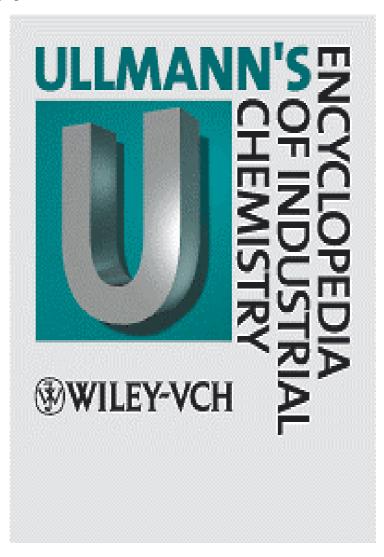
#### **Dr. Peter Gregory**

Editorial Director, Engineering/Materials Science Wiley-VCH, Weinheim

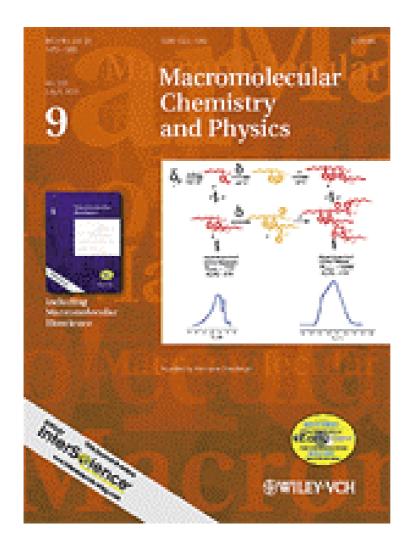
### Qualitätssicherungpeer-review-Verfahren

## What Have the Publishers Ever Done for Us?

- QualityControl/AddingValue
- ProductDevelopment
- Infrastructure Investment
- Partnering the Scientific Community



### Quality Control/ Adding Value



The Mechanisms of Peer Review

Who and What is Involved?

What Goes In Must Come Out?

What Happens Without QC?

### Peer-Review / QC Mechanisms

- Individual Academics/Industrialists as Editors
  Publishers as Producers/Distributors
  e.g. ACS Journals, APS Journals, Microporous and Mesoporous
  Materials
- Boards of Academics as Editors Additional Publishing Staff in Support e.g. Science, EurJOC, EurJIC

- Publisher's Staff as Editorse.g. Nature, Angew. Chem., Advanced Materials
- No Controls e.g. Pre-print servers, Ginsparg etc.

## Who and What is Involved in Peer Review?

- 80 papers/month: 30 published (37%), 20 rejected without review, 60 reviewed
- ca. 15% of rejected authors appeal, 90% of accepted manuscripts

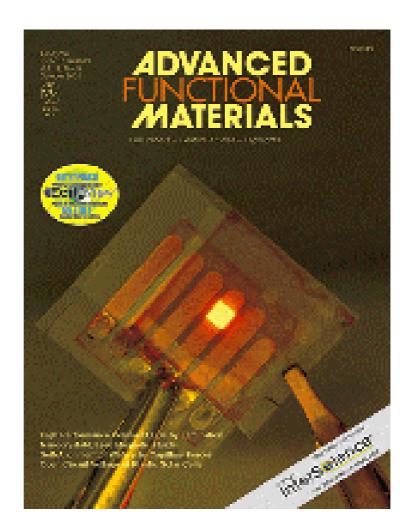
need revision

- 180 referees/ reports, ca. 600 emails, 150 letters, 400 faxes, 30 articles edited for language/content, author proofs, design, production
- 4 Editors (Ph. D.s), 10 Copy Editors, 2 Production Editors, Secretariat
- Angew. Chem. Int. is ca. 3 times the size
- In ca. 25% of cases the referees agree with each other



- Vested interests and "nepotism" have to be filtered out Relationship management
- Less constructive referee reports have to be edited or interpreted e.g.

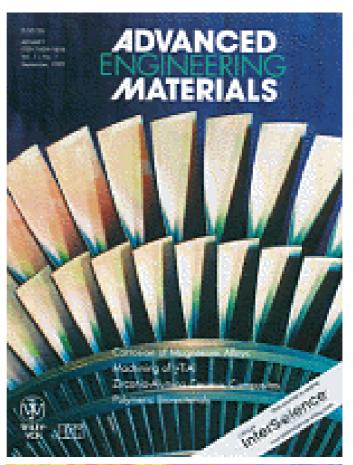
"This manuscript needs to be severely reduced, or totally oxidised"



"This manuscript fills a much-needed gap in the scientific literature"

### What Goes in Must Come Out?

- All manuscripts are edited for content (by scientists) and the language is polished (by native English speakers)
  - All figures are checked for content



- ADVANCED MATERIALS
- All figures are checked for content
- All literature citations are checked for completeness

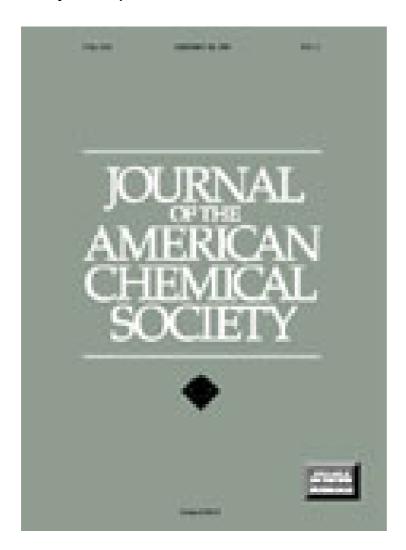
Articles (e.g. reviews or highlights) on hot topics are invited — editors follow the trends

# The Journal of Unpublished Chemistry

http://www.dur.ac.uk/l.j.oates/

## What Happens Without Peer Review?

The Journal of Unpublished Chemistry is a new international journal for the communication of chemistry which is innapropriate for submission to any other publication.



#### **Articles include:**

- Upon Cleaning Glassware: Chromic Acid or "Smash-it-and-binit?
- The Effects of Inert-Gas Balloon Colours Upon Reaction Yields
- Great Results: How to Achieve Them With Statistics

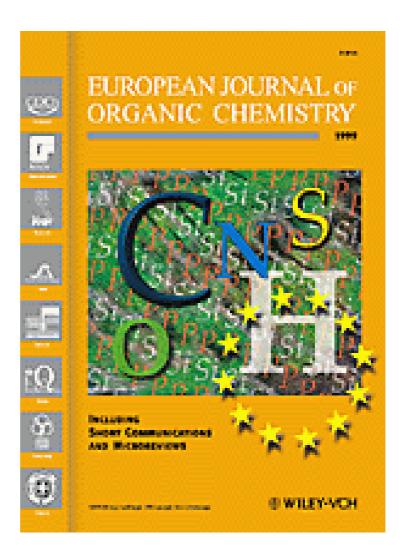
### The "Ginsparg" Pre-print Server

- 35,000 Submissions per year, 2 million visitors per week
- \$300,000 Running Costs p.a. + Hardware

"If someone from Caltech tried to submit a paper on perpetual motion, it would appear"

"This simply means that people who read the server have to be extra cautious about what to believe"

> Paul Ginsparg, Physics World, August 2001

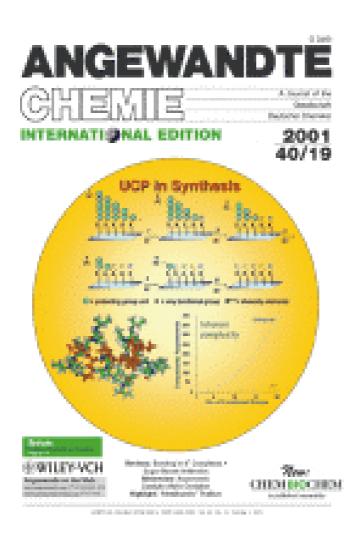


#### Infrastructure Investments

■ Editorial Offices: Wiley-VCH employs over 50 Ph.D. scientists in the journal editorial function in Weinheim



- Web platforms: the development of Wiley-Interscience has so far cost Wiley >US\$ 30 million (exl. content preparation)
- Wiley organises and supports over 400 editorial offices, worldwide
- Wiley-VCH prints and distributes over 120,000 pages in over 900 issues per year



# Physikalische Blätter

### Partnering the Scientific Community

Society journals: members, magazines, e.g.

- Physikalische Blätter (DPG)
- Nachrichten aus Chemie (GDCh)
- Chemie Ingenieur Technik (Dechema, VDI-GVC)
- Advanced Engineering Materials (DGM, SF2M)
- contribute to member services and the growth of the scientific societies
- Significant earnings for societies from publishing



■ Co-development of new journals, e.g. European journals of chemistry

### What Will Publishers Do For Us?

- Apply, monitor, and administer the peer-review and QC mechanisms
- Maximise dissemination of (correct) scientific results
- Remain major employers of scientists
- Continuously develop, modify, and improve information products for scientific communities (and fund this process)
- Work with scientific organisations to enhance their services

### What Will Change?

- Print distribution infrastructure will decrease in importance and value
- Publishers will have to increasingly add value to the products, rather than just "collect and distribute"
- Common data formats/publishing platforms will be required
- The number of special interest journals founded will decrease
- Smaller "niche" journals will be increasingly absorbed by larger, more general, ones