

Report to the CAWQ Executive by R Gehr, Editor, Water Quality Research Journal of Canada

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- The most significant change since the establishment of the Journal has been the transfer of the publication office and publishing operations to IWA Publishing (London, England).
- After several years of losing ground with our publication schedule, all four issues of Vol 45 (2010) have been published by CAWQ in Burlington. Three issues for Vol 46 (2011), published by IWA Publishing, have already appeared, and the fourth will be published shortly, bringing our publishing schedule up-to-date for the first time in many years.
- Due to changes in the workflow scheme, and a more aggressive approach by IWA Publishing, the turn-around time from receipt to electronic publication is being reduced.
- Needless to say, many hours, many e-mails, and two conference calls later, the transfer can be said to be complete. Thanks to Ron Droste for initiating this, to Naomi Stewart for helping us catch up with copy editing Vol 45, to our new Managing Editor Emma Gulseven, and to Janet Jardine for helping all of us out in her own time when questions arose.
- IWA Publishing have been on my back to get more papers, and have also been contacting organisers of Canadian conferences and workshops to solicit papers. The Executive and Board, as well as all members of CAWQ, are urged to help with this. In a market which has experienced the birth of several new journals in the water/environment field, as well as a massive expansion of other IWA Publishing and Elsevier journals, it is indeed a challenge to capture good papers. I continue to receive many papers from abroad which are clearly not of interest to our members and readers, are not in the scope of the journal, and are frankly of rather poor quality. Of the 99 papers submitted in 2011, I rejected 57 immediately before going to peer review, and a further 27 after the review process, leading to an acceptance rate of only 15%. The challenge therefore remains to keep the papers flowing while maintaining our standards.
- Our current impact factor is 0.315. This is much lower than we have had in the past, and it is due to an unfortunate slip-up in operations: for 3 years Thompson Reuters, the company which calculates and publishes the impact factor, was not receiving our journals. I am confident that with increased exposure the impact factor will rise.
- There are two Special Issues in the planning stages:
  - Physical Processes in Natural Waters (Ram Yerubandi, Environment Canada, is the lead). Approximately 9 papers are in review or have been accepted so far.
  - Computational Fluid Dynamics in Water and Wastewater Treatment (Domenico Santoro (Trojan Technologies, is the lead).
- A summary of publications statistics is available as a separate file.