



The Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers (IETE)

(Since 1953 in the Service of the Nation)

2, Institutional Area, Lodi Road,
New Delhi - 110 003

(SIRO Recognized by DSIR, Govt. of India)

EPABX : +91 (11) 45142153, 24649429, 9821801866

Whatsaap : +91-9315422728

E-Mail : sec.gen@iete.org

Website : <http://www.iete.org>

MINUTES OF THE 3rd (2022-23) MEETING OF THE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE HELD AT 1800 HOURS ON 03rd JULY 2023 THROUGH ZOOM

The following were present:-

Prof (Dr) K Jaya Sankar	Chairman
Prof (Dr) Baswaraj Gadgay	Co-Chairman
Dr D S Bormane	Member
Prof (Dr) A K Saini	Member
Dr Debasish De	Member
Prof Jyoti Singhai	Member
Prof Ranjan K Mallik	Dy Editor-in Chief IETEJR
Prof J K Mandal	Co-opted Member
Dr K N Sahu	Co-opted Member

Secretariat:

Gp Capt Sonpal Singh. (Retd)	Secretary General
Mrs Sandeep Kaur Mangat	Asstt Secy
Shri Sanjay Setia	Member Staff

The following member was unable to attend:

Shri Sunil	Member
------------	--------

ITEM-1 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2nd (2022-23) MEETING OF IETE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE HELD ON 16th MARCH 2023 AT 1900 HOURS THROUGH ZOOM.

1.1 It was reported that the minutes had been distributed and that no comments had been received. Members endorsed the Minutes with unanimity.

ITEM-2 ACTION POINTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING AND PROGRESS MADE

2.1 It was reported that several reminders were made to T&F after the two parties' initial online meeting on February 28, 2023. urging with them to speed up the

completion of the draft for the revised Publishing Agreement for 2024 to 2026. T&F has not yet provided a constructive response.

2.2 At a subsequent online meeting between T&F, Prof S K Koul EIC IETEJR & IETE on 19 June 2023, it was determined to retract the Supplement issue on "Federated Learning for Blockchain Systems and Industrial Internet of Things" due to objections from T&F's Ethics Committee. The minutes of the meeting are included in Annexure "A".

2.3 It was further informed that Prof Shibani K Koul, Editor-in-Chief, proposed the formation of an IETE Ethics Sub-Committee to examine "Supplement Issues" related issues in the future and share its findings with T&F in order to expedite such requests, which are typically excessively delayed and result in negative responses from the contributors.

2.4 The Committee deliberated on the issue of "Federated Learning for Blockchain Systems and Industrial Internet of Things" Supplement retraction. Instead of viewing the matter from T&F's perspective and retracting the entire issue, the Committee opined that the matter be discussed with the EIC and Deputy EICs and the potential consequences be brought to their attention. Thus, the Committee wished to solicit EIC's opinion regarding the retention of high-quality papers and then approach T&F with a request to reconsider the retraction issue. Annexure "B" contains an edited version of the discussion held during the meeting.

2.5 It was also stated that IETE acknowledges that a part of the delay in releasing the draft of the Main Publishing Contract with Co-Publisher Taylor & Francis for the period of January 2024 to December 2026 may be attributable to IETE's approval of rejecting the aforementioned supplement, "Federated Learning for Blockchain Systems and Industrial Internet of Things," and then adding the appropriate ethical clauses to all Supplement Agreements that the Guest Editors must sign and its obligatory requirement in the Main Publishing Agreement.

2.6 This is for the information & approval of the Governing Council.

ITEM-3 PUBLISHING SCHEDULE OF IETE PUBLICATIONS

3.1 The publishing status of IETE journals was shown is as under:-

Publication	--- Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
IETE Newsletter	Vol.25 no.1 (Jan-Apr'23) Already printed and digitally despatched	Vol.25 no.2 (May-Aug'23) Issue under compilation				
IETE Journal of Research	Vol 69(4) Apr'23 - Issue with 70 articles - Issue despatched	Vol 69(5) May'23 - Issue with 70 articles - IETE proof reading	Vol 69(6) June'23 - Issue with 70 articles - Editorial Revd	Vol 69(7) July'23 - Issue with 70 articles - Editorial awaited	Vol 69(8) Aug '23 - Issue with 70 articles - To go to EIC	Vol 69(9) Sept 23 - Issue with 70 articles

			- T&F typesetted - IETE proof reading		
IETE Technical Review	Vol 40(3) May-June '23 - Issue with 09 Articles - Printed and under dispatch			Vol 40(4) July-Aug '23- Issue with 09 Articles - Editorial Awaited	
IETE Journal of Education	Vol.64 (1) Jan-Jan'23 - Issue is with 08 Articles - under print - With T&F			Vol.64 (2) July July-Dec'23 - Under compilation	

3.2 This is for information of Governing Council.

ITEM-4 REVENUE GENERATED FROM THE SECTION

4.1 The revenue achieved so far this year, in comparison to previous years was informed as under:

REVENUE GENERATED IN THE PUBLICATION SECTION (till 22-06-2023)						
Particulars	2023 Amount (Rs) so far	2022 Amount (Rs) (Jan-Dec)	2021 Amount (Rs) (Jan-Dec)	2020 Amt (Rs) (Jan-Dec)	2019 Amt (Rs) (Jan-Dec)	
Subscription	43,59,517/- (as on 19 June 2023)	34,40,200/-	22,76,375/-	21,84,950/-	29,70,495/-	
Extra page charges (Jan-Dec)	25,79,058/- (as on 19 June 2023)	92,39,636/-	12,63,539/-	6,99,116/-	10,73,875/-	
Grant-in-Aid from SERB, DST (TR/JR)	4,00,000/- for TR (2022-23) Rcvd on 5-11-22 for the year 2023. 3,00,000/- for JR (2022-23) on 1 Feb 2023	6,00,000/- (for TR: 2021-22 & also for 2020-21) on 28 th Jan 2022 because TR fund was not released previous year. Rs 3,00,000/- for the JR (2021-22) on 1 Feb 22	2,00,000/- (for JR) (2(20-21))	4,00,000/- (for TR/JR)	4,00,000/- (for JR/TR)	
Royalty (Prof SC Datta Roy's Books) Total revenue from Books rcvd as on date (13 Mar 2023) CSSP : Initial Amt - 74,439.77 (2018) Royalty - 49,313.96		CSSP 8185.39 (royalty for 2021 Rcvd on 12-8-22)	CSSP 6,326.00 (Royalty for 2(20) Rcvd on 18-3-2021)	CSSP 16,877.57 (Royalty for 2019) Rcvd on 28-4-2020	CSSP 17,925.00-	Initial amt (2018) 74,439.77
SP: Initial Amt - 69,166.28 (2019)		SP 4031.61 (Royalty for 2021)	SP 9,441.06 (Royalty for 2020)	SP 15,743.75 (Royalty for	SP 69,166.28 (Initial amount)	

Royalty - 29,216.42 Rs2,22,136.86/-		Revd on 12-8-22)	Revd on 18-3-2021	2019 Revd on 28-1-2020)	in 2019)
Royalty(NBT, Robot & (Robotics)		35,770/- on 20 July 2022	39,088/- (2/3 given to author)	53,205/- (2/3 given to author)	18,157/-
Royalty on IETE Publications from T&F for previous year	5,15,798	4,35,429/- (Revd on 25 th Feb 2022)	4,28,386/- (Revd on 12 th Feb 2021)	3,65,444/- (Revd on 2 nd Mar 2020)	4,57,289/-
Editorial Fundrevd from T&F ² for the year mentioned above	3,98,347.08revd on 31 Jan 2023	3,64,000.77 (Revd on 25 th Jan 2022	3,56,495/-	3,48,250/-	2,13,995/-
Advertisement	41,600 on 22 June 23	30,500/- (2 ads in JR)	10,500/-	63,000/-	
Total Revenue received	85,94,320	1,44,57,752.77/-	45,90,150.06	41,46,586.32	52,20,902.28

4.2 This is for information of Governing Council.

ITEM-5 EXPENSES INCURRED IN THE SECTION

5.1 The expenditure incurred so far this year, in comparison to previous years was informed as under:

S. NO.	Consolidated Cost incurred for IETE JR/TR/IE/News Letter	2023in Rs (as on 30.5.23 JR- 12 TR-6 JE-2 NL-3	2022in Rs (Jan-Dec)JR- 12 TR-6 JE-2 NL-3	2021in Rs (Jan-Dec)JR- 6 TR-6 JE-2 NL-3
1	Printing Cost IETE JR	14,04,330 (1,2,3,4)		
2	Printing Cost IETE TR	2,92,715(1,2,3)		
3	Printing Cost IETE JE	Yet to come	4072650	10,09,807
4	Printing Cost IETE NL	16,445(1)		
5	Envelopes cost (JR, TR & JE) @Rs 33 incl GST)	33,040 (1000 envelopes)	1,30,407	
6	Postal Charges for dispatched issues of TR/TR/IE as on 19-06-2023	1,28,438	3,98,150	1,37,789
7	Annual Fee to T&F for previous year	8,22,200 (dollar rates increased)	7,25,000	7,41,214
8	Supplement issues		2800309	
9	Honorarium (JE Authors)		7000	3000
	TOTAL EXPENSES	26,97,168	81,33,516	18,93,810

5.2 This is for information of Governing Council.

ITEM-6 STATUS OF EDITORIAL BOARD OF IETE JOURNAL OF RESEARCH

6.1 Following the prior addition of 11 new members, it was reported that the EIC & Dy EIC's IETEJR have added the following 11 new members:

- a) Dr. Ankesh Jain, IIT, N Delhi
- b) Dr. Sandeep Joshi, BITS, Pilani
- c) Dr. Anuj Grover, IIT, New Delhi
- d) Dr. Gajendranath Chaudhury, IIT, Hyderabad
- e) Dr. Nagarjuna Nallam, IIT, Guwahati
- f) Dr. Sanjeevi Kumar Padmanabhan, University of South Eastern Norway
- g) Dr. Yogendra Arya, JC Bose University of Science & Technology, Faridabad
- h) Dr. Sudarshan Nelatury, USA
- i) Dr. Mrinal Bachute, SIT, Pune
- j) Dr. Chandra Sekhar Paidimarry, Osmania University, Hyderabad
- k) Dr. Anshul Varshney, NPL, Delhi.

6.2 With the addition of new Editors, the Editorial Board of *IETE Journal of Research* currently consists of **73 Editors** (including EIC and 2 Dy EICs).

6.3 This is for information of the Governing Council.

ITEM-7 STATUS OF EDITORIAL BOARD OF IETE JOURNAL OF EDUCATION

7.1 The Committee was informed that Prof. Raj Senani, EIC IETEJE, further added the following 4 experts to the original group of 26 experts:-

- a) Prof. Lipo Wang, School of Electrical & Electronic Engineering, Singapore
- b) Prof Krishna Murali, Anna Univ, Chennai
- c) Prof Ravindra Kumar Sharma, NSUT, East Campus Delhi
- d) Prof Audithan Sivaraman, NSUT, West Campus, Delhi

7.2 With the addition of new Editors, the Editorial Board of *IETE Journal of Education* currently consists of **31 Editors** (including EIC).

7.3 This is for information of the Governing Council.

ITEM 8 GRANT-IN-AID FROM SERB (DST) FOR YEAR 2023-24

8.1 The Committee was apprised that the proposals for seeking Grant-in-Aid from Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), Department of Science and Technology) were ready to be submitted for the year 2023-24. And as is customary, IETE publishes a notification of this DST grant-in-aid support in both journals in accordance with the rules for DST funding distribution.

8.2 Before submitting the IETE Proposals for financial support, the Committee advised obtaining the correct information from the SERB office regarding any modifications.

8.3 This is for the information of the Governing Council.

ITEM-9 STATUS OF RNI RENEWAL CERTIFICATES FOR IETE PUBLICATIONS

9.1 The Committee was informed that the long-awaited RNI Renewal Certificate for the IETE Journal of Research, was received. With this, IETE now have RNI credentials with Lt. Col. Dipanker Sen's name on them.

9.2 The forms will be filled again for necessary changes.

9.3 To prevent having to regularly submit renewal requests for such credentials, the Committee demanded a long-lasting and secure solution. However, it was stated that the procedure being used is compliant with the RNI Mandate.

9.4 This is for information of the Governing Council.

ITEM-10 STATUS OF SPECIAL /SUPPLEMENT ISSUES (SI) IN IETE JR

10.1 It was reported to the Committee that the IETE Journal of Research Supplement Issues have been receiving extremely excellent feedback in recent months. In accordance with the agreement reached with T&F on February 28, 2023, the EIC and his team of Dy-EICs will first review any Supplement Issue proposal that is willing to pay an APC (Article Processing Charges of \$1,500 per accepted article) for its open access issues before sending it to T&F for further verifications; if approved, T&F will then make an agreement for Supplement Issue to be signed by all Guest editors.

10.2 The current status of various Supplement Issues in IETE JR were reported as follows:-

Supplement Issues	Status	Remarks
➤ AN OLD SUPPLEMENT ISSUE		
Machine learning for Energy Efficient Electronic Circuits and Computing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- SI ready with 16 accepted articles.- Revenue collected- Rs 15,73,854/-- 50% yet to be shared with T&F	Awaiting final compilation & release
➤ FRESH SI PROPOSALS THAT HAVE RECEIVED CLEARANCE BY IETE & T&F ARE:-		
(i) Human Behaviour Analysis Using Fuzzy Neural Networks by Dr MM Kimruzzaman, Saudi Arabia	SI Agreement awaited	Proposers are ready for APC OA SIs

(ii) Explainable Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning assisted Blockchain Computing: Concepts, Advancements and Future Perspectives by Dr Amandeep Kaur, Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Dept of CSE, Chandigarh University, Mohali	SI Agreement awaited	
(iii) Cognitive Communication Networking Technologies for Mobile Multimedia Systems by Dr Khalid Haseeb, Islamia College, Peshawar, Pakistan	SI Agreement awaited	
(iv) Adaptive Role of Intelligent Control Systems for Autonomous Vehicles by Dr Bala Anand Muthu, Tagore Institute of Engineering and Technology, Salem	SI Agreement awaited	
(v) Artificial Intelligence Techniques for green IOT by Dr Prakash Ishwat, Boston University, Boston, USA	SI Agreement awaited	
➤ CLEARANCE AWAITED FROM T & F		
(i) Explainable AI(XAI)-Applications, Challenges and Future Aspects with Human Interpretable Explanations by Dr Parikshit N Mahalle, Vishwakarma Institute of Information Technology	Recd EIC Clearance but waiting T&F's signal	Proposers are ready for APC OA SIS
(ii) The Convergence of Embedded Systems and Software-Related Microarchitectural Aspects by Dr. Jian Su Assistant Professor, School of Computer Science, Nanjing University of Information Science and Technology, Nanjing, Jiangsu, China		
➤ PROPOSALS REJECTED BY EIC'S FOR VARIOUS REASONS		
(i) Big Data Analytics and Intelligent Techniques for Business Management Systems by Ahmad Farouk		
(ii) AI-Driven Solutions for Next -Generation Networks by Ahmad Farouk		
(iii) The Convergence of Encryption and Decryption Algorithms for Security in WSN by Dr. S B Goyal		
(iv) Beyond Conventional Optimization A Comprehensive Review of Evolutionary Nature Inspired and Swarm Intelligence Based Techniques. Dr Parikshit Narendra Mahalle: Proposal for iJTE, Technical Review		
(v) Data Science for Emerging Digital Era by Dr. Olufunke Rebecca Vincent Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Ogun State, Nigeria		
(vi) Data Mining Tools and Techniques on Big Data Challenges and Advance. by Dr. Toqir Ahmad Rana, Associate Professor University of Lahore, Pakistan		
(vii) New Frontiers In Sentiment Analysis And Opinion Mining For E-Commerce Applications. by Dr. Toqir Ahmad Rana, Associate Professor Department of Computer Science and Information Technology, The University of Lahore, Pakistan		
(viii) State-of-The-Art Stochastic Modeling and Control Theory by Dr Waqas Nazeem, Assistant Professor, Dept of Mathematics, Govt College University, Lahore, Pakistan.		
➤ PROPOSALS IN PIPELINE		

(i)	Advancements in the Management of Resources for Ad-Hoc, Wireless, and Mobile Networks by Dr. Peiyang Zhang, China University of Petroleum (East China), Qingdao, China	Pending with EIC'S	Proposers are ready for APC OA Sls
(ii)	Special Issue Proposal on Cognitive-Inspired Multimedia Information Processing for Predicting Consumer Trend in E-commerce," by Dr Suhan Ahmad		
➤ PROPOSALS DISMISSED FOR NOT ACCEPTING APC CHARGES			
(i) Special Issue Proposal "Empowering Smart Cities with Social Sensing Technologies by Dr. Hari Mohan Rai, Ph.D. (MGE), Assistant Professor, School of Soft Computing, Gachon University, South Korea,			
(ii) Special Issue Proposal "Evolutionary Computation for Optimizing Aggregation Methods in Decision-Making Systems" by Dr. Kavikumar Jacob, Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Faculty of Applied Sciences and Technology, Universiti Tun Hussein Onn, Malaysia (Batu Pahat, 86400, Johor, Malaysia			
(iii) Special Issue Proposal "High-Performance Computing For Climate Informatics" by Dr. Muhammad Abtazly, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Computers and Information, South Valley University, Qena 83523, Egypt			
(iv) Special Issue Proposal "Implications of Artificial Intelligence for Efficient Decision Making in Future Digital Era" by Dr. Qahtan M. Yas, Department of Electronic Computer, University of Diyala, Baqubah, Iraq.			
(v) Special Issue Proposal on "Intelligent Information Systems for Data Management, Processes, Applications in E-commerce Environments" by Dr. Adeleh Asemi Zavareh, Department of Software Engineering, Faculty of Computer Science and Information Technology, Universiti Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia			
(vi) Special issue proposal "Deep Learning Algorithms for Multi-Camera Multi-Person Re-Identification" by Dr. Afireza Sharifi, Associate Professor, Department of Surveying Engineering, Faculty of Civil Engineering, Shahid Rajaei Teacher Training University, Tehran, Iran			

10.3 For information of the Governing Council.

ITEM 11 SPECIAL ISSUE ON "IoT SENSOR NETWORKS AND BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY FOR SMART CITIES AND SOCIETIES"

11.1 The Members were told that the ten (10) accepted articles from AIC 2021 on the topic of **IoT Sensor Networks and Blockchain Technology for Smart Cities and Societies**, under the supervision of Guest Editor Prof. J.K Mandal, will now be assigned to the Oct issue of 2023, where they will be combined with 60 (sixty) other accepted articles to form a hybrid journal.

11.2 Prof. J. K. Mandal will be contacted by the section to compose the Guest Editorial for a portion of the ten-article issue. The Editorial for the remaining sixty articles will be requested from Prof. Arun Kumar, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of IETETJ.

11.3 This is for the information of the Governing Council.

ITEM 12 REGULAR ISSUE REQUEST ON PAPERS FROM IICI 2023, BAGALORE ON "AI & ML DRIVING 5G-ADVANCED AND 6G"

12.1 It was made aware that Shri Puneet Mishra, Vice Chairman, IETE Bangalore Centre and TPPC Chair of the event, will be contacted to provide an update on the task of selecting papers presented at IICI 2023 on AI & ML Driving 5G-Advanced and 6G.

12.2 This is for the information of the Governing Council.

ITEM 13 PRINTING CONTRACT OF M/S DOLPHIN PRINTO GRAPHICS

13.1 The Committee members were made aware that as per the approval of the Governing Council in Dec 2022 meeting, the printing contract of M/s Dolphin Printo Graphics was to be extended for next two years i.e. from 01 July 2023 to 30 June 2025.

13.2 The work order was issued to M/s Dolphin Printo Graphics on 5 June 2023, after the previous G C Meeting Minutes held in Imphal were made official.

13.3 This is for the information of the Governing Council.

ITEM-14 UNDER ANY OTHER POINT

14.1 With the Chair's approval, the self-plagiarism case in the IETE Journal of Research was taken up.

14.2 The Committee was informed about an instance of self-plagiarism involving Prof. I. N. Kar, an IIT Delhi faculty member. A 2007 article titled "Nonlinear system identification using neural networks" by S. Purwar, I. N. Kar, and A. N. Jha appeared in the *IETE Journal of Research*, Vol. 53, no. 1, in January-February 2007, Issue of IETEJR...[P1], whose contents were discovered to be almost 90% similar with that of the other research published in another journal, namely, "On-line system identification of complex systems using Chebyshev neural networks," in *Applied Soft Computing*, vol. 7, pp. 364-372, 2007.... [P2]

14.3 An email from Elsevier's Casey GUO, managing editor of the journal *Applied Soft Computing*, requested the full text of the article "Nonlinear system identification neural networks," IETEJR, Volume 53, No.1, in order to further investigate the complaint received by Dr Mario Koeppler, the EIC of this journal.

14.4 Prof Koul requested IETE to provide complete information, but because the paper was published in IETEJR in 2007 and was being handled by Medknow at the time, IETE was unable to obtain complete information like when was this paper submitted or accepted by IETE. Even after writing to Medknow (Wolters Kluwer –MedknowWolters Kluwer India Pvt. Ltd.), IETE did not receive a favourable reply.

14.5 T&F's investigation team on IETE's request produced a comprehensive report, which indicated a high similarity index.

14.6 Professor Koul determined that the paper should be retracted and that the chair of the publication committee should bring this case of plagiarism to the attention of Heads of the institution of the authors.

14.7 The Publication Chair informed the Director of IIT Delhi (Prof Rangan Banerjee) and the Director of MNNIT, Allahabad (Prof Rama Shanker Verma) about the facts of self-plagiarism and requested that appropriate action be taken.

14.8 The article, "Nonlinear system identification using neural networks," published in the IETE Journal of Research, vol. 53, no. 1, pp. 35-42, January-February 2007, has been requested to be retracted by T&F.

14.9 This is for information & approval of Governing Council.

ITEM-15 The meeting concluded with thanks to the Chair..

Ref: IETE/I-266/3rd (2022-23)/PUBS

Date: 11 July 2023

Gp Capt Sonpal Singh. (Retd)
Secretary General

Distribution:

Chairman and Members of the Publications Committee
President and Members of the Governing Council



Regarding discussions held on 19th June 2023 with T&F for Dr Gaurav Dhiman's Supp Issue

1 message

MG EDITOR <mgeditor.iete@gmail.com>

Fri, Jun 23, 2023 at 2:20 PM

To: Jayasankar Kottareddy <kottareddyjs@gmail.com>, Dr Baswaraj Gadgay <b_gadgay@rediffmail.com>

Cc: secretary general IETE <sec.gen.iete@gmail.com>, 1 Prof Shiban Kishen Koul <shiban_koul@hotmail.com>, Alexa Flood <Alexa.Flood@taylorandfrancis.com>

Aldonita Gibson@taylorandfrancis.com

Bcc: Prof Dr V Gunasekhar Reddy <gelered@gmail.com>, Shri Sunil <sunil.dd@gmail.com>

Dear Prof Jayasankar and Prof Gadgay,

I'm writing in regards to the outcome of the online meeting we had with T&F on June 19, 2023, which was also attended by the Secretary General and Prof Shiban K Koul, EIC of IETEJR.

The information below relates to Supplement Issue, "Federated Learning for Blockchain Systems and Industrial Internet of Things," and includes the following details -

Deadline for submission (31 December 2021), extended until (31 Jan 2022)

Final closure (15 May 2022)

Tentative Publication Date : Q4, 2022.

Total articles submitted in the Issue- 51

Accepted- 36

Rejected-6

Removed (as authors were not interested in the issue)- 8

Author(s) not wanted to pay was- 1

The total revenue collected from accepted papers was Rs 40,26,764/- (\$1,500 USD APC fees/accepted article), which was to be split equally between IETE and T&F

On 19th July 2022, IETE received a complaint from Maninderjeet Kaur, alleging unethical publication practises on the part of the Issue's authors and requesting a thorough investigation of the Guest Editor's role. After speaking with the EIC IETEJR, IETE brought this issue to T&F's notice on July 28, 2022, so that their Ethics team may assess the complaint and look into the situation.

At an overdue T&F meeting on February 28, 2023, it was decided that the following papers would be taken down and the writers' money would be returned. This is what was discussed at the April 2023 meeting of the IETE Publication Committee,

1	TIJR-2021-2552	Securing diagnosed Parkinson's disease data by blockchain technology using 2E2C algorithm	accepted	117000
2	TIJR-2021-2578.R2	Internet of Thing Based Koch Fractal Curve Fractal Antennas for Wireless Applications	accepted	117000
3	TIJR-2021-2560.R1	Privacy for Healthcare Data Using the Byzantine Consensus Method	accepted	110180
4	TIJR-2022-0116	Mitigating the Coexistence Technique in Wireless Body Area Networks by Using Superframe Interleaving	accepted	111424
			TOTAL	4,55,604/-

However, this was placed on hold when the Minutes of T&F's meeting (February 28, 2023) stated, "T&F appreciates the steps taken so far regarding Dr. Gaurav Dhiman's special issue." Nonetheless, the Ethics Team has not yet completed its investigation into the matter."

T&F has scheduled an online meeting for June 19, 2023, with IETE to discuss the final investigation report.

During the meeting, it was disclosed that the COPE Committee of T&F thoroughly reviewed and investigated the complaint lodged by the complainant. Due to the sensitivity of the issue, it was not possible to share the details via email; therefore, they preferred to clarify it in person.

The recommendations were as follows:-

- 1- In order to substantiate the expression of concern, T&F's COPE committee conducted a lengthy investigation, which concluded that instead of four articles, the entire Supplement Issue would be retracted.
2. During their investigation, they discovered that the peer evaluations for the majority of the articles in the issue were fabricated and that the same reviewers were used.
3. Following unjustified citations, the guest editors' standing was elevated.
4. There has been deliberate research misconduct, which could negatively impact the journal's reputation.
5. Retraction is typically the last resort for papers that have been published but are considered unreliable and cannot be corrected.
6. It is preferable to withdraw the Issue rather than engage in litigation from any authors.
7. T&F will help IETE in drafting the correct letters to go to authors with the notice of retraction.

Professor S K Koul, Editor-in-Chief of IETEJR, was also of the opinion that money should be returned to the authors, the issue should be retracted, and IETE Journal should suffer no negative repercussions; henceforth, all IETE Supplement Issue proposals will first be vetted by EIC's + Ethical Committee (which will be formed shortly) and then verified by T&F's ethical team members for maintaining the integrity of journals.

This is for the information of all.

@ Dear Aldonita,

You are requested to add or remove any points from the recommendations based on the discussions held on 19 June 2023, and to inform the members about the process and how soon you intend to proceed.

Thanks and regards
sandeep kaur

(Mrs Sandeep Kaur Mangat)
Assistant Secretary
(Awards & Publications)
IETE, 2 Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003

Institution of Electronics and
Telecommunication Engineerings (IETE) Journals

co-published by Taylor & Francis



(Mrs Sandeep Kaur Mangat)
Assistant Secretary
(Awards & Publications)
IETE, 2 Institutional Area, Lodi Road, New Delhi-110003

Institution of Electronics and
Telecommunication Engineerings (IETE) Journals

co-published by Taylor & Francis



Information Classification: General

MG EDITOR <mgeditor.iete@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 29, 2023 at 9:51 AM

To: "Gibson, Aldonita" <Aldonita.Gibson@taylorandfrancis.com>

Cc: Jayasankar Kottareddy <kottareddyjs@gmail.com>, Dr Baswaraj Gadgay <b_gadgay@rediffmail.com>, secretary general IETE <sec.gen.iete@gmail.com>, 1 Prof Shibhan Kishen Kouf <shiban_kouf@hotmail.com>, "Flood, Alexa" <Alexa.Flood@taylorandfrancis.com>

Dear Aldonita,

Thank you for responding to my email and revising the required parts. Appreciate it.

We will not share this information with parties outside of IETE who have no need to know it.

Also, thank you for the update; we look forward to obtaining the exact informational communication to send to authors about the retraction.

Thanks,

Sandeep

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]



MG EDITOR <mgeditor.iete@gmail.com>

CONFIDENTIAL: Regarding discussions held on 19th June 2023 with T&F for Dr Gaurav Dhiman's Supp Issue

2 messages

Gibson, Aldonita <Aldonita.Gibson@taylorandfrancis.com>

Wed, Jun 28, 2023 at 7:11 PM

To: MG EDITOR <mgeditor.iete@gmail.com>, Jayasankar Kottareddy <kottareddyjs@gmail.com>, Dr Baswaraj Gadgay <b.gadgay@rediffmail.com>

Cc: secretary general IETE <sec.gen.iete@gmail.com>, 1 Prof Shibban Kishen Koul <shiban_koul@hotmail.com>, "Flood, Alexa" <Alexa.Flood@taylorandfrancis.com>

Dear Sandeep,

We appreciate your summary of the key points of the allegations of misconduct concerning the SI entitled Federated Learning for Blockchain Systems and Industrial Internet of Things. Please note that the details discussed during the June 19th meeting are highly sensitive, and we ask if you could please be sure not to share any of the details with the Guest Editor of the SI or anyone outside of IETE who does not need to know this information.

We do have 2 amendments to make to points #4 and #6 in your e-mail below:

4. T&F is under the impression there has been deliberate research misconduct, which could negatively impact the journal's reputation.

6. It is preferable to retract the Special Issue on the grounds of peer review misconduct rather than comment on the content of individual articles.

As mentioned in my previous e-mail, the Ethics Team is working to prepare communication for us to send out to authors regarding the forthcoming retraction of the SI. I will be sure to let you know once this communication has been finalized and we are ready to contact the concerned authors.

Regards,

Nita

Aldonita Gibson

Portfolio Manager - Electrical & Electronics Engineering

Taylor & Francis Group

530 Walnut Street, Suite 850, Philadelphia, PA 19106

Tel: 1-212-600-3607

e-mail: aldonita.gibson@taylorandfrancis.com

From: MG EDITOR <mgeditor.iete@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, June 23, 2023 4:50 AM

To: Jayasankar Kottareddy <kottareddyjs@gmail.com>, Dr Baswaraj Gadgay <b.gadgay@rediffmail.com>

Cc: secretary general IETE <sec.gen.iete@gmail.com>, 1 Prof Shibban Kishen Koul <shiban_koul@hotmail.com>, Flood, Alexa <Alexa.Flood@taylorandfrancis.com>

Gibson, Aldonita <Aldonita.Gibson@taylorandfrancis.com>

Subject: Regarding discussions held on 19th June 2023 with T&F for Dr Gaurav Dhiman's Supp Issue

Dear Prof Jayasankar and Prof Gadgay,

I'm writing in regards to the outcome of the online meeting we had with T&F on June 19, 2023, which was also attended by the Secretary General and Prof. Shibban K. Koul, EIC of IETEJR.

The information below relates to Supplement Issue, "Federated Learning for Blockchain Systems and Industrial Internet of Things," and includes the following details:-

Deadline for submission (31 December 2021), extended until (31 Jan 2022)

Final closure (15 May 2022)

Tentative Publication Date : Q4, 2022.

Committee's discussion on "*Retraction of the Supplement Issue (SI) entitled "Federated Learning from Block chain Systems and Industrial Internet of Things"* on July 03, 2023

The following points were discussed:-

DD- There will be significant losses if the entire Issue is retracted.

RKM -Needed to know how many papers were in the SI and what percentage of them had issues. It makes reasonable to retract if 90% of them are having problems. However, he believed that even while not every author was at fault, they would all be held accountable anyhow. He referred to this as "collateral damage," albeit it is perfectly legally acceptable.

JKM-It is necessary to punish (blacklist) Guest Editors.

It was told that before proceeding, the Letter Template to Authors will be shared with committee members.

DD-It's unfortunate that they want to pull the entire issue. The name and reputation can go. That could end up in the news.

It was informed that that is why a new policy is formulated, or how the EICs, then the T&F, and finally the Guest Editors, sign the contract.

JS-How are reviewers appointed?

It was made clear that Guest Editors are responsible for selecting SI reviewers.

JS- The Guest Editors of SI's, not IETE, should be held accountable.

It was answered that the Guest Editors are being penalized, and they'll have to face the authors.

JS-Who appoints Guest Editors?

It was clarified that EIC's accept the proposal and Guest Editors get finalized, who are themselves the proposers.

JS- Then the flaw comes from the time when proposal is accepted. The base key is that IETE is not accepting the proposal without knowing the genuine attention of the person who can devote the time and then the story begins.

Wanted the element of punishment to be included in this procedure. According to her, retraction is the penalty for an author not for the Chief Editors. Our credibility is at risk.

It was told that because of this, the entire issue is being retracted.

Chair- Restated the entire sequence of steps involved in the SI. The status of Papers, revenue generated, and how the papers were scrutinised, were only published following the peer review. Due to the fact that this is the first time this has occurred, we may have made a mistake in scrutinising the guest editors.

JS-Sometimes accidents occur, and we learn from them. I acknowledge that editors/IETE will incur a financial loss, but I request that the accountable author, reviewer, or guest editor be punished. They ought to be on a blacklist.

Chair-Unfortunately, no agreement existed at the time, but from now on, each SI will have a separate agreement prepared by T&F's, and we will accept commitments from guest editors of all SIs. This was a valuable experience.

JS-However, there is a copyright form stating that this paper has not been submitted elsewhere; as a result of this violation, we are suffering.

Chair-Violations have been committed by guest editors.

JS - Including authors.

Chair- As a result of laxity on the part of guest editors, it was possible for authors to plagiarise, and it was not filtered at earlier stages.

JS-Authors have mislead and submitted a copyright form; consequently, they should be punished, and questionable authors should be barred from all T&F publications.

Chair- Given an example of one of the current Governing Council Members who indulged in intentional misconduct but no action was taken or initiated by IETE in the past. However, this is the first case of its kind, and IETE is aiming to include new clauses to prevent future occurrences. In the agreement, all parties and prospective risks will be examined/ traced. Therefore, we must include the punishment clause. Point is well taken.

JS-No one else will risk making the same error because of the penalty provision.

Chair- We'll discuss this at the next council meeting to get their input on these kinds of situations. Such actions have a negative impact on institutions. This SI Issue is an inadvertent mistake.

Then, it was made clear that there was no issue with plagiarism.

JKM- The misconduct occurred after the approval. Once approval has been granted, the issue becomes the responsibility of the guest editors; it is impossible to put the blame to the person who gave approval.

AK- Retraction of an entire issue will have severe consequences for many authors.

Chair: Guest editors are at fault.

AK- T&F's investigation was extensive, and a number of advantages and benefits were granted to a number of authors based on their paper publications, which could cause problems for IETE in addition to harming its reputation. As a result of a complaint regarding four papers, the entire issue is being retracted.

JS-We ought to inform the head of institutions.

AK : was of the opinion that IETE should seek out any mechanism or channel by which we can retain quality papers and punish those whose papers are suspicious. T&Fs took quite some time to respond to the IETE's request.

JKM- Such articles may be re-evaluated by competent reviewers (domain experts) under the supervision of IETE's team. This approach can be exercised. As the documents have already been posted online, the innocent party may pursue legal action, and they might seek a reply.

AK -There is no justification for excluding good papers from the online system.

DD-This choice may have an impact on as many as one hundred authors. It can be a major issue for IETE, and can damage the organization's standing.

Chair: Even though the repercussions exist, it is essential to note that T&F is objecting to the proposal and suggests retracting the whole issue. The authors should hold the guest editors of the SI accountable for this. IETE collected payment from the authors after obtaining their approval on accepted papers.

AK - Determine how we can best aid 32 authors, and then report back to T&F on our findings and next steps. There would be serious consequences in many areas if we withdrew the issue. T&F might agree to be examine the matter. The problem is finding a referee and vetting 32 submissions. Based on the results, we will draw a conclusion. Then he said that we ought to try to inform T&F's about the lapses and delays that have happened and affected the early action, and that final decision be communicated to the EIC first along with members' comments on the retraction issue. The four publications should be tested, and if they don't pass, they should be retracted (a separate group of reviewers should look at them). Retraction of the entire issue is unlikely unless all 32 papers are shown to be dubious.

JS - Out of 32 papers even 10 are found to be good they can be adjusted in any other edition. So that they can claim that their papers are published they should not be penalized.

AK: This method is explorable but not the ultimate answer.

JKM- Guest Editors name should not be taken anywhere.

Chair- As this is a case of SI, where guest editors have taken input from reviewers and then recommended, T&F might start from the same inputs if once again IETE asks for an investigation, if at all they agree to our request. For the benefit of innocent authors, we urged T&F's to look into the matter, and now that they have done so, we are requesting that they reconsider their recommendation. These are unlikely to be considered under any other circumstances. No one would concur as it would have the same title.

AK-Instead of viewing the issue from T&F's perspective and retracting the entire issue, the issue should be discussed with EIC and Deputy EICs and, the potential repercussions should be brought to their attention.

Final Recommendation : Thus, the members desired an initial dialogue with the EICs. They stated that they are prepared for the worst but must give good papers an opportunity to be retained. Therefore, obtain the EIC's opinion first. Then if EIC agrees, then pursue T&F with the request.