

WRITING RESEARCH PAPERS FOR PUBLICATION [with attention also to the review process]

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This Working Session will aim to engage participants in discussion and activities concerned with various aspects of writing for publication. In particular we shall try to work on the following issues.

What are the key elements of a research paper?

What is the nature of such elements? How can they be presented effectively? What issues are involved?

Should all papers include some theoretical framework? What forms does/can such a framework take? What would be included? What are the associated issues?

What kind of examples of data should be included? How would they be selected? How are examples related to findings and results?

In what ways might a research paper be structured?

What do readers need to be told, how, and in what order?

e.g., dealing with the complexity of findings: use of bullet points, subsections, tables etc.

What is involved in a review process?

How do reviewers look at papers? What are the key criteria? What guidance is given? What questions are asked?

We hope that PME members who are editors and/or reviewers for the main research journals with which PME is associated will join this group and contribute to activity and discussion. Special issues of a journal arising from work at PME could be a consideration.

The two sessions will be based around detailed examination and discussion of a number of issues of relevant journals. Participants will be encouraged to work in small groups identifying characteristics of articles and raising questions.

Participants will be given an article or articles to read between sessions and asked to analyse this in terms of the questions and characteristics raised. Discussion of this activity will follow in the second session.

