

PES Publication Board Has Initiated a Formal Orientation and Training Program for Newly Appointed Associated Editors

The PES governing board has identified the need for a more structured approach to the induction of associate editors (AE) for PES transactions and open access journals. In response, the PES publication board has developed an orientation and training program for newly appointed AEs. The program includes a webinar and an assessment questionnaire. AEs passed the training will be issued a certificate of accreditation. The overall goal of this program is to support the work of the associate editors and also to improve the paper review experiences of the authors.

The first orientation and training program was run on June 24. There were about 150 attendees consisting of newly appointed and experienced AEs. The webinar covered editorial policies, guidelines, recommendations and best practices for processing paper submissions. Prof. Wilsun Xu, PES Editor-in-chief at Large, Prof. Claudio Canizares, Editor-in-Chief of IEEE Trans. on Smart Grid, and Prof. Bikash Pal, VP of Publication, shared their views on the topics. The one-hour webinar was followed by a one-hour active question and answer session. Feedback received from attendees has been very positive.

The assessment questionnaire consists of 50 multiple-choice questions on how to handle various aspects of paper review as an associate editor. About 60 newly appointed AEs have completed the questionnaire. The Publication Board is in the process of issuing certificates to the AEs.

The publication board recognizes that some AEs have difficulties attending the webinar due to time-zone constraints. A plan is being developed to conduct on-demand training for AEs using recorded webinar materials and a dedicated website. As new AEs are appointed continuously, the AE orientation and training program will become a standard tool to improve the quality and experience of the PES paper review process.