Editorial

Editorial Changes at Rangelands

This issue of Rangelands marks a transition in leadership for the journal. After 7.5 years of dedication and hard work, Lori Hidinger is stepping aside as Editor-in-Chief. Under Lori’s leadership, Rangelands has grown into a respected professional journal that publishes relevant articles on the science and management of rangelands in an approachable style. Her contributions to the journal were significant and far-reaching, leaving the Society of Range Management (SRM) with a legacy vision and direction that will guide the new team into the future.

Starting with the June issue, Dr. Jason Karl has taken over as Editor-in-Chief of Rangelands. As testament to the amount of work Lori regularly invested in the journal, the SRM’s Board of Directors has also hired Dr. Eva Levi to assist as Managing Editor. Eva will largely handle the submission, peer-review, and revision process, and will work with Elsevier to organize each issue. Jason’s roles will be to work directly with the Rangelands Steering Committee to provide and implement strategic leadership for the journal and work with Eva on publication decisions.

We all truly believe in the mission and value of Rangelands as an outlet for approachable, applied science for rangeland management. We are not planning any major changes in the direction, style, or content of Rangelands. This journal will continue to be an outlet for relevant information on the state of rangeland science, art, management, technology, policy, economics, education, society, and culture presented in a user friendly, non-technical format (See the Rangelands scope statement at https://www.journals.elsevier.com/rangelands/). We have some exciting ideas for new content that are consistent with this vision, and we will be rolling these out over the next year. One of our top priorities will be to expand the number, variety, and quality of submissions to Rangelands. To that end, we will continue to encourage special issues that offer a deep look into pressing, current topics in the profession of rangeland science, art, and management.

We also want to reaffirm our commitment to manuscript quality based on good science and scholarly review for all Rangelands content. Approachable, easy-to-digest articles and rigorous scholarly review are not mutually exclusive. Indeed, to accomplish the stated goals of Rangelands and the SRM, we need both. All content published in Rangelands will undergo scholarly review to ensure its scientific basis, technical accuracy, and alignment with Rangelands scope and style.

Over the years as the science, art and management of rangelands has diversified, so too have the contributions to and readers of Rangelands. The current editorial organization of the journal consists of a Steering Committee which provides overall vision and direction to the journal, the Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor, and the Editorial Board. Previously, the Editorial Board has functioned on an ad hoc basis for specific tasks, and we deeply appreciate their service. To help meet the needs of a diverse set of contributors and readers, and to ensure appropriate subject-matter experts are engaged in article review, we are reorganizing the journal’s editorial board. The new Editorial Board will consist of Associate Editors representing a diverse set of backgrounds and expertise in rangeland science, art, and management, and they will be actively engaged in article recruitment, review and final decisions.

Because the editors of Rangelands are active in rangeland science and management, occasionally there will be a submission to the journal that presents a conflict of interest for those involved in publication decisions. In these cases, we will clearly state the conflict and assign an associate editor with no conflict of interest to handle the scholarly review and revisions of the