



THE WISCONSIN JOURNAL

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About the WISCONSIN JOURNAL

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The Wisconsin Journal publishes research/teaching notes/case papers/position papers to develop and disseminate knowledge to students, practitioners, researchers, educators and the general public both within Wisconsin International University College- Ghana and beyond.

The Wisconsin journal was inaugurated in **2010** and two issues are published each year. The journal follows a rigorous blind review of all manuscripts submitted for publication.

Vision

The Wisconsin Journal aspires to become a vehicle for inspiring and disseminating research papers, articles, case studies, review articles in selected subject areas by academicians, research scholars, corporate and practitioners with substantial experience and expertise in their respective fields. The journal seeks to become the leading journal in higher learning education within Africa and beyond.

Mission

The Wisconsin Journal is the flagship publication of the Wisconsin International University College – Ghana. The Journal seeks to;

- i. efficiently and promptly publish rigorous, accessible, and in-dept articles that will help practitioners in their daily work, lifelong learning, and career development,
- ii. advance the field of academia through the publication of peer-reviewed research and scholarship that contributes to our understanding and improvement of the learning experiences of all students and practitioners.

- iii. disseminate scholarly research articles beyond the immediate academic circles.

Thematic Areas of publication

The journal publishes articles on the underlisted thematic areas. The journal also encourages submissions that reflect the wide and interdisciplinary nature of human discourse. Articles from other thematic areas are accepted.

1. **Nursing, midwifery and public health:** community health, mental health, Rural health issues etc.
2. **Business management and economics:** accounting, finance, marketing, project management, marketing, management information systems, public administration, Logistics and Supply Chain management
3. Communication: Journalism, Public relations, Advertising
4. Information Technology: computing, programming, Information technology management and administration
5. Education
6. Environmental sustainability and Development
7. International Relations
8. Law
9. Literal arts and music

TYPES OF MANUSCRIPTS THE JOURNAL ACCEPTS FOR PUBLICATION

The Wisconsin Journal accepts a wide range of manuscript types. The word counts below are for the entire paper; they include the abstract, body, reference lists, and appendices.

Research Articles (6000 to 10,000 words; peer reviewed)

Research articles present important new research results, including the entire contents of a research project. Quantitative studies include statistical analysis of survey or secondary data. Qualitative studies include case studies, focus groups, interviews, and the like. Research articles generally consist of an abstract, introduction, methods, results, discussion, and references. Authors of research articles are required to adhere to our policy of accessible scholarship.

Case Studies (up to 7,500 words; peer reviewed)

A case study is a report of a single case (generally deemed interesting or unusual). These studies usually are generated by the author's actual experience or objective observations. This is a popular form of manuscript among practitioners. It is critical that the case study be objective and not promotional. The case should feature a new program approach, best practice, or organizational structure. It should present sufficient references to previous studies of the issue the case is focused on to embed (provide context) for this new case study to build on.

Reflective Essays (up to 8,000 words; peer reviewed)

A reflective essay is a critical reflection on one's work or the work of one's organization related to a specific issue or strategy. It is similar to a case study, but it is a more personal slant and subjectivity. This may have a more popular journalistic style, but also has much deeper substance than a trade journal article. It could take the form of a case study, project post-mortem analysis (why a project failed), policy commentary, position paper on a best practice, or even proposal for a new strategy, technique, or approach.

Review Articles (up to 8,000 words; peer reviewed)

Review articles do not cover original research but rather accumulate the results of many different articles on a particular topic into a coherent narrative about the state of the art in the emerging field food systems and agricultural development. Review articles provide information about the topic and also provide journal references to the original research.

Research Briefs (up to 4,500 words; peer reviewed)

A research brief is generally an update of ongoing research of national or international significance. It is typically a follow-up to a research paper already submitted, but may also be a paper providing preliminary findings of a new study. Research briefs may be fast-tracked for immediate publication because they are considered very timely.

Policy and Practice Briefs (up to 3,500 words; peer reviewed)

A policy and practice brief is a thorough analysis of a proposed, new, or existing government or organizational policy that focuses on the background of a policy issue, the details of the policy, and its real or predicted impacts on practice. Like research briefs, policy briefs may be fast-tracked for immediate publication because they are considered very timely.

EDITORIAL POLICIES

Wisconsin International University College – Ghana regards it fundamental that research should be conducted and published according to ethical guidelines. Below are some editorial policies of the Wisconsin Journal.

Open access policy and copyright

The journal complies with the Creative Commons license on publishing. Under this licence authors retain copyright, and unrestricted reuse of the content is allowed as long as proper attribution is given to the original author of the work. Further information regarding this can be found at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>.

Copyright in open access articles published by Wisconsin Journal is retained by the author(s).

Originality of article statement

All submitted articles must not be under consideration for publication anywhere else, nor have been published in any form prior to submission to the Wisconsin Journal. By submitting, authors are agreeing that the submission is original except for material in the public domain and such excerpts of other works that have written permission of the copyright owner. Where there is potential for duplication authors must correctly reference and cite the work.

Authorship and author consent policy

All listed authors must have made a significant contribution to the article and have approved all its claims.

Wisconsin Journal considers an author of an article to have:

- made substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
- drafted the work or revised it critically for important intellectual content; AND
- made final approval of the version to be published; AND
- agrees to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

For suspected and incorrect authorship, Wisconsin Journal will refer to the description of authorship misconduct as outlined in the COPE guidelines.

Ethics approval

Wisconsin Journal is committed to ensuring the highest standards of integrity in all aspects of its publication activities and expects that all authors submitting manuscripts have secured all relevant ethics or institutional review board approval for their research. A statement declaring this must be included in the article, along with the name of the ethics or institutional review board granting approval.

Where ethics or institutional review board approval is waived, a statement declaring this must be included in the article along with the name of the ethics or institutional review board granting waiver status. Authors also declare that by submitting to the Wisconsin journal this information will be made freely available to the Editor(s) upon request.

Research involving humans

Any work or research that involves collecting data from human participants must comply in accordance with the [Declaration of Helsinki](#) and authors must have received any and all relevant ethics or institutional review board approval. A statement declaring this must be included in the article, along with the name of the ethics or institutional review board granting approval.

Where ethics or institutional review board approval is waived, a statement declaring this must be included in the article along with the name of the ethics or institutional review board granting waiver status. Authors also declare that by submitting to Wisconsin Journal this information will be made freely available to the Editor(s) upon request.

If authors are unable to provide sufficient evidence to the Editor(s) upon request, the Editor(s) may reject the article and inform the author(s) institution and any other third parties where applicable.

Consent for publication

For all articles involving human subjects, including any images, videos, and any other personal and identifiable information, authors must have secured informed consent to participate in the study and to publication before submitting to the journal, and a statement declaring this must be included in the article.

Authors also declare that by submitting to Wisconsin Journal this information will be made freely available to the Editor(s) upon request.

Competing and conflicts of interest

Broadly speaking, a conflict or competing interest can occur when personal interests, personal relationships or duties to others, compete with obligations and are likely to be compromised, or may appear to be compromised, by personal gain or gain to your immediate family (or people you have a close personal relationship with).

Authors must declare any and all conflicts of interest and competing interests that may relate to the submitted article, including all financial and non-financial competing interests. This must be stated in their article after the main text and acknowledgements under the heading 'Competing interests'. Where there are no conflicts of interests or competing interests, authors must clearly declare this under the same heading. The Editor may decide to reject a submission after considering any and all conflicts of interest and the reviewer will be informed of this decision.

Reviewers must declare any and all conflicts of interests and competing interests when invited to review and when returning their review for the Editor's consideration. Where there are no conflicts of interest or competing interests, reviewers must clearly declare this in the review form online, or by contacting the Editor. The Editor may decide to reject a review after considering any and all conflicts of interest and the reviewer will be informed of this decision.

Editors must declare any and all conflicts of interests and competing interests when assessing an article, and therefore not be involved with a submission when they:

- have a recent publication or current submission with any author in the submission
- share or have recently shared an affiliation with any author in the submission
- collaborate or have recently collaborated with any author in the submission
- have a close personal connection to any author in the submission
- have a financial interest in the subject of the work of the submission
- feel unable to be objective
- are a named author of the submission

Peer review policy

The Wisconsin Journal operates an open and transparent peer review process where readers can assess the peer reviewer reports as part of the article's review history. Articles submitted to the journal undergo open peer review before being published officially in the journal after editorial acceptance.

Wisconsin Journal requires at least two external peer reviews of a submitted article to be made openly available online before an editorial decision for official publication in the journal can be made.

As far as possible, assigned editors and invited reviewers will not possess any potential conflicts of interests to the submitted article. However, where this is not possible, in circumstances where specific and required expertise or other reasons that are deemed necessary, any decision to publish may require an additional third review to maintain fair review practice.

The journal Editor may also decide to reject a review after considering any and all conflicts of interest and the reviewer will be informed of this decision.

Textual overlap and suspected plagiarism

All authors are responsible for the content written and published in their articles. In cases where unacceptable textual overlap and suspected plagiarism is found, the Editor will follow COPE's guidelines on plagiarism. Editors also have access to use the Turnitin plagiarism detection software.

Wisconsin Journal define plagiarism as the presentation of another person's thoughts or words or artefacts or software as their own. Any quotation from another person's published or unpublished works must be clearly identified as such by correct citation and referencing.

Self-plagiarism is defined as the presentation of a person's own thoughts or words or artefacts or software where it has been previously published as a new publication, without clear identification as such by correct citation and referencing.

The Editor shall make every effort to ensure that published content does not infringe any person's rights, or applicable laws.

If you believe or have cause for concern that content in the Wisconsin Journal may infringe on copyright, textual overlap, and/or plagiarism, please contact the Journal Editor who will review the complaint and take appropriate action.

To avoid such cases and for best practice, authors should be transparent and ensure proper and correct referencing and citation.