
From the Co-Editors...

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Dear JSESD Readers and Supporters,

The Journal of Science Education for Students with Disabilities (JSESD) has been through several periods of transition, but has remained a venue for the dissemination of research and practice related to the education of students with disabilities in the science classroom and laboratory since 1998. Volumes #1 through 11 were published in a print format. Starting with Volume #12, the journal has been published online and Open Access. JSESD is now indexed in ERIC, Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) and Google Scholar. As the journal continues to grow, we plan to seek additional databases for indexing.

Having JSESD in the Open Access format maximizes access for readers and authors and allows the journal to remain economically sustainable. The journal is currently hosted by bepress Digital Commons. The journal management system is maintained by the very talented group at RIT's Scholarly Publishing Studio led by Nicholas Paulus. This team has proved to be indispensable in the sustained publication of JSESD.

New for manuscripts submitted for Volume #23 and beyond: In order to minimize bias and enhance the trustworthiness of our journal review process, JSESD will begin using a double-blind review for all manuscripts to be published in Volume #23 (2020). To this end, authors are responsible for ensuring the anonymity of their manuscripts by removing any identifying information as follows:

- Do not include names or affiliations on the title page; the title page should only include the manuscript title and running head.
- Do not make any references to author affiliations or locations in the text of the manuscript.
- Mask self-citations by using "Authors" both for in-text citations and in the References; list these under "A" for "Authors" in the References section and do not include any other identifying information for these citations (such as titles, journal names, doi's, etc...).
- Do not include author notes or acknowledgments in your submission; these can be added later if the manuscript is accepted.

The journal enthusiastically seeks new manuscript submissions. We are especially interested in articles on science education for students with varying types of disabilities and at

a full range of grade levels (K-12 and postsecondary). In Volume #22, we were pleased to publish peer-reviewed articles from the Inclusion in Science, Learning and a New Direction, Conference on Disability (ISLAND). We intend to again publish articles from the recent ISLAND conference in Volume #23, and hope to do so into the future.

One of the largest challenges to the journal currently is the solicitation of peer-reviewers/referees for manuscripts. Please email us if you'd be willing to be considered for future reviewing assignments.

We are proud of the close relationship that JSESD has with its partner organization, Science Education for Students with Disabilities (SESD), which is an associated group of the National Science Teaching Association (NSTA). Each year, SESD holds a pre-conference on science and disability at NSTA's national conference. The next SESD pre-conference will be held on Wednesday, April 1, from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at the Westin Boston Waterfront Hotel in Boston, MA. For further information and to register, please go to <https://forms.gle/UK2yC8dlccHEXK3p7>. You can also contact Rachel Zimmerman Brachman, SESD Conference Coordinator, at: Rachel.Zimmerman-Brachman@jpl.nasa.gov.

A few reminders:

- The journal resides online and free-of-charge on Rochester Institute of Technology's (RIT) Wallace Library server, and can be found at <http://scholarworks.rit.edu/jsepd/>.
- Manuscripts can be submitted online at <http://scholarworks.rit.edu/jsepd/>.

- There are currently no fees charged to authors for publication in JSESD. As an open access journal, articles are also free for anyone to read.

We know that there is a considerable amount of high quality scholarship that is being conducted in the field of science education for students with disabilities. JSESD remains a mechanism for the dissemination of such efforts/work.

As always, we appreciate your support in maintaining JSESD as a quality peer-reviewed journal.

Sincerely,

Todd Pagano and Sami Kahn

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About the JSESD logo/cover:

Cathy Chou (Prof. of Imaging Arts & Sciences at RIT/NTID) created the JSESD cover. The background DNA image was strategically chosen to symbolize the interplay of JSESD's readership; that of experts in various fields of disabilities along with experts in the disciplines of science. The two intertwined sides of the double helix backbone represent this relationship. The rungs of the DNA structure represent the various age groups (K-Postsecondary) of students on which the journal focuses.