

Review of editorial work for PEPS in 2018-2019 and new strategy for 2019-2020

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Progress in Earth and Planetary Science (PEPS) is a peer-reviewed, open-access electric journal published by the Japan Geoscience Union in partnership with Springer. PEPS received its first manuscript at the end of 2013 and we published our first papers in April 2014. By the end of the year 2018 we had published 244 scientific articles. In the first half of the year 2018 PEPS received good news. PEPS received its first Impact Factor of 2.481, which was announced in the June 2018 edition of Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports. PEPS currently ranks 66/189 in the category ‘Geosciences, Multidisciplinary’. Whilst this does not yet make us a Q1 journal we are close.

In addition to being funded by the JpGU, PEPS received a grant-in-aid for scientific research from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. As the period covered by this five year grant-in-aid drew to an end we applied for funds for the next five fiscal years (2018-2012). Unfortunately our application has been rejected. Due to this, we were forced to raise article processing charges (APC). Since its inception we have always planned for PEPS to become entirely supported by APCs and therefore completely self financing and we have done some analysis and planning towards this goal. Our analysis shows that the most important thing is that we all focus on maintaining and increasing PEPS’ status as one of the leading journals in our field because this is the surest way of increasing our APC income.

New strategy for 2019-2020 is in preparation and will be introduced in the JpGU meeting 2019.

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