

Recently, there are an increasing number of open access journals that charge authors publishing fees. However, some of these journals are unscrupulous “predatory journals,” which should be avoided at all costs.

Please see the reverse of this leaflet for further details.



# BEWARE OF PREDATORY JOURNALS

Kyoto University Library Network

2019.11.6 (Wed)

Dear Dr. Kuline, I'm Jennifer Smith of Far-East-Asian Journal of Engineering. 18:35

Being impressed by your paper on power semiconductor devices last month, our Editorial Board kindly invites you to submit an article to our journal. We hope that you will consider it. 18:37

Read 20:11 Will consider it.

2019.11.11 (Mon)

Our journal has 7.42 ep-factor, so we believe that we can contribute to your academic career. 14:44

2019.11.19 (Tue)

How about this invitation? 9:23

We are very much looking forward to reading your article. 9:24

Read 10:32 I'll prepare the manuscript by the end of next month.

2019.12.18 (Wed)

Read 17:02 I have sent my manuscript from the online form.

We have received it. Thank you for submitting to our journal. 19:01

2019.12.20 (Fri)

We have reached a decision that your manuscript is accepted for publication. 15:41

Read 17:02 That was quick!

We are known for quick publishing. 17:55

Please transfer JPY 198,000.00 as an article processing charge to the bank account which I will send later. 17:57

Read 18:18 I haven't heard that APC is needed.

As our journal is open access, we ask for your understanding and cooperation. 18:31

2020.1.31 (Fri)

In light of your contribution to our journal, we'd like to ask you to serve as an Associate Editor. If you accept this, you can get a discount on APC for all of our journals. 9:21

Read 10:19 Thank you for inviting me. I am looking forward to working with you.

2020.2.10 (Mon)

Now we are planning to feature your research field in one of the issues by the end of this year. We know you have great personal connections and experience of chairing international conferences, so we sincerely ask you to become our Guest Editor. 19:44

Read 20:51 Understood. Thank you.

2020.3.23 (Mon)

If you could, we ask you to be an Editor-in-Chief of our journal from this April. Please consider it. 11:33

Read 11:45 I am beginning to think your requests are unusual. I've given a second thought and I want to resign as Associated Editor.

But you can't decline now. 12:54

Did you receive an invitation message from a publisher you never heard of? (The messages on the left is shown as an SNS.)  
Repeated solicitations of paper submissions are a common method of predatory journals. Some journals have artful ways to attract you.

Sometimes publishers misrepresent their value in your academic field using some evaluation index which is similar to impact factors (used by Clarivate Analytics).

Some journals say they have systems of rapid peer review.  
The time for peer review depends on the field. If an article is being accepted in an unnaturally short period of time, there may be a quality control problem with that journal.

## Honeyed words, various invitation

### The scenario of getting involved in predatory journal

They will contact researchers enthusiastically with soft-spoken and tantalizing messages. Beware of invitations like "It's now or never!"

"Predatory journals" frequently do not disclose enough information on their "Instructions for Authors" pages of their websites, or do not make their editorial structure clear.

You may be invited to accept a position on their editorial board or other positions. In the case of lesser known journals, you should be very careful about accepting such positions.

✂ This is a fictitious conversation.

Other features and negative effects of predatory journals are described in the leaflet "Is this journal legitimate?"  
URL: <https://www.kulib.kyoto-u.ac.jp/uploads/leaflet.cat.en.pdf>