



## **International Society for Quality in Health Care CLG**

### **The International Journal for Quality in Health Care (IJQHC):**

#### **Editor-in-Chief Role Description**

Expressions of interest are now being invited by the ISQua Board for the position of Editor-in-Chief of the Journal commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 when the current Editor-in-Chief, Dr Yu-Chuan (Jack) Li completes a period of six years in successfully leading the Journal to worldwide prominence.

#### **Background**

IJQHC is now in its thirtieth volume and currently has an impact factor of 2.554 which makes it a leading journal for publication of research, evaluation and improvement in the quality and safety of health care.

The Journal was originally established in 1988 by agreement between ISQua and Pergamon Press and its subsequent owners, Elsevier Science. In 1998, the Journal became jointly owned and published with Oxford University Press (OUP) after OUP purchased the share owned by Elsevier Science. Since the move to OUP, the Journal has been transformed in terms of design and the increasing impact of its content.

The Journal is part of the benefits provided to ISQua Members and is also available from OUP by direct subscription. Feedback from ISQua Member surveys always rate the Journal very highly in terms of value for membership.

Income is therefore generated through membership and other subscriptions. OUP marketing of IJQHC has also successfully packaged it with other publications for subscription by consortia. Similar to changes with other journals, steadily increasing online access is expected to generate further income via online sales i.e. 'pay per view'.

The budget for the Journal is jointly agreed each year by ISQua and OUP and covers editorial and production costs. The expectation is that surplus funds will be generated each year.

## **Editorial Structure**

The current editorial structure for the Journal comprises:

The Editor-in-Chief: Dr Yu-Chuan (Jack) Li

Up to six Regional Editors, together with the Editors Committee from across all regions of the world made up the Editorial Board. Members of the Editorial Committee provide advice on the Journal and act as referees when required.

The Journal is currently supported by an OUP and Editorial Office based with Dr Li in Taiwan.

The Editor-in-Chief is invited to participate in ISQua Board meetings to report on behalf of the Journal. One of these Board meetings requires attending and presenting at the ISQua international conference which is held in different locations each year. There is also a face-to-face Board meeting held the Spring of each year. All other Board meetings are held via video conference every two months.

## **Future Directions**

In addressing the steps toward the appointment of the next Editor-in-Chief, the ISQua Board recognised the following issues related to the need to determine the best future course for the Journal:

- The Journal is facing increasing competition from other journals, both in terms of its subject matter and its subscription base.
- This expansion in competition has occurred at a time when many institutional subscribers are experiencing increasing financial constraints. Libraries and other key institutions are cutting back on the number of their journal subscriptions.
- Journals are no longer the only reliable way in which interested people can readily access authoritative information on quality of care. People now have instant access to a range of resources from respected organisations via the Internet. Journals are themselves having to adapt to the challenges of electronic publishing.
- Information overload has led to alternatives to journals specialising in primary research – for example, a new genre of journals that scan and provide summaries of, and commentary on, papers published in primary research journals has emerged to meet the needs of busy clinicians.

In moving to appoint the next Editor-in-Chief, the ISQua Board is interested in receiving proposals outlining the candidate's general vision for the Journal and briefly summarising his/her editorial experience. The candidate's curriculum vitae should be included.

## **The Editor-in-Chief**

The Editor-in-Chief will be expected to provide leadership and oversight in the following main areas:

- The editorial and scientific content of the Journal;
- The impartial selection for publication of papers either submitted or invited which:
  - (i) are original and of the high scientific standard which is essential for the good repute of an international scientific journal; and
  - (ii) conform with the instructions to authors specified in standard "Instructions to Authors"

and to ensure the timely publication of each issue;

- The future development of the Journal's content;
- Exploration of future opportunities and markets for the Journal and to maintain and further develop its eminent role.

## **Remuneration**

There is an annual honorarium for this post which is circa \$36000 (USD) with a travel grant for ISQua business.