

EDITING FOR AN AUTHOR SERVICES COMPANY

Kurt Spurlock, ELS, Quality Manager, American Journal Experts
kurt.spurlock@aje.com



AUTHOR SERVICES COMPANIES

- **A growing marketplace 10+ years**
- **General purpose: to bridge the gap between non-native English speakers and the predominately English-language apparatus of scholarly publishing**
 - **Editing**
 - **Translation**
 - **Other manuscript services**
- **Pioneers and new frontiers**



A BASIC WORKFLOW



EDITING FOR A COMPANY

- **The Business**
- **The Editing**

Both entail different levels of commitment and investments of time compared with a solo operation.

BUSINESS

- **Clients and Marketing**
 - **One client with many authors**
 - **Service-level agreement**
- **Volume of Work**
 - **Editor preference**
 - **Paper availability**

BUSINESS, CONTINUED

- **Pay and Payment Processing**
 - **Total compensation**
 - **Consistency**
 - **Reliability**
- **Technology**
 - **Website**
 - **Workload system**

THE EDITING

- **Client Expectations**

- **Clearly stated by client (i.e., the company)**

- **Consistent from paper to paper, author to author**

- **Editing style and scope explicitly defined**



THE EDITING, CONTINUED

- **Quality Control**
 - **Editor's reputation with company important**
 - **Emphasis on quality and timeliness**
 - **Access to work based on company standards**

THE EDITING, CONTINUED

- **Learning (but not training)**
 - **The in-paper work**
 - **Guidelines**
 - **Finished product**
 - **Editing as a discipline**
 - **Other skills**
 - **Variety of papers**



IN THE LONG TERM

Work with an author services company can go in a lot of directions:

- **Continued supplemental work as a part-time pursuit**
- **Branching out on one's own as an editor—entrepreneur**
- **Work as an employee at one of these companies**
- **Other types of publishing-oriented work**
- **Stay in academia**
- **Some other industry**



QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

Kurt Spurlock, ELS, Quality Manager, American Journal Experts
kurt.spurlock@aje.com

Special thanks to Brandon Jernigan, Talent Operations Director, American Journal Experts
brandon.jernigan@aje.com

