Saga of Association Journals

Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE)

Journal of Environmental Economics and Management -- Elsevier

- Founded 1974
- Affiliated with AERE in early 1980s
- Became the top field journal in environmental and resource economics
- Currently US\$1619 per year for paper copy
- Built by the labor of members of AERE
- Virtually no compensation to editors or association through 1990s
- Generated significant consternation in AERE



2001

- Exploration of starting new journal
- Obtain bid from CUP for new journal
- Elsevier offered significantly more lucrative terms for editors
- Association still got nothing
- Decision not to sever relationship

2006

- Exploration of new journal bridging academics and policy community – not a substitute for JEEM but a complement
- Bids invited from different publishers
- Chose Oxford University Press
- Journal owned by AERE
- REEP started publishing in 2007
- Listed in ISI 3 years later (tough to get in ISI)
- First appeared (2009) as the #8 (out of 247) economics journal based on impact factor
- Consistently been in top 5% of economics journals



2013 Impact Factor – Economics (out of 333 journals)

Mark	Rank	Abbreviated Journal Title (linked to journal information)	ISSN	JCR Data 🕕						Eigenfactor [®] Metrics D	
				Total Cites	Impact Factor	5-Year Impact Factor	Immediacy Index	Articles	Cited Half-life	<i>Eigenfactor®</i> Score	Article Influence® Score
	1	J ECON LIT	0022-0515	5479	6.341	11.670	1.000	24	>10.0	0.02376	14.258
	2	J FINANC	0022-1082	21843	6.033	7.399	1.056	72	>10.0	0.05240	9.03
	3	Q J ECON	0033-5533	16827	5.966	9.126	0.775	40	>10.0	0.05292	14.77
	4	J ECON PERSPECT	0895-3309	6688	4.230	5.491	0.628	43	>10.0	0.02197	5.99
	5	TRANSPORT RES B-METH	0191-2615	5300	3.894	4.439	0.571	126	9.2	0.01133	1.69
	6	J FINANC ECON	0304-405X	15508	3.769	5.719	0.712	153	>10.0	0.05335	5.83
	7	J POLIT ECON	0022-3808	16829	3.617	5.730	0.583	24	>10.0	0.02700	10.66
	8	REV FINANC STUD	0893-9454	7614	3.532	6.257	0.590	83	6.9	0.06368	6.97
	9	ECONOMETRICA	0012-9682	22304	3.504	5.111	1.164	67	>10.0	0.04887	9.84
	10	J EUR ECON ASSOC	1542-4766	1986	3.356	3.000	0.800	60	6.6	0.01886	4.07
	11	REV ENV ECON POLICY	1750-6816	401	3.355	3.787	1.625	16	3.9	0.00312	2.34
	12	PHARMACOECONOMICS	1170-7690	3397	3.338	3.509	1.224	85	7.4	0.00615	0.98
	13	AM ECON REV	0002-8282	30920	3.305	4.568	1.087	196	>10.0	0.11203	6.29
	14	ECON GEOGR	0013-0095	1686	3.281	5.580	0.278	18	>10.0	0.00365	2.49
	15	REV ECON STUD	0034-6527	8062	3.235	4.550	0.385	52	>10.0	0.03256	7.84
	16	J ECON GROWTH	1381-4338	1466	3.125	3.683	0.250	12	>10.0	0.00434	4.34
	17	BROOKINGS PAP ECO AC	0007-2303	1792	3.120	6.083	0.083	12	>10.0	0.00909	9.09
	18	AM ECON J-APPL ECON	1945-7782	721	3.079	4.327	1.763	38	3.3	0.01668	6.67
	19	J FINANC STABIL	1572-3089	389	2.932	2.652	0.333	63	4.0	0.00171	0.91
	20	VALUE HEALTH	1098-3015	3929	2.891	3.174	0.691	139	4.7	0.01452	1.06

2012

- AERE revisits decision to start new journal
- Multi-year discussion
- Bids solicited from a number of publishers
- University of Chicago Press selected
- JAERE started in 2014
- Dumps JEEM
- JAERE owned by AERE
- Material for first issues solicited from highly visible members of profession
- Seems to be successful (150+ submissions so far this year—compared with 400 in JEEM)



Lessons

- Risks, particularly in the short run, are high from a new journal
- Associations, more than individuals, should have long-term horizons
- If you have the membership and following, starting new journal can be effective
- Try to get cited early on come out with a bang