Keynote Address

Scientific Publishing in a Technological Age

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Abstract

The scientific publishing landscape is changing rapidly and publishers, authors and readers are working hard to adapt. Advances in research technologies are generating increasing amounts of data that require commensurate advances in accessibility, analysis and visualization. Although digital technologies provide possible solutions to allow publishers to fully participate in this revolution and add new capabilities, it has proven challenging to adapt the traditional publishing model to take full advantage of new opportunities. I will discuss these challenges and opportunities and what publishers are doing to meet them from the point of view of a chief editor at Nature Publishing Group. Particular emphasis will be given to data handling and visualization, the role of computer scientists and the challenges in bridging the distinct biology and computer science cultures.

Bio

Daniel Evanko graduated from Northwestern University with a B.S. in Biomedical Engineering. He obtained a Ph.D. in Molecular Pharmacology and Structural Biology and performed post-doctoral work on G protein targeting and regulation at Thomas Jefferson University. As a Research Associate at the University of Pennsylvania Dr. Evanko shifted his scientific focus to fluorescence imaging technologies for studying astrocyte-neuron interactions. He joined the staff of Nature Methods in August of 2004 as an Assistant Editor handling manuscripts and the first issue was published in October. After serving as an Associate and then Senior Editor he became Chief Editor in 2008. While at Nature Methods Dr. Evanko has interviewed dozens of scientists, edited hundreds of manuscripts, written over 100 articles, created and edited a popular column of practical advice on visualizing scientific data, and in 2013 started a new column on statistics. He has been involved in numerous internal initiatives, including ones related to visualization and statistics.