Special Thematic Issues

Commissioning Content for the Betterment of Your Journal

By: Ramprasad Anbazhagan
Your Role as Editor
Vision for the Journal

Set the Aims & Scope
Initiate Different Article Types
Proper Representation on Editorial Board
Attend Conferences & Promote Journal

Call for Papers
*SPECIAL THEMATIC ISSUES*

passive to slightly active
very proactive
Benefits of a Special Issue

• Gets Journal Into a Scientific Area It Wants or Needs to Be
• Improves Engagement
  • Scientific Community
  • Editorial Board
• Regional Representation & Diversity
• Helps with the Impact Factor
Makeup of a Special Issue

• Typically, size is that of an issue (10-20 articles)
• Flexible; smaller amount of articles are “Special Section”
• Appointment of Guest Editor (Expert in Specialty Area)
• Recruitment of Authors
• Typically, manuscripts are reviews... but can also include original research
• Different than a Sponsored Supplement
Commissioning Editors

- Administrative Support ("Chasing")
- Status reports
- Identifying Guest Editors
- Identifying Topics from Data Analysis
- Editorial board surveys
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<td>• Identifying topics</td>
<td>• GE invitations</td>
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<td>• Identifying Guest Editors</td>
<td>• Planning &amp; coordination</td>
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<td>• EBM survey</td>
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Commissioning Editors/ JPA

Wiley Editor Symposium October 3rd & 4th
Commissioning Editors/ JPA

- **Anita Yadav**, Engineering/Physical Sciences and Psychology. anyadav@wiley.com

- **Hoglah Dasari**, Life Sciences and Social Sciences outside of Psychology, Business and Management. hdasari@wiley.com

- **Ramprasad Anbazhagan**, Health Sciences, Environmental Sciences and Business & Management. ranbazarha@wiley.com

- **Nidhi Chaudhary** – Journals Publishing Assistant supporting administrative tasks. Noida, India
Examples
Special Thematic Issues

Editorial Board Member Survey

EBM Survey

Survey the board in consultation with Editors
Consolidate ideas
Approaching the potential Guest editors
Consult with Editors on approval of the ideas
Plan with Guest editors on timeline and other logistics
Invite/Follow up with Guest editors and Invited authors

A update on the survey
- 10 Special issue ideas
- 6 Special issues with potential guest editors
- 4 Special issues are active

Key points
1) All activities will be consulted with the Editors
2) On behalf of Guest editors invite potential authors
3) Periodic updates to Editors on status of special issues
4) Flexibility
Special Thematic Issues

Identifying Guest Editors

*Drug Development Research* (DDR) had an idea for Special issue and but without a Potential Guest editor

Identified top contributors in the subject area using the keywords in Scopus and Web of Science.

Criteria used for the analysis:
1. Data to be taken for the last 5 years
2. Authors with minimum of 30 articles
3. Average citation of 6 or above
4. Authors with h-index of 40 or above

**Result:**

After the analysis and discussion with the Editor, and have shortlisted 10 researchers who can be right fit for the special issue

Currently, the researchers are being reached out for their interest with the special issue idea.

Key points
1) All data points will be consulted with the Editors
2) Flexibility in the data criteria
Editorial board members & Special issues from India

**Results:**

**DDR** – 3 EBMs, 10 articles from India & 1 SI for 2020

**MRR** – 1 EBM & 5 articles from India

**EDE** – 1 EBM & 1 Special Issue from India

**HET** – 2 EBMs

**MDPC** – 2 EBMs
Completing Special Issues

International Journal of Applied Linguistics (IJAL)
Special Issue on Corpus-based language teaching and learning: applications and implications-May Zaki (Closed the submission in 4 months)

- Initiated discussions on 3 November 2018
- Guest Editor shared proposal on 15 Dec, 2018
- Received list of potential authors, sent invitations on 26 December, 2018
- First reminder In Jan 19, second in Feb 19
- Posted call for paper on journal homepage-31Dec
- Received all submissions, April 2019
Special Thematic Issues

Snapshot

From October 2018 – Sep 2019...

• Closed submissions for 86 special issues
• Article output- 1374 manuscripts at close to 70% yield
• Journals in the special issue program- 77
• Conducting editorial board survey for 16 journals
• Special issues in pipeline- 111
• Identified 3 Regional special issues
Thank You!

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