

Management in Education – Report to members 2023

Paul Armstrong – Editor in Chief

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Introduction

As I begin my third year as Editor in Chief of *Management in Education (MiE)*, a role I assumed in February 2021, I would like to begin by extending my gratitude to the members of the editorial board and colleagues at Sage and the cadre of reviewers whose hard work, professionalism, expertise, and collegiality have helped to make my role much easier and contributed to another successful year for the journal.

The ‘headlines’ for *Management in Education (MiE)* this year are as follows:

- Accepted to Web of Science and indexed in the Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) Category Education & Educational Research – ESCI
- Received its first ever impact factor – 1.3

These are important milestones for the journal and provide indicators of its growing esteem and recognition within the wider scholarly and scientific community.

Table 1: Submissions by year 2018-2022

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total	143	115	244	192	120
Original	91	68	135	107	77
Accept	14	13	43	46	23
Reject	63	44	50	80	46
Accept Ratio	18%	23%	46%	37%	33%

As table one shows, our submission rate remains healthy, with 120 articles being submitted in 2022. Whilst the quality of articles remains high, we have been working on a more stringent filtering approach at editorial stage to ensure the manuscripts that are sent for review are within the scope of the journal. This has led to a further decrease in the accept ratio, from 37% in 2021 to 33% in 2022. *Management in Education* remains in the top 20 Education Administration journals on Google (currently number 18).

We continue to receive a healthy number of academic research articles, opinion pieces, reflective pieces, and book reviews. We have also developed a space on the *MiE* website to host the BELMAS RIG reports. This will allow us to showcase, in one place, the work of this growing number of research interests groups and the diverse range of research activity taking place within the BELMAS community. We will also continue to publish the RIG reports in journal. The Middle Leaders feature has been slower to gain traction. However, we have publicised/advertised this feature via social media and through the BELMAS Extra newsletter and have recently received some renewed interest with a submission currently pending in the system.

There a number of items to report to members regarding editorial board membership. Firstly, we have recruited a new Deputy Editor, Bee Hughes who takes over from Stephen Rayner following his decision to step down from the role earlier this year. Bee brings a wealth of knowledge of and experience in the

field of education management and leadership and has been a long-standing reviewer for the journal (having also published with us too). We also say goodbye to Gillian Allcroft and Joan Mowat, longstanding editorial board members who are also stepping down to pursue other interests. Livia Jesacher-Roessler joins the board and will bring an important European perspective to our strategic discussions. We look forward to working with Bee and Livia going forward. Additionally, Phil Wood has stepped down as Book Review Editor but will remain on the board. Phil is replaced by existing board member Carol Azumah Dennis in this role.

Both Livia and Bee join an editorial board that includes Maggie Preedy (Middle Leader Pieces), Micheal Jopling (Reflective Pieces), Ron Hill and Pamela Angelle (Opinion Pieces), Carol Azumah Dennis (Book Reviews) and Chris Oates (Interviews) alongside the other board members without specific sub-editorial responsibilities. Simply put, the journal would be neither functional nor purposeful without the hard work and diligence of these individuals who each give their time freely and willingly to support *MiE*. We remain very grateful for the professional insights and experience they (and the other members of the international advisory board) bring to the journal.

I should also like to take this opportunity to thank Stephen Rayner for his dedication to *MiE* during his tenure as Deputy Editor and, before that, Book Reviews Editor. Stephen has been a huge support for me during my first three years as Editor and his insights and knowledge will be greatly missed. He leaves the journal in a much stronger position than it was when he began. I would also like to thank Gillian and Joan for their important contributions to the board and wish all three colleagues well in their future endeavours.

Special Issues

At the time of writing, we have one special issue proposal under review. We also published a special issue on Governance and Governing in 2022. We were very happy with the response this issue which has opened (and continues to open) up new readership avenues within the education governance community.

Social Media

Our twitter feed continues to attract followers with an increase of nearly 200 to 1646 (see Figure 1) since the last report. The appointment of Paul Campbell as our Social Media Sub-Editor (in May 2021) has undoubtedly helped this increase in the number of followers, tweets and impressions and we are grateful for all the hard work Paul is doing to utilise Twitter as a forum to showcase and publicise *MiE* and the range of publications and publishing opportunities it offers/provides.

Figure 1: MiE Twitter profile



Our download rate (see Table 2) dropped slightly in 2022 but remains up on the years preceding 2021. The turnaround time for articles (Table 3) has sped up and, as submissions continue to increase, we are committed to keeping the review process as efficient as possible whilst ensuring the quality of submissions remains high.

Table 2: Downloads by year 2018-2022

Usage	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Full-text downloads	66,880	75,643	86,261	113,705	107,872

Table 3: Time to first and final decision by year 2018 - 2022

Review Speed	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Time to First Decision	44	45	40	49	41
Time to Final Decision	78	101	88	117	72

From myself, the Deputy Editor, the sub-editors and members of the advisory board, we thank BELMAS and their members for their continued support of the journal.