

Writing and Reviewing Medical Physics papers

There is an art to writing a scientific paper so that it communicates accurately, succinctly, and comprehensively. Developing this art comes with experience, and sharing that experience with younger physicists is an obligation of senior scientists, especially those with editorial responsibilities for the journal. In this workshop, the preparation of a scientific manuscript will be dissected so participants can appreciate how each part is developed and then assembled into a complete paper. Then the review process for the paper will be discussed, including how to examine a paper and write an insightful and constructive review. Finally, we will consider the challenge of accommodating the concerns and recommendations of a reviewer in preparing a revision of the paper.

A second feature of the workshop will be a discussion of the process of electronic submission of a paper for consideration by Medical Physics. The web-based PeerX-Press engine for manuscript submission and management will be examined, with attention to special features such as epaps and line-referencing. Finally, new features of Medical Physics will be explained, such as Vision 20/20 manuscripts, Physics Letters and the standardized formatting of book reviews.

Education Objectives:

1. Improve the participants' abilities to write a scientific manuscript.
2. Understand the review process for Medical Physics manuscripts and how to participate in and benefit from it.
3. Appreciate the many features of the PeerX-Press electronic management process for Medical Physics manuscripts.
4. Develop a knowledge of new features of Medical Physics.