

Editorial

As editors we are constantly concerned with rejected manuscripts. As we have said in the past, the rejection rate for the International Journal of Engineering Education is over 90 percent. For some, a high rejection rate is a sign that the journal is of high quality, calibre, and rigor. Many editors are proud of the high rejection rates, but there are grounds for concern.

High rejection rates indicate that resources have been wasted: those of the authors, the reviewers and the journal. Efficiency requires a higher acceptance rate, but with quality being assured.

High rejection rates are occurring in journals in all areas, and Engineering Education is no exception.

There are several reasons that could contribute to rejection, which may include:

- *The writer is unaware of the literature on the topic*, and hence believes what is being done is new.
- It could be innovative for the author, the school, etc., but not for the intended audience.
- *The writer does not have a message for audience.*
- The article has technical errors.
- The paper is sent to the wrong journal.
- The writing is inconsistent and does not follow a logical development.
- Poor English.
- The paper is too long for what it is trying to say.

One overriding concern regarding engineering education research papers is that the discipline is ill defined and the community of scholars devoted to it is small. Another, also major factor is that remuneration and promotion chances for engineering education researchers are more limited than for more widely accepted disciplines.

For potential authors some recommendations are:

- Make sure you have done a thorough literature survey.
- Make sure that you are communicating to the readers the innovative aspects of your work.
- Make sure you have connected your work to engineering education applications.
- Make sure that your paper encourages the readers to think about their own practices.

These are only some, but major recommendations which go a little beyond the basic requirements such as manuscript structure, language quality, figure and table quality. We are always looking forward to receiving good publishing material to help sustain the quality of this journal.

Michael Wald
Ahmad Ibrahim