

Major Changes in AGU Publication Fees

Effective with any manuscript submitted after 31 December 2010, AGU is eliminating color charges in all formats. At the same time that we eliminate color charges, we are simplifying publication fees. Articles published in *Journal of Geophysical Research*; *Geochemistry, Geophysics, Geosystems*; and *Radio Science* will each have a flat fee of \$1000, and *Geophysical Research Letters (GRL)* articles will each have a flat fee of \$500. These prices represent a small drop from the average cost currently paid by authors. We will retain the excess page charges for full articles longer than 13 pages (including *Water Resources Research*) and 4 pages for letters, comments, and replies. This simplification means we can streamline the “calculator” authors must use when submitting manuscripts to AGU.

We are also simplifying the Author Choice option from a publishing unit (PU) basis to a flat fee of \$3500 (\$2500 for *GRL*) per published article. The Author Choice fee will no longer be additive—authors who elect to place their articles under unfettered public access will pay only the Author Choice fee and any applicable excess page fees.

Early this year we completed negotiations with Portico, an electronic archiving service, to place AGU journals in their archive and to serve customers who cancel their subscriptions. We began loading articles midyear and will soon have a complete archive in their care. One of the features of the agreement is that Portico will upgrade articles to any new platform and return the upgrades to

us. Because of this, the Perpetual Care fees are no longer necessary, and we will no longer charge them.

As we offer the reduced costs to authors, we ask for their help in reducing the time from acceptance to publication:

- When accepted manuscripts are readied for conversion to HTML and PDF, authors will receive an e-mail advising them when to expect their proofs.
- When authors receive their proofs, they will be asked to respond within two business days.
- If we do not hear from the author in five business days, we will consider the proof approved as is, and the article will be published (several other publishers already do this).
- No further edits will be permitted after an article is published on the Web.
- If authors wish to provide a secondary contact in the event they are unavailable, we will include that contact on all communications.

Further, to discourage authors from rewriting entire paragraphs of their articles at proof stage, we are increasing the author alteration fee.

As we review the publishing program, we will continue to look for ways to enhance authors' experience publishing with AGU.

—BILL COOK, Director of Publications, AGU;
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