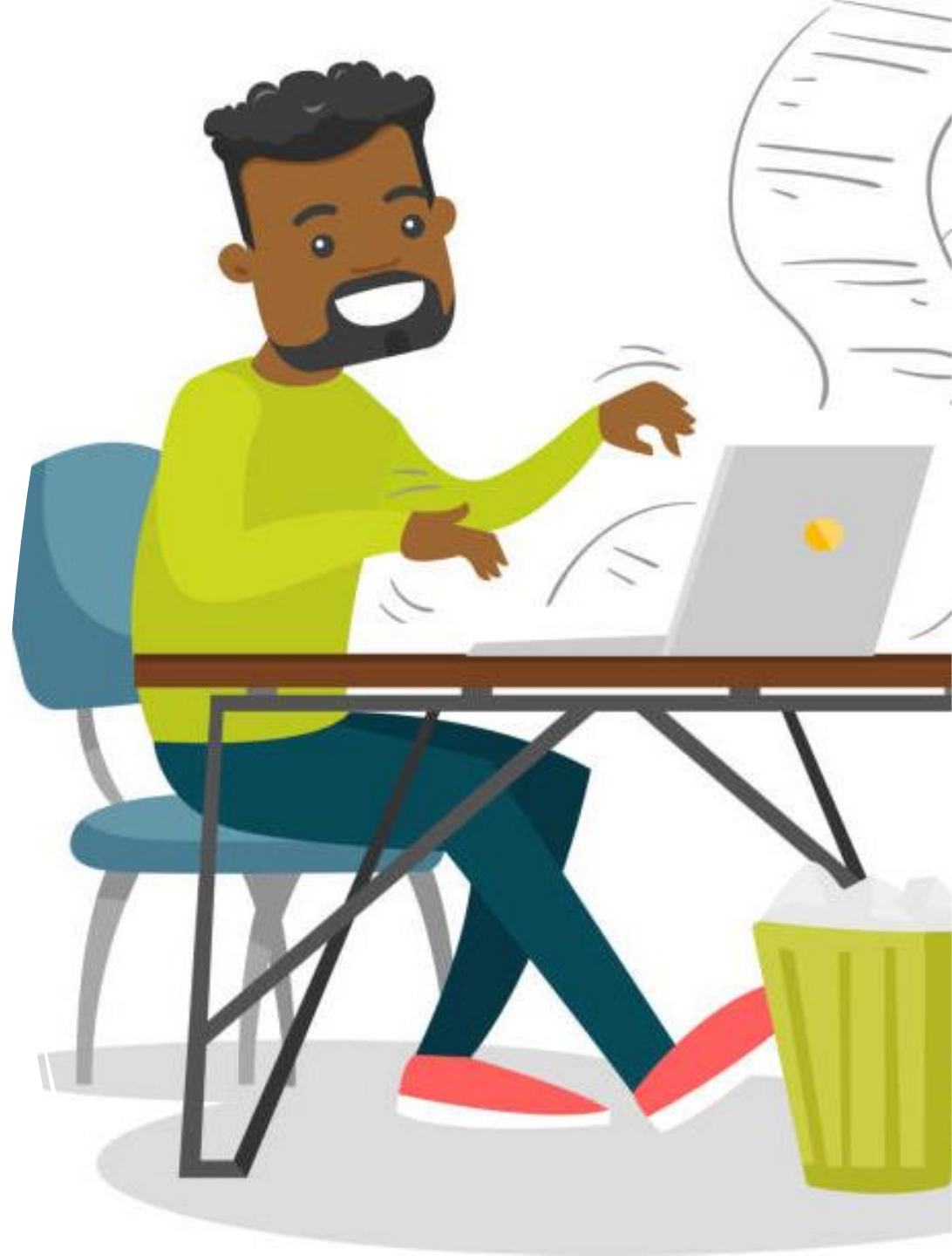


Engaging with authors

Kristy Langerman, Clean Air Journal

Other Editors-in-Chief: Rebecca
Garland and Gregor Feig

Tips on Editorial Processes – 30 May
2023



Overview



- Why? Aims of engaging with authors
- How? Things we have tried

Clean Air Journal: pertinent information



- Scope: Air quality in Africa
- Use ASSAF's Khulisa online platform
- Indexed by SCOPUS, SciELO-SA etc; eligible for DHET subsidy
- Open access, no article processing fees
- Publish material of relevance to scientists, policy-makers, consultants, technicians and the general public
- Do not yet have an impact factor

Clean Air Journal: Who are the authors?



- 60-80% South Africans
- Foreign authors mainly from Africa, but around 10% from other continents
- >50% of lead authors are students
- Occasionally, authors are not academics

Objectives of engaging with authors

End goals:

Publish as many good-quality articles as possible

Increase readership and impact



1. Encourage manuscript submissions
2. Improve quality of articles
3. Publicize published articles



A symbiotic relationship

How do we engage with authors?



1. Adopt a **helpful attitude**

- Assist authors of incomplete submissions
- If revisions are needed after the review process, assist the authors to understand what is needed
- Assist with editing (within reason)
- If an article is rejected, make it very clear to the author why it was rejected. Encourage resubmission if possible



How do we engage with authors?



2. Invite **emerging authors** to submit

- Approach authors of NACA conference proceedings (often students)
- Special issue for authors from the ICAQ-Africa 2022 conference (hosted by the African Society for Air Quality)
- Involve senior students in reviews



How do we engage with authors?



3. Provide avenues to **publicize articles**

- One-minute *videos* on articles by authors published for UNCEP's International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies (with SAMRC; September 2021)
- NACA-CAJ monthly *seminars*
- Tweeting at annual NACA conference
- Record *oral* abstract
- Abstracts in another *African language*



SAMRC @MRCza · Sep 1

Many South African households burn coal & wood as the primary source of energy for heating and cooking purposes. Unfortunately, what many don't realise is that air pollution caused by these activities has a significant influence on public health.

youtu.be/Z8PwigYUzy



SAMRC @MRCza · Sep 2

Dr Nick Okello, Environmental Scientist from Kenya explains the different air pollution trends, their devastating effects on human health & the effectiveness of govt policy in reducing pollution & saving people's lives

#WorldCleanAirDay
youtu.be/lioMYqficQA



SAMRC @MRCza · Sep 3

According to Dr Katye Altieri, Senior Lecturer, Department of Oceanography, UCT, air pollution has a negative impact on human health as well the economy of any country. In order to protect human health there is a need for effective air quality management.

youtu.be/V7eGQaEWuiQ



SAMRC @MRCza · Sep 6

Burning coal is used as a main energy source for basic needs such as cooking & keeping warm in low-income residential areas. However, it is one of the major sources of deadly pollutant fine particulate matter. Ncobile Nkosi, Lecturer, NWU, explains more.

youtu.be/D0_iEzi5hw4

