

Editorial

How International is IEJME?

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International Electronic Journal of Mathematics Education (IEJME) is an international journal that has been serving the mathematics education community for the last six years. We at times get a variety of feedback from our readers and authors. Some of these feedback are really positive which motivate us to do more in improving the quality of IEJME, whereas some of the criticism that we get are negative which are also helpful to keep us in the right path. This Editorial is about the kind of feedback and where it puts us in the international arena.

One of the latest criticisms was related to the title of this editorial: how international is IEJME? This critique was from a mathematics educator who submitted her work to IEJME and got rejection. Upon receiving her critique we asked ourselves the same question and started collecting data about the articles published in IEJME since its establishment. We have been receiving submissions from around the world for the last six years but to tell the truth we never questioned the origins of the authors who published in IEJME since we do not make our evaluations based on authors' origins. This critique gave us the opportunity to reflect on our practice for IEJME. We started thinking about our current Editorial Board: how international is our editorial board? We currently have 25 well-known scholars from 14 different countries from around the world as detailed in Table 1.

Table 1*Distribution of the Editorial Board members of IEJME*

Country in which the Editorial Board member currently works	Number of scholars per country serving in the Editorial Board
Austria, Israel, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Russia, Singapore, Turkey	1
China, South Africa, Spain	2
UK, USA	3
Australia	4

It seems from the above table that IEJME is quite international with respect to the variety of countries it includes in its Editorial Board.

We then checked the country of work/origin for the authors, whose work was published from 2006 until 2012, including this last issue. We have published 67 articles in 18 issues since the establishment of IEJME. Table 2 summarizes the distribution of authors and articles per country. Note that every tick given in the cells of Table 2 represents an article published and the number given within parenthesis next to that tick represents the number of authors who wrote that article. When the columns are checked, you will notice that some ticks have stars next to them (i.e., the column labeled as V3.N1 has 1 author from Botswana and 1 from Nigeria) which means that that article is written by authors from different countries. The same also applies to double star signs.

Table 2*Author-country distribution of published articles*

Country/Issue	V1.N1	V2.N1	V2.N2	V2.N3	V3.N1	V3.N2	V3.N3	V4.N1	V4.N2	V4.N3	V5.N1	V5.N2	V5.N3	V6.N1	V6.N2	V6.N3	V7.N1	V7.N2	Total	
Austria										(2)✓									2	
Australia		(1)✓		(2)✓				(2)✓		(2)✓	(1)✓*								6	
Botswana					(1)✓*														1	
Brazil				(1)✓*						(2)✓									3	
Canada	(3)✓				(2)✓			(3)✓						(2)✓					10	
Denmark			(1)✓							(2)✓					(1)✓				1	
Germany				(1)✓			(1)✓			(2)✓									5	
Greece											(2)✓								2	
Hungary								(1)✓		(1)✓									1	
Italy								(2)✓		(2)✓									2	
Japan																			1	
Malaysia	(2)✓						(1)✓	(1)✓											4	
Mexico										(1)✓*									1	
Netherlands														(1)✓*					1	
New Zealand	(1)✓																		2	
Nigeria								(1)✓											2	
Norway														(1)✓*					1	
South Africa																		(1)✓	1	
Spain	(3)✓		(3)✓	(1)✓; (2)✓				(2)✓; (1)✓											12	
Sweden																			1	
Taiwan (China)						(3)✓						(1)✓							5	
Thailand									(2)✓										3	
Turkey							(1)✓			(3)✓*				(1)✓	(4)✓				7	
UAE																			1	
UK			(1)✓	(1)✓*	(3)✓			(2)✓; (1)✓											18	
USA	(1)✓	(1)✓	(1)✓	(1)✓**;	(2)✓	(4)✓;	(1)✓	(1)✓	(1)✓;	(1)✓	(1)✓	(2)✓	(1)✓;	(2)✓	(1)✓	(2)✓	(3)✓;	(1)✓;	(1)✓	24

As can be seen from Table 2, we have published 18 issues since IEJME's establishment and 117 authors from 26 different countries from around the world get their work published in IEJME. The top five countries whose authors get published are: USA with 24 authors, UK with 18 authors, Spain with 12 authors, Canada with 10 authors and Australia with 6 authors. A reason for this difference between these five countries and the others is the two special issues we published since the special issues, by nature, are offered by author groups mostly from certain countries.

Is IEJME international enough? Table 2 suggests that everyone from different countries has been given the opportunity to make publication in IEJME. What about the other international journals which publish work in mathematics education research? Are there others who have such a variety in their authorships? The answers to these questions require more investigation and we leave them to others who are interested in such work. However, it is evident that IEJME has preserved its "international" character over the years and we will make sure that it stays this way in the future.

Recent News about IEJME

Unfortunately some of our editors are leaving us. We would like to thank our Founding Editor, Prof. Ziya Argün, for his invaluable service to IEJME. Prof. Argün was the one establishing IEJME (with Dr. Hakan Şandır from Gazi University) about six years ago and they did an excellent job in helping IEJME move forward and get its place in mathematics education research arena. Dr. Şandır, on the other hand, will continue serving IEJME as one of the associate editors. Unfortunately, one of our associate editors, Dr. Cengiz Alacacı, wanted to leave IEJME because of his new appointment in Turkish Ministry of Education and his heavy work schedule. We also thank him for his precious involvement in the Editorial Panel of IEJME.

Our new team for the Editorial Panel consists of Ismail O. Zembat (editor-in-chief), Erhan Bingolbali (associate editor), Hakan Şandır (associate editor) and Mehmet Fatih Ozmantar (associate editor). With this new team, we applied to be indexed in ERIC and our application will be evaluated and this process will be completed during 2013. We are also planning to apply for a well-known international indexing service, Education Index, which will be followed by our application to Social Science Citation Index (SSCI).

One more change about IEJME is the time intervals with which the issues are published. Currently IEJME is published three times a year, in February, July and October, respectively. Because of the heavy schedule of scholars during the Summer period, it is hard to complete the review process in a timely manner: therefore, we have decided to restructure publication period and change the issue dates to January, May and September. We believe this new schedule will better serve us during the review and publication process. With this new road map, we will continue to serve the mathematics education community with our new team to move IEJME into the top league of journals in mathematics education.