AUA Staff Liaison: Jennifer Regala

Chair: Nyame Yaw, MD

Terms of Office: Chair: 3 years (non-renewable)
                 Members: 3 years (renewable once)
                 Editors and Treasurer serve ex-officio

Committee Makeup

- The voting members consist of the Editors-in-Chief of AUA’s scholarly publications (AUANews, The Journal of Urology®, and Urology Practice) and six members who are experts in scholarly urologic publishing. The AUA Treasurer is a non-voting member.
- Chair is selected from the six members based on the recommendation of the current chair in consultation with AUA Publications Director.

Mission Statement

The Publications Committee promotes the highest standards of urological clinical care, research, education, ethics, and health policy through coordination of the impact, accessibility, business/revenue enhancement opportunities, and excellence across the AUA’s scholarly publications (AUAER Bylaws draft language pending approval Sept 2021).

Statement of Purpose

The Publications Committee acts in an advisory capacity to the Board of Directors on all non-editorial aspects of the AUA’s journals and AUANews, including recommendations about publishing innovations, threats, and opportunities. The Committee may be consulted about non-editorial budget requests. Members will be tasked with developing proactive recommendations to enhance the relevancy and revenue of the AUA’s scholarly publishing program. With the AUA Publishing Department staff, the Committee will conduct a biennial review of the non-editorial aspects of the scholarly publishing program to include a financial/business audit, competitive landscape review, and an analysis of the program’s strengths and weaknesses. While the selection of a Publisher is the purview of the Finance Committee and the Board, this Committee may be called on for their expertise to provide insights to the selection process. The Committee will also make recommendations to the Editorial Boards, Editors, and the Board of Directors on publishing policy and all ethical issues and concerns.

Committee Meetings

The Committee shall meet yearly at the AUA Annual Meeting and shall convene by video conference call at the discretion of the Committee Chair but no less than one additional time per year.
Time Commitment

Chair: 25 hours per year
Members: 12 hours per year

Qualifications/Responsibilities

Chair: The Chair facilitates the work of the committee as outlined in the statement of purpose. The Chair selects the six members based on recommendations put forth by staff after reviewing candidate applications. Qualifications for chair are as follows:

- Previous editor experience of a peer-reviewed medical journal
- Personal attributes associated with leader (credibility, integrity, judgment, ability to command respect, flexibility and adaptability, highly organized, decision-maker).
- Responsive by email with ability to organize and work in an effective and collaborative manner.

Members: Members of the Committee will identify ways to elevate the AUA’s publications program to the leadership position in urology and as a best-in-class program across scholarly publishing. Members will monitor progress of the publications in achieving specific impact, revenue, accessibility, and research goals as established by the Board of Directors. Members should have a thorough and extensive knowledge of the publications industry, Open Access, revenue trends and a financial understanding of scholarly publishing models, the peer review and editorial processes, and innovations in publishing. The six members cannot serve concurrently on the Editorial Boards of AUANews, The Journal of Urology®, or Urology Practice or sit on competing Publishing Committees.

Recent Accomplishments (2022)

- Created procedures for the Publications Committee to act as an Ethics Working Group, which handles ethics violations of our scholarly publications.
- Continued improvement of JU impact by strengthening Guidelines content timing of publication.
- Focused on DEI efforts for all publications, including representation and review from the perspective of health equity.
- Provided guidance on how to improve our online presence.