

Call for *Journal of Community Practice* Editor-in-Chief

Why be an Editor in Chief?

- Ability to shape the scholarly discourse and debate in the field
- Generate real-time editorials that respond to pressing issues in the field
- Mentor scholars in the field
- Interactions with scholars and practitioners across disciplines and across geographical boundaries/regions
- Respond to emerging research areas in the field

The Association of Community Organization and Social Action (ACOSA) is searching for a new editor or co-editors of the *Journal of Community Practice (JCP)* to begin in January 2022 following a three month overlap in 2021 with the current editorial team. The *Journal*, first published in 1994, is “designed to provide a forum for development of research, theory, practice and curriculum strategies for the full range of work with community groups, grassroots organizing, organizational and inter-organizational planning, collaboration, and coalition building.” This journal is published quarterly by Routledge/Taylor and Francis Group and is listed in numerous abstracts and indices including: Academic Search Complete, Academic Search Premier, Academic Source Premier, ASSIA: Applied Social Science Index and Abstracts, CAB International Abstracts, CINAHL Database, Family Index Database, MegaFile, Social Work Abstracts, SOCIndex, TOCPremier, Violence and Abuse Abstracts.

ACOSA seeks an editor or editors who have a demonstrated commitment to the range of macro theory, research and practice in social work and related disciplines (e.g. organizing, planning, administration, organizational development, community development, social change, policy practice); demonstrated experience in the field of macro practice; and experience with editorial functions or roles (e.g. use of online administrative tools, manuscript review, copyediting). Various editorial models, including co-editorships or cross-institutional collaborations will be considered. We are particularly interested in applicants who can enhance the multidisciplinary and/or international foci of the journal and help to bridge the gaps between research, theory, policy, and practice knowledge. This includes an appreciation of the value and support for the inclusion of original research manuscripts, “From the Field” manuscripts” from community practitioners and social service administrators, and manuscripts on Innovations in Community Research.

Primary Duties and Responsibilities

The editor’s specific responsibilities include:

- In partnership with the ACOSA Board, provide leadership to ensure the *Journal* is promoting the strategic goals of the organization and meeting the diverse interests of ACOSA members.
- Maintain and recruit a high-quality editorial board and, when appropriate, assist with the selection of editors for specific special topic themes including special issues related to the Social Work Grand Challenges.

- Maintain awareness of and collegial relationships with current editors of other macro practice journals including *Journal of Human Service Organizations* and *Journal of Policy Practice*.
- Maintain, recruit, and develop the *JCP* reviewer database and provide assessment and oversight of reviewers to ensure adequate and timely reviews.
- Participate in marketing outreach, publicize the importance of publication in *JCP*, and engage authors to submit top-quality manuscripts.
- Prepare editorials that are reflective of ACOSA goals and strategic directions and relevant to the issues in the field.
- Implement standard journal procedures that are sound, fair, and expedient, including identification, assignment, and evaluation of peer reviews.
- Provide timely feedback to authors that synthesize the comments of multiple reviewers with the goal of helping to bring promising manuscripts up to the high standards of *JCP*.
- Decide which submitted manuscripts are to be accepted for publication.
- Maintain efficient operations, including maintaining reasonable review times and publication deadlines.
- Prepare a yearly report for the ACOSA Board and appropriate committees, including a complete accounting of the budget (as part of the ACOSA financial report), number of submissions, acceptance rate, and other information as requested by the Board.
- Meet at least once per year, and more often if requested, with the ACOSA Board.
- Serve as a liaison to Routledge/Taylor and Francis Group, the *Journal* host.

The Editor-in-Chief of *JCP* holds an ex officio position on the ACOSA Board and is accountable to the ACOSA Board. The Editor-in-Chief works collaboratively with other ACOSA Committees. The typical term of office is three to five years that includes a transition period during which the outgoing editor(s) completes any outstanding manuscripts while new submissions are handled by the incoming editor(s). ACOSA provides no stipend or funding payment or honorarium for the editor(s); however, funding is available to continue the consultancy of the current managing editor at .5 FTE.

Routledge/Taylor & Francis Group provides online training for the Editor(s) and the ACOSA Chair. Routledge/Taylor & Francis will provide the Editor(s) with a ScholarOne training session to be conducted online or by phone as well as other technical assistance. ACOSA contracts with a managing editor for the *Journal* to oversee daily operations in support of the editor(s). This includes managing the process from initial submission to peer review to final disposition.

Application Procedures and Time Frame

Candidates interested in the position should prepare:

- A statement explaining his/her/their interest in the position.
- A vision statement for the *Journal* including how to increase the prestige and reputation of the *Journal* during their term.
- A summary of the qualifications of the applicant(s), e.g., ACOSA activities, prior editorial and/or publishing experience, and research and/or practice experience in one or more forms of macro practice.
- Description of the proposed editorial structure (e.g. single, collective or collaborative

possibilities) and delegation of duties as listed above if appropriate.

- Ideas for marketing the *Journal* to diverse constituents of ACOSA.
- Ideas for increasing submissions from practitioners and academics from diverse areas.
- Curriculum Vitae of all proposed editors.
- A statement of institutional support from appropriate administrator(s), e.g. Dean/Director. (Institutional support has generally meant, at a minimum, sponsoring institutional membership in ACOSA each year for the duration of editorship, but additional institutional support is appreciated as a consideration of institutional commitment.)

Applications should be submitted by **August 16, 2021**. The ACOSA Selection Committee will present a recommendation for the new editor(s) to the ACOSA Board at its August 23, 2021 meeting. The transition/orientation period with the outgoing editor team will begin no later than October 1, 2021. The new editor(s) will be announced at 2021 Council on Social Work Education – Annual Program Meeting (APM). The new editorship will begin January 2022 at the end of the current editorial team term to ensure timely submission of the first JCP issue for the next volume. Editor(s) must be sponsoring individual member(s) of ACOSA when serving as editor(s), and it is strongly suggested that editor's schools or affiliated organizations become institutional sponsoring members.

Please submit your application for the editorship by email (PDF attachment) to:
jcp@acosa.org.

Contact Tracy M. Soska, ACOSA Treasurer, tracy.soska@gmail.com for further information.