

Editor in Chief for the Journal of Agricultural Economics

The Agricultural Economics Society seeks a successor to take on editorial duties for the Journal of Agricultural Economics. Information on the journal, the current editorial model, the Society's requirements for a new Editor in Chief and the application procedure are outlined below. The closing date for applications is Friday 17th March 2023.

The Journal of Agricultural Economics

Published by Wiley on behalf of the Agricultural Economics Society, the *Journal of Agricultural Economics* is a leading international academic journal providing a forum for research into agricultural economics and related disciplines and their application to issues in the agricultural, food, and related industries, rural communities, and the environment.

Each issue of the *JAE* contains articles, notes and book reviews as well as information relating to the Agricultural Economics Society. Published three times a year, it is received by members and institutional subscribers in 69 countries. With contributions from leading international scholars, the *JAE* is a leading publication for citations in agricultural economics and policy, with an impact factor (2021) of 4.16. Preference is given to articles that deal either with new developments in research and methods of analysis, or that apply existing methods and techniques to new problems and situations which are likely to be of general interest to the Journal's international readership.

Current editorial model

The Editor in Chief (EiC), Professor David Harvey, is assisted by an editorial team of four Associate Editors (based at Newcastle) and seven External Editors (based at other institutions), appointed by the AES Executive on the recommendation of the EiC. Financial support of £15k for administration and honoraria is currently provided by the Society; this figure is negotiable under the terms of a new agreement. Manuscript submission and progression through the editorial process is facilitated through 'ScholarOne' bespoke software. The EiC and Associate Editors assess the initial suitability of articles submitted. Submissions considered to be suitable for the *JAE* are sent to a minimum of two reviewers (or one for Notes). Unsuitable articles are returned to the authors with a short note of explanation from the EiC. The refereeing process is "double-blind": the identity of the author remains anonymous to the referee and *vice versa*. Authors may be asked to re-submit their article in revised form, and in all but exceptional circumstances, the EiC will consider only one re-submission. Upon completion of the refereeing and editorial processes, authors and referees are notified of the EiC's decision about publication with explanatory feedback, including referees' reports, and any editorial suggestions for the final publication. The lag between receipt of submission and first response varies, but the current editorial team has a target of a maximum three-month turnaround, which has been achieved for the vast majority of submissions.

The EiC is supported by the *Journal Advisory Board*. The Board currently consists of six AES members, the EiC and a representative from the Journal publisher. The Board's

role is to support and assist the journal editorial team and to report back to the AES Executive Committee at appropriate meetings. In particular, the Board has the following functions.

- To promote the interests of the JAE in relevant settings and situations
- To work to uphold scientific rigour and relevance of its content
- To work to ensure the financial sustainability of the journal
- To discuss and suggest future directions concerning the style, content, communication, dissemination formats and marketing of the journal, and the composition of the editorial team
- To assist the EiC in proposing and appointing Associate and External editors and shaping policy on the disbursement of any honorariums to the editorial team
- To assist the AES Executive Committee when a vacancy arises for the position of the EiC by drawing up a short list of candidates, ranking candidates in order of preference, and facilitating the shadowing and timely handover to a new EiC, as well as facilitating the appointment of a temporary EiC should the sitting EiC be temporarily indisposed
- Respond to any requests for advice and assistance from the AES Executive, editorial team, and publisher as appropriate.

Both the EiC and the Journal Advisory Board report to the Executive Committee of the AES. The EiC is required to produce a journal interim annual report for the Mid Term Executive meeting of the Society in October; and a final report for the Executive Committee meeting held at the Society's annual conference. The [final report](#) is published in the Journal in the second (June) issue.

The current model has developed with what is essentially an 'in-house' administration system, with honoraria to support the editorial team. However, a new EiC may wish to pursue a different model, with, for example, greater use of administrative support systems offered by Wiley. More generally, there will be scope to adapt policy and processes, in consultation with the Society's officers, as the new EiC and editorial team evolve.

The Society's requirements

The AES is seeking applications from individuals wishing to take on the EiC role for the *Journal of Agricultural Economics*. Preference will be given to candidates that demonstrate how they will maintain and develop i) the current ethos of the Journal and its high-standing position and ii) the Journal's scientific rigour and relevance for the academic and research community and to the Society's members. In addition, candidates should address the following.

- How they will maintain and develop an editorial team and procedures
- How they will engage with the Journal Advisory Board and its functions
- How they envisage the evolution of the Journal, for example, in terms of content, presentation and publication platforms.

Candidates should note that some existing members of the editorial team are willing to continue in the role; however, the Society is open to applications that propose new editorial team members, subject to their approval by the Journal Advisory Board. Candidates may also wish to suggest alternative structures for the editorial team.

Successful candidates will need to participate in a minimum six-month mentoring period with the current EiC. Appointments will initially be for three years after which a review will be conducted by members of the Journal Advisory Board; the review will determine either whether the EiC continues or whether new applications will be solicited, with the final decision on the continuation or new appointment of the EiC being taken by the AES Executive.

How to apply

Informal enquiries may be made to the Chair of the AES Executive Committee Stephen.Ramsden1@nottingham.ac.uk. Formal applications for the Editor in Chief's role, addressing the Society's requirements, should be submitted in no more than 2,000 words by Friday March 17th 2023 to the AES Administrator: secretariat@aes.ac.uk. Candidates should also submit a short (two page) Curriculum Vitae. After consideration and recommendation by the Journal Advisory Board, a decision will be made by the Executive Committee of the AES as soon as possible after the submission date.

Journal Advisory Board Committee, January 2023.