Policy 4350: Publications Policy

Introduction

The Marine Technology Society (MTS) is incorporated as a 501c3 not-for-profit scientific society whose guiding purpose is "to promote awareness, understanding, advancement, and application of marine technology." To achieve this mission, the society produces various publications to disseminate scientific and technical information to the community. Publication vehicles include the *MTS Journal*, the MTS web site (mtsociety.org), *Currents* Newsletter, eNews, and compilations from conferences and workshops. The Society may, from time to time, charge a fee for publications.

Publications Committee

The MTS Publications Committee oversees all Society publications. The Committee is chaired by the Vice President of Communications and Publications as described in the MTS Bylaws. The Publications Committee is responsible for a continuing review of the publications program of MTS to assure that the various components are of the highest quality, responsive to the current needs of users, and to anticipate and prepare for future needs.

Technical, Educational, and Professional Publications

MTS Journal

The *Marine Technology Society Journal* is the flagship publication of MTS. It publishes high caliber, peer-reviewed papers on subjects of interest to the society including marine technology, ocean science, marine policy, and education. The *MTS Journal* is dedicated to publishing timely special issues on emerging ocean community concerns while also showcasing general interest and student- authored works. The *MTS Journal* is presently published in six (6) issues per annum. MTS members shall receive complimentary online access to the *Journal* as a benefit of membership. Print subscriptions may be purchased, at a fee. Issues of the *MTS Journal* are available as open access beginning in their thirteenth month of publication. As of Autumn 2021, the MTS Journal is co-branded with the Society for Underwater Technology (SUT) under the tenets of a contractual joint venture.

Journal Commentary

It is the policy of MTS that all materials submitted to the Editorial Board for acceptance as commentary be subject to rigorous, objective standards. No commentary submissions will receive automatic acceptance, and submissions that do not meet Journal standards will not be published. In specific, commentary must be approved by at least one (1) Board member and the Journal Editor. This policy does not apply to the Guest Editor introduction(s); MTS endorsed testimony; bylaws changes; and other specified MTS approved communications.

Commentaries, by definition, reflect the views and opinions of the author. Unlike technical/scientific papers or notes, commentaries are not peer reviewed. Furthermore, they do not rely on cited sources of information and thus can include controversial or unsubstantiated statements. The Editorial Board reviews commentaries to ensure that a commentary addresses subject matter of relevance to the MTS membership and does not include libelous or unnecessarily inflammatory material that would reflect negatively on the Journal or MTS. Board members reviewing these commentaries may make suggestions for improving the clarity or readability of the commentary, authors are not required to accept these suggestions. The final decision to publish commentary rests solely with the Editor.

Conference Proceedings

The society may at its discretion, publish the proceedings of sponsored and co-sponsored educational conferences and workshops. Conference proceedings provide a vital collection of consolidated papers in various marine technology related fields, often published in advance of leading journals. Papers authored by innovators of today's top emerging technologies must follow rigorous peer- review process prior to acceptance.

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