

Improvements to PES Publications in the Past 3 Years

PES Publications Board

Dec. 7, 2021

EIC Selection Process:

1. The EIC selection process is fully open, with calls being posted in PES communications and other relevant public forums (including Power-Globe (PG)).
2. The selection committee comprises all existing EICs and is Chaired by the VP for Publications (VP Pub.).
3. All applicants are scored by each EIC, and scores are then added to select the top 3-5 high scoring applicants for virtual interviews.
4. The VP Pub. as Chair of the committee facilitates the process and does not ask questions.
5. At the end, the performances of all the candidates are deliberated and compared. The candidates are ranked according to the EIC's first preference votes. The PES VP Publications does not vote unless there is a tie.
6. The recommendation, the ranking, and relevant comments for of all candidates are submitted to the upcoming PES governing Board/Executive Committee meeting (GB/ExCom) as part of VP Pub. report and agenda item.
7. The appointment is made after acceptance by the GB/ExCom.
8. The results are announced in PES relevant forums and PG.

Editor-in-Chief at Large:

1. The position was created by the current VP Pub. in Jan 2019 with approval from the PES GB.
2. One of the outgoing EICs is asked to take this position. He can be replaced by another EIC, who retires and is a member of the PES Publications Board.
3. The EIC-at-large, serving as acting EIC, handles papers where EICs are co-authors in their own journals, if an EIC of another journal does not feel comfortable handling papers authored/co-authored by a fellow EIC or VP Pub., or when EICs have a conflict of interest with one of the authors of a manuscript submitted in their own journal.
4. The EIC-at-large in collaboration with the VP Pub. organises webinars, training programmes for reviewers, and authors on topics related to effectively writing and reviewing technical papers. For example, "[How to Become an Effective Reviewer for IEEE PES Transaction & Journal Papers](#)"
5. The EIC-at-large in collaboration with VP Pub. organises and delivers the orientation, training, and certification programme for AEs appointed since Jan 2020.

Senior Editors for Transactions:

1. Each transaction now has a Senior Editor since March-April 2020, which is an AE with significant experience on and knowledge of how the journal operates.
2. The purpose is to allow the EIC to focus on important aspects of the regular peer-review process and decisions.
3. The candidate is appointed by the EIC vetted by the VP Pub.

4. The role includes working with PES Staff and the EIC on:
 - Developing relevant material and guidelines for authors, reviewers, and AEs.
 - Periodical webpage updates.
 - Bring relevant changes to the journal's Manuscript Central layout and options.
 - Helping the EIC in the award selection process.
 - Help organise webinars for the best-paper authors.

AE (Associate Editor) Selection and Training process:

1. The EICs receive applications directly or through PES office. Calls are announced in PES relevant forums and PG.
2. The EIC, as in all other IEEE journals, is accorded full freedom to select AEs based on the journal requirements and scope. Appointment of AEs is primarily done once or twice a year, but may also occur when required to address the journal needs.
3. Diversity (geographical, gender, and affiliation) is an important criterion in AE selection. As directed by the PES GB, AE requirements need to address diversity issues in the journal editorial boards, and PES journals now accept both research and application papers for review.
4. The VP Pub. sanctions the EIC recommendation for AEs, and the EIC appoints AEs for a half-year probation period.
5. Appointed AEs are required to complete an orientation and training programme ([link here](#)). After completing the training, they are required to complete and pass an assessment quiz to ensure that the training materials have been understood properly.
6. The assessment results are provided to the respective EICs, and based on the results and the performance thus far, EICs decide whether the probation period should end.
7. The term of appointment for AEs is two years, and can be renewed for two more terms maximum. No AE may continue beyond 6 years unless there are exceptional circumstances where replacement for a topic is not available.

Papers:

1. Papers are now classified at submission in three distinct categories: Research, Application, and Review, as indicated at Manuscript Central and explained at each journal home page.
2. Application papers from industry are now welcome to meet a PES GB directive to publish valuable industry experiences presenting challenging technical issues, developing/adopting new standards, applying new technologies, or solving complex problems with the potential for significant impact on industry practices in the coming years. These kinds of papers should be led by industry experts and/or have co-authors with industry affiliations, and are handled by AEs with industry background, with most reviewers being preferably industry experts.
3. The length of first submissions has been increased from 8 to 10 pages to give authors adequate space to better explain and highlight the paper proposed archival contributions.
4. Efforts have been made to launch a new transaction called IEEE Transactions on Energy Markets, Policy and Regulation. This transaction has received Phase I approval from IEEE. It is now in the Phase II approval process.

Recognitions:

1. Each journal home page lists outstanding reviewers annually.
2. Their names are displayed in the PES GM registration area.
3. They are recognised in publication forums at the PES GM.
4. Annual outstanding papers and AE recognition events are organised by the EIC with the help of the Senior AE.

Relevant links for more information on some of the improvements listed above can be found from the [PES publications website](#):

1. EIC appointments
2. Example call for associate editors
3. Editor training and certification
4. For update on the changes introduced by individual periodicals visit respective journal home pages linked to the PES publications website ([Link here](#))