). This is decreasing!
- Average length of time from decision to publication: Depending on the back-log of accepted papers. anywhere from six to eighteen months.
- Accepted papers posted on a website before appearing in print: Yes, accepted articles appear on the web 1 to 3 months after acceptance.
- Acceptance rates: Target 20%; Actual 30-35%
What’s New!

- New co-editors were appointed in January, 2004.
  - Richard S.J. Tol, Vrije and Carnegie Mellon Universities, Hamburg, Germany
  - John P. Weyant, Stanford University, California
- A new editorial board has been appointed representing broader interests and background to accommodate the evolving focus and purpose.
- Invited papers are now a regular feature.
- Special issues have become a regular feature.
  Selected previous special issues include:
  - Electricity Markets (v. 27, no. 2);
  - Technology strategies for climate change policy (v. 26, no. 4)
  - Oil Markets (v. 24, no. 6)
What’s New!
(continued)

- No more paper submissions. All papers now must be submitted electronically. (http://ees.elsevier.com/eneeco)
- The online version of the journal allows for color graphics, animations, sound, and hypertext.
- The journal’s website can also be used as a depository for model descriptions, source codes, data-sets, and other supporting materials. As a new editorial policy, papers that include tools and data will only be accepted if these items are publicly accessible.
Increasing the Probability of Acceptance

- Select a journal appropriate for the paper.
- If you’re not familiar with the journal, review previous issues or selected papers from that journal for topics covered, writing style, format, and other presentational characteristics.
- Make sure that you are developing an original idea by performing a thorough literature review.
- Tell the reader why they care or should care about the topic:
  - “What insights do we gain from a line of analysis?”
  - “How does using your proposed method improve my analysis?”
  - “Why should your paper be published?”

Energy Economics
Greening

September 19, 2005
Probability of Acceptance (continued)

- Have a point for writing the paper and stick to the point—”do not waffle!”
- Excise excess or extraneous thoughts and verbiage (or as a colleague commented follow the KISS rule).
- Conclusions should evolve from the data and analysis presented. Unsupported conclusions or statements of philosophy are not appropriate for academic journal articles.
- Abstracts should briefly outline the objectives of the paper, the technique, and then summarize the major conclusions.
Probability of Acceptance
(continued)

- Prepare the manuscript in the format requested by the journal:
  - Include all of the references cited in the reference list in the appropriate format.
  - Use section headers and numbering consistent with the journal.
  - Use an apparent structure for paragraphs, sections, and the entire paper, e.g., topical sentences, transition phrases, and organizing paragraphs.
  - Use accepted mathematical notation and presentation in equations along with numbering. Refer to and describe the mathematics in the text.

- **Limit** your manuscript to the suggested length guidelines of the journal.

- Demonstrate originality or departure from existing thought in the introduction and the literature review section of the paper.

- Have other colleagues read your paper prior to submission to ensure clarity, precision, and grammatical correctness.

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September 19, 2005
Being a Good Publication Citizen!

- Absolute "do nots":
  - Plagiarism of text and ideas without attribution.
  - "Shopping" a paper around several journals or simultaneous submission.
- Journals exist through the largely volunteer efforts of editors, editorial boards, and reviewers. Please be polite in your interactions and correspondence!
- If you partake of the benefits of the system, support the system by volunteering to be a reviewer.
- Editors are very good about answering questions on editorial policy and etiquette. If you have questions, ask early during writing and ask often. (And, when in doubt. . .ask!)
- If you disagree with a review (and it is okay to disagree), be assertive and factual but polite in your rebuttal.
The Best Advice of All!

- Write!!! Write. . . .and write!!!!!!!!
- Write often (every day if possible) and try writing many different types of materials.
- Learn new techniques, new methods, new areas, and study different topics.
- Keep abreast of the literature through scanning abstracts of new articles, scanning abstracts in different types of journals, and reading those articles that interest you.
- Use critical thinking skills.
- But above all, get something on paper!