

TIERS A**; A*; A	
title	tier
American economic review	A**
Econometrica	A**
Journal of finance	A**
Journal of political economy	A**
Quarterly journal of economics	A**
Review of economic studies	A**
American economic journal: applied economics	A*
American economic journal: economic policy	A*
American economic journal: macroeconomics	A*
American economic journal: microeconomics	A*
American economic review: insights	A*
Economic journal	A*
Economic policy	A*
Games and economic behaviour	A*
International economic review	A*
Journal of business & economics statistics	A*
Journal of development economics	A*
Journal of econometrics	A*
Journal of economic geography	A*
Journal of economic growth	A*
Journal of economic literature	A*
Journal of economic perspective	A*
Journal of financial economics	A*
Journal of economic history	A*
Journal of economic theory	A*
Journal of environmental economics and management	A*
Journal of health economics	A*
Journal of human resources	A*
Journal of international economics	A*
Journal of labor economics	A*
Journal of monetary economics	A*
Journal of political economy: microeconomics	A*
Journal of political economy: macroeconomics	A*
Journal of public economics	A*
Journal of the European economic association	A*
Journal of urban economics	A*
Journal of the association of the environmental & resource economics	A*
Nature	A*
Pnas - proceedings of the national academy of sciences of the USA	A*
Quantitative economics	A*
Rand journal of economics	A*
Review of economics and statistics	A*
Review of financial studies	A*
Science	A*
Theoretical economics	A*

American journal of political science	A
American political science review	A
Annals of probability	A
Annals of statistics	A
Biometrika	A
Demography	A
Economic theory	A
Economic history review	A
Economic inquiry	A
European economic review	A
European journal of the history of economic thought	A
Experimental economics	A
International journal of industrial organization	A
Journal of applied econometrics	A
Journal of economics and management strategy	A
Journal of economic behavior and organization	A
Journal of financial and quantitative analysis	A
Journal of financial intermediation	A
Journal of industrial economics	A
Journal of law and economics	A
Journal of law economics and organization	A
Journal of money, credit and banking	A
Journal of the American statistical association	A
Journal of the Royal Statistical Society	A
Journal of population economics	A
Review of economic dynamics	A
Review of environmental economics and policy	A
Social science and medicine	A

TIERS: A.I-B.III		
title	issn	tier
annual review of economics	19411383	A.I
annual review of resource economics	19411340	A.I
brookings papers on economic activity	72303	A.I
cambridge journal of regions, economy and society	17521378	A.I
canadian journal of agricultural economics	83976	A.I
econometric theory	2664666	A.I
econometrics journal	13684221	A.I
economic geography	130095	A.I
energy economics	1409883	A.I
energy policy	3014215	A.I
ilr review	197939	A.I
international journal of production economics	9255273	A.I
journal of conflict resolution	220027	A.I
journal of european public policy	13501763	A.I
journal of peace research	223433	A.I

journal of policy analysis and management	2768739	A.I
oxford review of economic policy	0266903X	A.I
quarterly journal of political science	15540626	A.I
real estate economics	10808620	A.I
small business economics	0921898X	A.I
transportation research part b: methodological	1912615	A.I
transportation research part c: emerging technologies	0968090X	A.I
transportation research, part a: policy and practice	9658564	A.I
transportation research, part e: logistics and transportation review	13665545	A.I
transportation science	411655	A.I
work, employment and society	9500170	A.I
world development	0305750X	A.I
cliometrica	18632505	A.I
europaean review of economic history	13614916	A.I
explorations in economic history	144983	A.I
journal of global history	17400228	A.I
agricultural economics (united kingdom)	1695150	A.II
american journal of agricultural economics	29092	A.II
applied economic perspectives and policy	20405790	A.II
british journal of industrial relations	71080	A.II
china economic review	1043951X	A.II
climate policy	14693062	A.II
conflict management and peace science	7388942	A.II
development and change	0012155X	A.II
ecological economics	9218009	A.II
economics of education review	2727757	A.II
economy and society	3085147	A.II
education finance and policy	15573060	A.II
energy journal	1956574	A.II
entrepreneurship and regional development	8985626	A.II
environment and planning a	0308518X	A.II
environmental and resource economics	9246460	A.II
environmental science and policy	14629011	A.II
europaean journal of industrial relations	9596801	A.II
europaean review of agricultural economics	1651587	A.II
europaean urban and regional studies	9697764	A.II
fiscal studies	1435671	A.II
food policy	3069192	A.II
foundations and trends in econometrics	15513076	A.II
human resources for health	14784491	A.II
industrial and corporate change	9606491	A.II
industrial relations	198676	A.II
international journal of forecasting	1692070	A.II
international journal of urban and regional research	3091317	A.II
journal of aging and social policy	8959420	A.II
journal of agrarian change	14710358	A.II
journal of agricultural economics	0021857X	A.II
journal of common market studies	219886	A.II

journal of economic surveys	9500804	A.II
journal of financial econometrics	14798409	A.II
journal of social issues	224537	A.II
journal of transport geography	9666923	A.II
new political economy	13563467	A.II
new technology, work and employment	2681072	A.II
oxford bulletin of economics and statistics	3059049	A.II
pharmacoeconomics	11707690	A.II
policy sciences	322687	A.II
policy studies journal	0190292X	A.II
regional studies	343404	A.II
resources and energy economics	9287655	A.II
resources policy	3014207	A.II
review of income and wealth	346586	A.II
review of international organizations	15597431	A.II
review of international political economy	9692290	A.II
socio-economic review	14751461	A.II
transport policy	0967070X	A.II
urban geography	2723638	A.II
urban studies	420980	A.II
value in health	10983015	A.II
world bank economic review	2586770	A.II
world bank research observer	2573032	A.II
business history review	76805	A.II
historical materialism	14654466	A.II
journal of economic methodology	1350178X	A.II
journal of management history	17511348	A.II
revista de historia economica - journal of iberian and latin american econom	2126109	A.II
applied health economics and health policy	11755652	A.III
bulletin of indonesian economic studies	74918	A.III
cambridge journal of economics	0309166X	A.III
china agricultural economic review	1756137X	A.III
city, culture and society	18779166	A.III
dynamic games and applications	21530785	A.III
econometric reviews	7474938	A.III
economic and industrial democracy	0143831X	A.III
economic development and cultural change	130079	A.III
economic modelling	2649993	A.III
economic systems research	9535314	A.III
economica	130427	A.III
economics and human biology	1570677X	A.III
economics and politics	9541985	A.III
eurasian geography and economics	15387216	A.III
europaean journal of development research	9578811	A.III
europaean journal of health economics	16187598	A.III
europaean journal of political economy	1762680	A.III
europaean planning studies	9654313	A.III
feminist economics	13545701	A.III

forest policy and economics	13899341	A.III
futures	163287	A.III
health economics (united kingdom)	10579230	A.III
health policy	1688510	A.III
housing studies	2673037	A.III
industry and innovation	13662716	A.III
information technology for development	2681102	A.III
insurance: mathematics and economics	1676687	A.III
international journal of central banking	18154654	A.III
international journal of public health	16618556	A.III
international review of environmental and resource economics	19321465	A.III
journal of choice modelling	17555345	A.III
journal of comparative economics	1475967	A.III
journal of cultural economics	8852545	A.III
journal of development studies	220388	A.III
journal of economic dynamics and control	1651889	A.III
journal of economic psychology	1674870	A.III
journal of european social policy	9589287	A.III
journal of evolutionary economics	9369937	A.III
journal of industrial relations	221856	A.III
journal of institutional economics	17441374	A.III
journal of regional science	224146	A.III
journal of social policy	472794	A.III
judgment and decision making	19302975	A.III
kyklos	235962	A.III
labour economics	9275371	A.III
macroeconomic dynamics	13651005	A.III
national tax journal	280283	A.III
networks and spatial economics	1566113X	A.III
papers in regional science	10568190	A.III
post-soviet affairs	1060586X	A.III
regional science and urban economics	1660462	A.III
review of economics of the household	15695239	A.III
scandinavian journal of economics	3470520	A.III
socio-economic planning sciences	380121	A.III
structural change and economic dynamics	0954349X	A.III
technology in society	0160791X	A.III
telecommunications policy	3085961	A.III
tijdschrift voor economische en sociale geografie	0040747X	A.III
tourism economics	13548166	A.III
accounting history	10323732	A.III
business history	76791	A.III
enterprise and society	14672227	A.III
journal of the economic and social history of the orient	224995	A.III
technology and culture	0040165X	A.III
african development review	10176772	A.IV
agricultural and food economics	21937532	A.IV
agricultural and resource economics review	10682805	A.IV

agricultural economics (czech republic)	0139570X	A.IV
american behavioral scientist	27642	A.IV
american journal of economics and sociology	29246	A.IV
american law and economics review	14657252	A.IV
annals of public and cooperative economics	13704788	A.IV
annals of regional science	5701864	A.IV
applied economics	36846	A.IV
asian economic policy review	18328105	A.IV
australian journal of agricultural and resource economics	1364985X	A.IV
basic income studies	19320183	A.IV
canadian journal of economics	84085	A.IV
canadian public policy/ analyse de politiques	3170861	A.IV
capital and class	3098168	A.IV
china and world economy	16712234	A.IV
contemporary economic policy	10743529	A.IV
development policy review	9506764	A.IV
econometrics	22251146	A.IV
economic analysis and policy	3135926	A.IV
economic and labour relations review	10353046	A.IV
economic research-ekonomska istrazivanja	1331677X	A.IV
economic systems	9393625	A.IV
economics and philosophy	2662671	A.IV
economics letters	1651765	A.IV
economics of innovation and new technology	10438599	A.IV
economics of transportation	22120122	A.IV
education and training	400912	A.IV
education economics	9645292	A.IV
empirical economics	3777332	A.IV
energy systems	18683967	A.IV
environment and development economics	1355770X	A.IV
environmental economics and policy studies	1432847X	A.IV
eurasian economic review	1309422X	A.IV
europaean transport research review	18670717	A.IV
evaluation review	0193841X	A.IV
german economic review	14656485	A.IV
globalizations	14747731	A.IV
growth and change	174815	A.IV
health care management science	13869620	A.IV
health economics review	21911991	A.IV
health economics, policy and law	17441331	A.IV
industrial relations journal	198692	A.IV
information economics and policy	1676245	A.IV
international economics	21107017	A.IV
international environmental agreements: politics, law and economics	15679764	A.IV
international journal of agricultural sustainability	14735903	A.IV
international journal of cultural policy	10286632	A.IV
international journal of manpower	1437720	A.IV
international journal of sociology and social policy	0144333X	A.IV

international journal of sustainable development and world ecology	13504509	A.IV
international labour review	207780	A.IV
international planning studies	13563475	A.IV
international regional science review	1600176	A.IV
international review of economics and finance	10590560	A.IV
international tax and public finance	9275940	A.IV
investigaciones regionales	16957253	A.IV
iza journal of labor economics	21938997	A.IV
jahrbucher fur nationalokonomie und statistik	214027	A.IV
japan and the world economy	9221425	A.IV
journal of african economies	9638024	A.IV
journal of agricultural and resource economics	10685502	A.IV
journal of applied behavioral science, the	218863	A.IV
journal of asian economics	10490078	A.IV
journal of behavioral and experimental economics	22148043	A.IV
journal of comparative policy analysis: research and practice	13876988	A.IV
journal of competition law and economics	17446414	A.IV
journal of economic inequality	15691721	A.IV
journal of economics and business	1486195	A.IV
journal of economics/ zeitschrift fur nationalokonomie	9318658	A.IV
journal of empirical legal studies	17401453	A.IV
journal of environment and development	10704965	A.IV
journal of environmental economics and policy	21606544	A.IV
journal of family and economic issues	10580476	A.IV
journal of hospitality, leisure, sport and tourism education	14738376	A.IV
journal of housing economics	10511377	A.IV
journal of human capital	19328575	A.IV
journal of human development and capabilities	19452829	A.IV
journal of industrial and business economics	3912078	A.IV
journal of integrative environmental sciences	1943815X	A.IV
journal of international development	9541748	A.IV
journal of international trade and economic development	9638199	A.IV
journal of macroeconomics	1640704	A.IV
journal of mathematical economics	3044068	A.IV
journal of medical economics	13696998	A.IV
journal of pension economics and finance	14747472	A.IV
journal of policy modeling	1618938	A.IV
journal of post keynesian economics	1603477	A.IV
journal of productivity analysis	0895562X	A.IV
journal of public economic theory	14679779	A.IV
journal of public policy	0143814X	A.IV
journal of regulatory economics	0922680X	A.IV
journal of risk and insurance	224367	A.IV
journal of sports economics	15270025	A.IV
journal of the economics of ageing	2212828X	A.IV
journal of the japanese and international economies	8891583	A.IV
journal of wine economics	19314361	A.IV
journal of world trade	10116702	A.IV

labour	11217081	A.IV
land economics	237639	A.IV
marine resource economics	7381360	A.IV
mathematics and financial economics	18629679	A.IV
metroeconomica	261386	A.IV
open economies review	9237992	A.IV
oxford economic papers	307653	A.IV
public choice	485829	A.IV
research in transportation economics	7398859	A.IV
review of african political economy	3056244	A.IV
review of development economics	13636669	A.IV
review of industrial organization	0889938X	A.IV
review of international economics	9657576	A.IV
review of keynesian economics	20495323	A.IV
review of policy research	1541132X	A.IV
review of radical political economics	4866134	A.IV
review of world economics	16102878	A.IV
science and public policy	3023427	A.IV
social choice and welfare	1761714	A.IV
southern economic journal	384038	A.IV
spatial economic analysis	17421772	A.IV
technological and economic development of economy	20294913	A.IV
tertiary education and management	13583883	A.IV
trends in organized crime	10844791	A.IV
utilities policy	9571787	A.IV
water resources and economics	22124284	A.IV
world economy	3785920	A.IV
world patent information	1722190	A.IV
world tax journal	18784917	A.IV
world trade review	14747456	A.IV
historical social research	1726404	A.IV
history of economic ideas	11228792	A.IV
history of political economy	182702	A.IV
indian economic and social history review	194646	A.IV
investigaciones de historia economica	16986989	A.IV
journal of modern italian studies	1354571X	A.IV
journal of the history of economic thought	10538372	A.IV
journal of tourism history	1755182X	A.IV
labor history	0023656X	A.IV
management and organizational history	17449359	A.IV
scandinavian economic history review	3585522	A.IV
acta oeconomica	16373	B.I
african journal of science, technology, innovation and development	20421338	B.I
agbioforum	1522936X	B.I
amfiteatru economic	15829146	B.I
applied economics letters	13504851	B.I
archives of environmental and occupational health	19338244	B.I
asian economic papers	15353516	B.I

asian-pacific economic literature	8189935	B.I
australian economic papers	0004900X	B.I
b.e. journal of economic analysis and policy	19351682	B.I
b.e. journal of macroeconomics	19351690	B.I
baltic journal of economics	1406099X	B.I
bio-based and applied economics	22806180	B.I
brazilian journal of political economy	1013157	B.I
bulletin of economic research	3073378	B.I
cato journal	2733072	B.I
cesifo economic studies	1610241X	B.I
china economic journal	17538963	B.I
china information	0920203X	B.I
chinese economy	10971475	B.I
citizenship, social and economics education	20471734	B.I
climate change economics	20100078	B.I
comparative economic studies	8887233	B.I
competitiveness review	10595422	B.I
computational economics	9277099	B.I
constitutional political economy	10434062	B.I
contemporary economics	20840845	B.I
de economist	0013063X	B.I
decisions in economics and finance	15938883	B.I
defence and peace economics	10242694	B.I
developing economies	121533	B.I
eastern economic journal	945056	B.I
eastern european economics	128775	B.I
economia politica	11202890	B.I
economic affairs	2650665	B.I
economic and social review	129984	B.I
economic change and restructuring	15739414	B.I
economic development quarterly	8912424	B.I
economic notes	3915026	B.I
economic papers	8120439	B.I
economic record	130249	B.I
economics	18646042	B.I
economics and sociology	2071789X	B.I
economics of governance	14356104	B.I
economy of region	20726414	B.I
empirica	3408744	B.I
engineering economist	0013791X	B.I
eurochoices	14780917	B.I
europa-asia studies	9668136	B.I
european journal of comparative economics	18242979	B.I
european journal of law and economics	9291261	B.I
european journal of migration and law	1388364X	B.I
european journal of transport and infrastructure research	15677141	B.I
federal reserve bank of st. louis review	149187	B.I
forum for health economics and policy	15589544	B.I

foundations and trends in microeconomics	15479846	B.I
frontiers of economics in china	16733568	B.I
games	20734336	B.I
geographie economie societe	1295926X	B.I
geospatial health	18271987	B.I
hitotsubashi journal of economics	0018280X	B.I
indian growth and development review	17538254	B.I
industria	197416	B.I
innovation and development	2157930X	B.I
intellectual economics	18228011	B.I
international economic journal	10168737	B.I
international economics and economic policy	205230	B.I
international journal of computational economics and econometrics	17571170	B.I
international journal of economic theory	17427355	B.I
international journal of energy economics and policy	21464553	B.I
international journal of environmental studies	207233	B.I
international journal of game theory	207276	B.I
international journal of innovation and sustainable development	17408822	B.I
international journal of political economy	8911916	B.I
international journal of social economics	3068293	B.I
international journal of sustainable development	9601406	B.I
international journal of sustainable development and planning	17437601	B.I
international review of applied economics	2692171	B.I
international review of economics	18651704	B.I
international review of economics education	14773880	B.I
international review of law and economics	1448188	B.I
iza journal of labor policy	21939004	B.I
journal for labour market research	16143485	B.I
journal of applied economics	15140326	B.I
journal of australian political economy	1565826	B.I
journal of chinese economic and business studies	14765284	B.I
journal of east asian studies	15982408	B.I
journal of economic asymmetries	17034949	B.I
journal of economic education	220485	B.I
journal of economic integration	1225651X	B.I
journal of economic interaction and coordination	1860711X	B.I
journal of economic issues	213624	B.I
journal of economic policy reform	17487870	B.I
journal of economic studies	1443585	B.I
journal of education and work	13639080	B.I
journal of forest economics	11046899	B.I
journal of industry, competition and trade	15661679	B.I
journal of interdisciplinary economics	2601079	B.I
journal of international commerce, economics and policy	17939933	B.I
journal of labor research	1953613	B.I
journal of legal studies	472530	B.I
journal of neuroscience, psychology, and economics	1937321X	B.I
journal of poverty and social justice	17598273	B.I

journal of public health research	22799036	B.I
journal of public procurement	15350118	B.I
journal of the asia pacific economy	13547860	B.I
journal of transport economics and policy	225258	B.I
latin american economic review	21983526	B.I
legal issues of economic integration	15666573	B.I
letters in spatial and resource sciences	18644031	B.I
local economy	2690942	B.I
manchester school	14636786	B.I
montenegrin journal of economics	18005845	B.I
national institute economic review	279501	B.I
netnomics: economic research and electronic networking	13859587	B.I
new medit	15945685	B.I
new zealand economic papers	779954	B.I
oxford development studies	13600818	B.I
pacific economic review	1361374X	B.I
panoeconomicus	1452595X	B.I
policy studies	1442872	B.I
politics, philosophy and economics	1470594X	B.I
portuguese economic journal	1617982X	B.I
post-communist economies	14631377	B.I
progress in development studies	14649934	B.I
psl quarterly review	20373635	B.I
public finance review	10911421	B.I
region	24095370	B.I
regional science policy and practice	17577802	B.I
research in economics	10909443	B.I
revesco revista de estudios cooperativos	11356618	B.I
review of austrian economics	8893047	B.I
review of black political economy	346446	B.I
review of economic design	14344742	B.I
review of political economy	9538259	B.I
review of regional research	1737600	B.I
review of social economy	346764	B.I
revista de ciencias sociales	13159518	B.I
revista de economia e sociologia rural	1032003	B.I
science, technology and society	9717218	B.I
scienze regionali	17203929	B.I
scottish journal of political economy	369292	B.I
series	18694187	B.I
singapore economic review	2175908	B.I
south african journal of economics	382280	B.I
south asia economic journal	13915614	B.I
south asia research	2627280	B.I
space policy	2659646	B.I
studies in nonlinear dynamics and econometrics	10811826	B.I
studies in political economy	7078552	B.I
studies on russian economic development	10757007	B.I

terra economicus	20736606	B.I
theory and decision	405833	B.I
transfer	10242589	B.I
transformations in business and economics	16484460	B.I
transnational corporations	10149562	B.I
voprosy ekonomiki	428736	B.I
water policy	13667017	B.I
work organisation, labour and globalisation	1745641X	B.I
zeitschrift fur wirtschaftsgeographie	443751	B.I
accounting history review	21552851	B.I
agricultural history review	21490	B.I
Annales	3952649	B.I
australian economic history review	48992	B.I
entreprises et histoire	11612770	B.I
financial history review	9685650	B.I
historical records of australian science	7273061	B.I
history compass	14780542	B.I
international labor and working-class history	1475479	B.I
international review of social history	208590	B.I
journal of interdisciplinary history	221953	B.I
popolazione e storia	15914798	B.I
revista de historia industrial	11327200	B.I
societa e storia	3916987	B.I
actuel marx	9944524	B.II
agricultural economics review	11092580	B.II
annali dell'istituto storico itali-germanico in trento	3920011	B.II
antitrust bulletin	0003603X	B.II
applied econometrics and international development	15784487	B.II
applied economics quarterly	16116607	B.II
archivio di studi urbani e regionali	40177	B.II
argumenta oeconomica	12335835	B.II
asia-pacific review	13439006	B.II
asia-pacific social science review	1198386	B.II
asian economic journal	13513958	B.II
atlantic economic journal	1974254	B.II
australian economic review	49018	B.II
b.e. journal of theoretical economics	19351704	B.II
central european journal of economic modelling and econometrics	20800886	B.II
cepal review	2512920	B.II
china: an international journal	2197472	B.II
competition and regulation in network industries	17835917	B.II
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Field	Member
Human Resource Management and Employment Studies	<p>Prof. Pawan Budwar, Aston Business School, UK</p> <p>Prof. Fang Lee Cooke, Monash Business School, Australia</p> <p>Prof. Adrian Wilkinson, Griffith Business School/University of Sheffield, Australia/UK</p>
Information Systems	<p>Prof. Joe Nandhakumar, Warwick Business School, UK</p> <p>Prof. Cathy Urquhart, Manchester Metropolitan University Business School, UK</p>
Innovation	<p>Prof. Silvia Massini, University of Manchester, Alliance Manchester Business School and Manchester Institute of Innovation Research, UK</p> <p>Prof. Nola Hewitt-Dundas, Queen's Management School, Queen's University Belfast, UK</p>
International Business and Area Studies	<p>Prof. Heinz Tüselmann, Manchester Metropolitan University Business School, UK</p> <p>Prof. Jędrzej George Frynas, Open University, UK</p>
Management Development and Education	<p>Prof. David Collings, Dublin City University Business School, Ireland</p> <p>Prof. Ken Starkey, Nottingham University Business School, UK</p>
Marketing	<p>Prof. Adam Lindgreen, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark</p> <p>Prof. Paurav Shukla, Southampton Business School, UK</p>
Operations and Technology Management	<p>Prof. Cipriano Forza, University of Padua, Italy</p> <p>Prof. Christine Harland, Politecnico di Milano, Italy</p> <p>Prof. Ian McCarthy, Simon Fraser University, Beedie School of Business, Canada</p>
Operations Research and Management Science	<p>Prof. David Lane, Henley Business School, UK</p> <p>Prof. Maria Paola Scaparra, Kent Business School, UK</p>

Field	Member
Organisational Studies	<p>Prof. Nic Beech, Middlesex University, UK</p> <p>Dr. Amanda Shantz, Trinity College Dublin, Trinity Business School, Ireland</p>
Psychology (General)	<p>Prof. Julie Aitken Schermer, University of Western Ontario, Canada</p> <p>Prof. Barbara Summers, Leeds University Business School, UK</p>
Psychology (Organisational)	<p>Dr. Julie Gore, University of Bath, UK</p> <p>Prof. David Guest, King's Business School, King's College London, UK</p> <p>Prof. Karoline Strauss, ESSEC Business School Paris, France</p>
Public Sector and Health Care	<p>Prof. Rhys Andrews, Cardiff Business School, UK</p> <p>Dr. Ian Elliot, University of Northumbria, Newcastle Business School, UK</p>
Regional Studies, Planning and Environment	<p>Prof. Gary Cook, Leeds University Business School, UK</p> <p>Prof. Phillip McCann, Sheffield University Management School, UK</p>
Sports, Leisure, Tourism and Sector Studies	<p>Prof. Peter McKiernan, Strathclyde Business School, UK</p> <p>Prof. Stephen Page, Hertfordshire Business School, University of Hertfordshire, UK</p> <p>Prof. Colin C. Williams, Sheffield University Management School, UK</p>
Social Sciences	<p>Prof. Robert Andersen, University of Western Ontario, Canada</p>
Strategy	<p>Dr. Sotirios Paroutis, Warwick Business School, UK</p> <p>Prof. Ram Mudambi, Fox Business School, Temple University, USA</p>

Sources of Journal Metrics

We are very grateful to Clarivate for the permission to use their Journal Citation Reports™ (JCR) and to Elsevier for the use of their SNIP, SJR, and CiteScore metrics powered by Scopus.

INTRODUCTION

The Purpose of the Academic Journal Guide

Welcome to the 2021 edition of the Chartered Association of Business Schools' Academic Journal Guide (AJG).

The purpose of the AJG is to assist researchers to make informed judgements about the outlets they may wish to publish in. It provides details on a wide range of journals, stretching across fields that are either central or salient to business and management studies; in other words, it aims to encompass a broad set of journals in which business and management academics may seek to publish their research.

Our guiding principles on how to use the AJG:

- As the name suggests, the AJG is a 'guide'. It should not be used as a 'one stop shop' to decide where to publish nor to evaluate individuals' research outputs.
- We advise that users of the guide should also seek advice and recommendations from peers and the academic community more generally.
- Although the best work is clustered in a limited number of leading journals, good work may be encountered in a wide range of different places; this highlights the merit of reading work.
- Consider the relevance and quality of journals not listed in the Guide, including new journals, but be aware of predatory outlets.
- The AJG seeks to encourage good practices in journal publishing. As well as considering a journal's rating and relevance, consider other factors such as the composition and diversity of its editorial board, its fee charging practices, or its acceptance rates.
- It is important that users of the AJG understand the methodology. By reading the methodology you will understand how a journal rating came about, and how the AJG's metrics are derived.

Introduction to the methodology and the role of the Scientific Committee

The AJG's ratings are based upon peer review, editorial and expert judgements following the evaluation of many hundreds of publications and is informed by statistical information relating to citation.

The AJG is distinctive in that, unlike other journal ratings, it is not based purely on a weighted average of journal metrics. Rather, the AJG is informed by metrics. The ratings of journals reflect the outcomes of consultations carried out by the subject experts of the Scientific Committee with expert peers and scholarly associations as to the relative standing of journals in each subject area. As well as being experts in their respective fields, members of the Scientific Committee are eminent scholars who typically work across multiple fields and thus are well qualified to evaluate journals outside their scholarly field.

Business and Management is made up of an umbrella of disciplines whose boundaries are fluid and have changed as the AJG has evolved. It has also altered the boundaries and number of fields it evaluates, bringing in new specialised expertise within fields in order to better ensure topics of societal importance are being captured. An example of this is the inclusion of Subject Experts within the 'General Management, Ethics, Gender and Social Responsibility' field with specific expertise in gender studies and gender related issues in management.

While a broad range of metric-based information is made available to the Scientific Committee, the AJG seeks to supplement this through peer opinion and review. The AJG builds upon the external consultations of Scientific Committee members and appreciates there are nuances in different fields based upon how the contours of their disciplines have developed, as well as the relative ability of journals to enable scholars in those fields to disseminate their work.

It is also the case that some specialised areas have a relatively small number of outlets because a large proportion of their output is published in general management journals.

Journal Impact Factors do not capture the nuances imparted by the often substantial differences in the volume of articles within journals, acceptance rates, nor within any specific rating. They also do not capture the nuances of the differences between short opinion pieces (which count towards the numerator, but not the denominator of citation calculations), or citation behaviours within different fields. On occasion, the ratings of some journals, if based purely on such metrics, may not correspond with how scholars perceive them. Our purpose therefore was to produce a guide that took into consideration this subjective input.

The AJG is not intended to be a fully comprehensive guide, given, *inter alia*, the problems of demarcating what is Business and Management research and/or relevant to it, and what is not. Inclusion in the AJG is wholly at the discretion of the Editors and the Scientific Committee, and no undertakings have been made that all journals that may desire inclusion will have been included. Non-inclusion in the AJG should not necessarily be taken as a judgment of journal quality, but may reflect a wide range of factors which may include: a journal's aims and scope; that most content of the journal lies outside the scope of, or are not relevant to business and management studies; or that the Scientific Committee and those they consulted with did not encounter sufficient evidence on which to formulate an opinion.

The AJG is intended to give both emerging and established scholars greater clarity as to which journals to aim for, and where the best work in their field tends to be clustered. Emerging scholars will have greater clarity as to the full range of possible outlets, and where the best work in their field may be clustered. Business and Management is an amalgam of fields. The volume of research in Business and Management has grown rapidly over time, as have the number and breadth of available outlets in which scholars publish. By the same measure, publication in identified top journals gives scholars a recognised currency to assist in situating their research that is not based upon idiosyncratic local preferences that can be distorted by local networks. Should local networks deny the currency of scholars' research in one institution, there will consequently be others who will recognise and welcome it.

We appreciate DORA's concerns as to any focus on outlet rather than content; however, by the same measure, a journal guide gives scholars some outside affirmation that their work resides in the best company, even if the worth of their research is denied by established patronage networks often dominated by privileged groups. Again, we share DORA's concern with citation metrics as an over-riding measure, and hence our emphasis on peer opinion, encompassing a careful reading of typical work and scientific merit that is encountered in particular journals. The Chartered ABS Guide simply seeks to give an opinion that encompasses a composite view as to the relative concentration of work that may be encountered in particular places, whilst recognising that this is a tendency, rather than a general rule. If readers wish to appraise the worth of a particular piece of scholarly work, any choices they make are theirs alone. It is also recognised that there is a great range in the standard of editorial experience and standing between journals, and, indeed, in the quality of reviewers that journals can hope to attract, although it does not automatically correspond to journal metrics, and, indeed, there are important methodological differences within the latter. Of course, there are many other forms of research output than journal articles, including books and a variety of creative endeavours informed by scholarly enquiry; the Guide only focuses on journals, but other forms of scholarly endeavour are worthy of due consideration. Again, relative readership of, and citation by, the peer scholarly community needs to be considered against the wider impact on the economy and society of scholarly research. At the same time, we would reject the view that only research that demonstrates immediate practical impact is worthwhile; we remain convinced that scholarly reflection and endeavour can be a good in its own right, and the presence of an intellectual class engaged in either pure or applied enquiry and debate on the state of the human and natural condition is the mark of a civilized society.

Good work may, of course, be found anywhere, but it is a generally held view that such work is more likely to be concentrated in certain journals rather than others. The Editors recognise that any guide that seeks to differentiate between journals will naturally be contentious. Some of this will reflect the natural tensions in academia between shared scholarly identity, exchange and debate, and the individual pursuit of very specialised knowledge that, whilst potentially worthwhile in its own right, when disseminated is likely to be only accessible to a very small audience. It will also reflect the tensions between efforts to commodify academic labour time, and the acclaim exceptional bodies of work receive across the scholarly community. While recognising that exceptional scholarly work may be found in many places, we similarly accept that such work tends to be clustered in particular locales and journals, in a process that may reflect both the availability of resources and accumulated collective human capital. Better journals can be more selective, find it easier to attract top reviewers, have the resources to manage papers efficiently, and, because they are more widely read and cited, will attract some of the most ambitious authors. Identifying such locales is a difficult and fraught process, but we remain convinced that it is better that this is operationalised through the involvement of scholarly experts than without. We have made every effort to learn from feedback we received on the 2018 edition of the AJG.

As outlined in the methodology section, the AJG builds on its previous iterations, and the Editors of this Guide owe a debt of gratitude to the Editors and Scholarly Experts involved in these former editions.

THE AIMS OF THE 2021 AJG

The 2021 edition is a full update of the entire guide.
The aims of the 2021 edition were:

- i. To undertake consultation involving a consistent, verifiable and robust process with learned societies and additional consultation with peer communities and stakeholders.
- ii. To reflect the emergence of a number of new journals that meet appropriate standards for scholarly rigour across the subject areas covered by the AJG and bring into the fold a number of established existing journals that have a strong relevance to business and management, about which we were now in a position to formulate an opinion.
- iii. To identify and consult upon selected journals that have witnessed substantial changes in practices and/or metrics that have potentially influenced their quality.
- iv. To transfer, where appropriate, journals across subject areas if their initial 'home' had been deemed to be unsuitable.

THE PROCESS

The holistic methodology underpinning the AJG, consisting of evaluations of journals not based solely on metrics but reflecting Subject Experts' views, is a distinctive feature of the Guide. The approach followed in 2015 and 2018 built on the previous iterations of the AJG, while we endeavoured to engage more widely with expert peers than when producing earlier guides. The 2021 AJG continued to build on the work of the 2018 AJG through an enlarged and more diverse Scientific Committee and enhanced consultation process.

In detail, the four methodological components are as follows:

First, an open call was issued for applications for new journals to be added to the Guide alongside those already included in the AJG. The Subject Experts formulated an opinion if journals should be included or not.

Second, the Methodologists analysed the data collected from: (i) the Journal Citation Reports™ (JCR) from Clarivate; (ii) the SCImago Journal Rank (SJR); (iii) the Source Normalised Impact per Paper (SNIP); and (iv) the CiteScore.

Third, commencing from September 2020, evaluations were conducted by Subject Experts, based on consultations with learned societies, professional associations and leading academics in their area (see Appendix 2 for details of the consultation process). Following these consultations, Subject Experts compiled these inputs, metric information and other information into cases for changes in journal ratings where these were supported by robust evidence. The experts accorded particular attention to journals where there had been a significant change in the metrics, where there had been a significant change based on criteria of AJG journal grade definitions, as well as journals new to the Guide. Based on this, reasoned recommendations were formulated.

Following this process, the Methodologists, the Chair of the Scientific Committee and the Editors met with the Scientific Committee on 9th March 2021. All cases with completed Journal Review Forms and supporting metric information were provided to the committee. This allowed the Committee as a whole to review the proposed ratings of the journals under consideration in their entirety.

Fourth, the review and approval by Chartered Association of Business School's Academic Journal Guide Management Committee.

Please see Appendix 1 for more detail on the review process.

THE FOUR IMPACT FACTORS RELATING TO CITATION INFORMATION

With regard to the citation information within the second methodological component, it is not the intention of this document to provide a detailed review of the methodologies underlying these four impact factors. Nevertheless, in what follows we provide a brief description of these four impact factors, including their advantages and drawbacks. The 2008 version of the 5-Year Impact Factor from Clarivate was the impact factor underlying the 2010 version of the AJG. In addition to the Five-Year JIF the 2015 version used the SJR and the SNIP. The 2018 revision of the AJG also used a fourth impact factor, i.e. the Impact per Publication (IPP). As Elsevier replaced the IPP with the CiteScore in December 2016, the 2021 AJG therefore uses the latter, in addition to the Clarivate 5-Year Impact Factor, and the SJR and SNIP from Scopus.

An immediate advantage of using all four impact factors other than just the Clarivate 5-Year Impact Factor is that the SJR, the SNIP and the CiteScore are available for a much larger number of journals whereas the JCR represents only journals that are in the Social Sciences Citation Index™ from Clarivate. Refer to González-Pereira et al. (2010) for more information on the SJR, and Moed (2010) for more information about the SNIP and how it compares to the SJR.

The main advantages and disadvantages of the four impact factors are as follows (see Colledge et al. 2010 for a much more detailed comparison). The Journal Citation Reports (JCR) contain the most widely used journal metrics, including the Journal Impact Factor™ (JIF) and the 5-Year Impact Factor. Its main disadvantage is that it does not adjust for differences in the number of citations across subject areas. In particular, it tends to generate much lower values compared to journals in the Science Citation Index Expanded™ from Clarivate that includes biomedical science, physical sciences, and chemistry.

The SJR's main advantages are that it adjusts for differences in the number of citations across subject areas and also adjusts for the prestige of a journal. However, the fact that it adjusts for prestige also creates a drawback as sources that are cited in more prestigious journals in turn are given more prestige. This may result in self-perpetuating lists of so called prestige journals.

The SNIP's main advantage is that it normalises citations across subject areas and that it does so without relying on classifications of subject areas that in turn would create limitations.¹ However, as the SNIP does not adjust for the percentage of reviews published in a journal, it tends to have higher values for journals publishing reviews. It is also more prone to editorial 'game playing' via journal self-citations.

The CiteScore measures the average citations received per article published in a journal. It is the ratio of the number of citations obtained in a given year (e.g., 2018) for the papers published in the prior three years (e.g., 2015 to 2017) to the total number of articles published in that journal during the same three-year window.²

Bearing in mind that all four impact factors have advantages as well as drawbacks – i.e., no impact factor is perfect – a strong case can be made for the need to consult all four impact factors (wherever available) when assessing the quality of a journal. This is the approach adopted for the AJG. The four impact factors were standardised across each subject area in a similar way to the 2015 and 2018 versions of the AJG.

1 Effectively, the SNIP's subject areas are 'tailor-made' (Moed 2010: 274) which is an advantage when dealing with cross- and multi-disciplinary journals.

2 Analogously, the 5-Year Impact Factor for 2018 divides the 2018 citations for a journal by the number of papers it published during the five previous years, i.e. 2013-2017. Note that in June 2020, the CiteScore calculation was changed, in particular, counting the number of citations for a journal over a four-year window. Work on the 2021 AJG began in 2019 and hence employs the previous CiteScore calculation.

Following the 2018 AJG, this iteration of the guide uses the mean 5-Year Impact Factor from Clarivate based on the average of the five-year impact factors for the years 2014 to 2018. This average is then standardised by subtracting the average for the subject area and dividing this difference by the standard deviation:

**Standardised
Impact Factor**



Journal Impact Factor - Mean Impact Factor for Subject Area
Standard Deviation of Impact Factor for Subject Area

We used standardised impact factors that are calculated for the SJR, the SNIP and the CiteScore. It should be noted, however, that the standardised mean SJR, SNIP and CiteScore are based on the three-year impact factors rather than the five-year impact factors as the latter are not available.

The reason why the AJG focuses on the 5-Year Impact Factor (and the three-year SJR and SNIP) rather than a 2-year impact factor is that 2-year citation metrics can be highly volatile across years and because the AJG takes a longer-run view of journal evaluation.

It should be noted that there can be considerable variability between and across journal metrics from different sources and with different calculations. Hence, these should not be used mechanically and uniquely as a means of distribution. Crucially, this variability underlines the importance of adopting a four-step methodology. The Subject Experts were also provided with the other metrics and data items, such as the percentage of articles not cited and the percentage of reviews per journal, to help them rate the journals in their subject area. The Subject Experts were asked to rate the journals from 4 to 1. A further distinction (Journal of Distinction) was made for in respect of a small number of journals amongst those with a rating of 4.

RATING DEFINITIONS

In Table 1, the definitions of the journal ratings are set out. This draws on the previous iterations of the AJG.

Table 1: Definitions of journal ratings

Rating	Meaning of Quality Rating
4*	Journals of Distinction. Within the business and management field including economics, there are a small number of grade 4 journals that are recognised world-wide as exemplars of excellence. As the world leading journals in the field, they would be ranked among the highest in terms of impact factor. The initial paper selection and review process would be rigorous and demanding. Accepted papers would typically not only bring to bear large scale data and/or rigour in theory, but also be extremely finely crafted and provide major advances to their field.
4	All journals rated 4 (whether included in the Journal of Distinction category or not) publish the most original and best-executed research. As top journals in their field, these journals typically have high submission and low acceptance rates. Papers are heavily refereed. These top journals generally have among the highest citation impact factors within their field.
3	3 rated journals publish original and well executed research papers and are highly regarded. These journals typically have good submission rates and are very selective in what they publish. Papers are heavily refereed. These highly regarded journals generally have good to excellent journal metrics relative to others in their field, although at present not all journals in this category carry a citation impact factor.
2	Journals in this category publish original research of an acceptable standard. For these well regarded journals in their field, papers are fully refereed according to accepted standards and conventions. Citation impact factors are somewhat more modest in certain cases. Many excellent practitioner-oriented articles are published in 2-rated journals.
1	These journals, in general, publish research of a recognised, but more modest standard in their field. Papers are in many instances refereed relatively lightly according to accepted conventions. Few journals in this category carry a citation impact factor.

Source: Adapted from Harvey et al. (2010)

Why is that Journal Awarded that Rating?

Users of the AJG are not likely to agree with the rating of every journal. The AJG incorporates a wide set of experts on its Scientific Committee and each member has spoken to many individual scholars and scholarly associations. There proved to be a remarkable general consensus concerning most journals, albeit offset with a relatively small number of difficult or contentious cases. One or two ratings may still appear unusual to users, but it is worth considering that the Scientific Committee includes many experts who are party to a wide range of information, that not all may be similarly aware of. More broadly speaking, we have simply awarded journal ratings, and any conclusions as to the worth of the journal the user reaches are their own. Reviewing the AJG, a critical user may conclude that it is only the 4-rated journals (or the JoD category) that are worth considering for their work; others may feel that a rating of 2 is what matters, as it sets these journals apart from those that are rated 1. Still others may find that a rating of 1 is a useful indicator that the journal meets normal scholarly standards, including a general expectation of peer review.

It is important to note that the average number of articles published by a journal within a particular issue will affect how much work is published in 3- or 4-rated outlets in a particular field. In terms of categorising research in a particular national context, the proportion of work by local scholars typically published by that journal is an important consideration; many journals are dominated by contributors from a particular nation or region. A note of caution is also urged in looking at the proportion of 3 and 4-rated journals in a particular field; again, the proportion of 3s and 4s will to a large extent be a product of the number of 1-rated journals included. In very large areas, there is likely to be a large number of journals with low ratings, whilst in smaller fields, the journal ecosystem may be more limited. Hence, readers of the AJG are cautioned against simply counting the number of 3 and 4-rated journals in a particular field, and comparing the result with other fields. Any conclusions that do not take these issues into account might be misleading.

AJG 2021 OUTCOMES

An important *raison d'être* of journal rankings is to encourage good practices in journals and, in doing so, respond to developments in the journal ecosystem in as much as they might impact on quality and the relative concentration of good work in particular places. The 2021 edition of the AJG focused on selected journals that had substantive changes in metrics or esteem, with such changes being identified through Scientific Committee members, and/or where there were significant shifts in metrics when compared against peer journals so as to lead to them being sent out for consultation. It was also the case that the 2021 AJG added to the list a number of journals where it was possible to make an informed judgement and where the Subject Experts were confident that there was sufficient evidence of scholarly standards. The list now comprises 1,703 journals up from slightly less than 1,600 journals in the 2018 AJG, i.e., a 9% increase in journals (see Table 2).

Almost all new journals typically entered the list with a rating of 1 or 2, reflecting their emerging or focused status. Only in very exceptional cases did journals enter the list with a rating of 3. Finally, there were 5 journals that were upgraded from a rating of 4 to Journal of Distinction status following overwhelming support to do so from a broad-based consultation of their respective fields as well as the Scientific Committee. Specifically, these were *Academy of Management Annals*; *Academy of Management, Learning and Education*; *Human Resource Management Journal*; *Journal of the Association of Information Systems*; and *Personnel Psychology*. For each subject area, a number of eminent individuals had been consulted about the proposed new Journal of Distinction and all had supported on the basis that it was an exceptional journal in the subject, with a high impact score.

In this iteration of the AJG, we have taken on board the findings of a survey of business academics (Walker et al., 2019a). Specifically, we have further expanded the size as well as the geographical and gender composition of the Subject Expert group on the Scientific Committee. We also increased the diversity of subjects examined. Specifically, the Subject Expert group has expanded to 53, representing more than a threefold increase since 2010. Since 2010, the proportion of women on the committee has risen from 11% to 33%. And while the members of the Scientific Committee are all internationally respected in their fields, the proportion of scholars based outside the UK has risen from a mere 2% to 38%. This shift also mirrors the usage of the AJG with approximately half of the 40,000 registered users of the AJG residing outside of the UK. It is also encouraging that fields, such as economics, that are represented by the AJG but who frequently work outside the business schools also utilise the guide as a means to recognise the contributions, particularly in interdisciplinary contexts (Walker et al., 2020c).

One element of providing a 'level playing field' is ensuring that the guide aligns to the fields that business and management scholars, and scholars in aligned fields, publish in. While work has shown that the AJG aligns closely to academic users' primary fields (Walker et al., 2019b), we appreciate that a strength of business and management is that it comprises an umbrella of disciplines.

As well as expanding the scope and deepening the extent of expertise of the Subject Expert group, we have further codified the process of evaluation based on clear consultations with the wider academic community through subject experts. Subject Experts have utilised their subject-specific knowledge to examine a broad array of indicators at the journal level by reviewing the journal content, editorial composition and other factors. We consider that the examination of a wide array of journal indicators will lead to a more responsible evaluation framework, in which values such as diversity, transparency and accuracy are valued as well as scholarly impact.

The only change to the quantitative methodology has been the inclusion of a fourth impact factor, the CiteScore, which replaces the IPP that had been discontinued by Elsevier.

CONCLUSION

We hope that the Academic Journal Guide (AJG) will stimulate further dialogue with the peer community at large. No journal rating guide is ever definitive. It could be argued that the supposed objectivity and superiority of purely metrics-based ratings is potentially misleading, as are crude count-based measures (Aguinis et al., 2020). The AJG is based on the conviction that the expertise and experience of a committee of successful researchers provides fertile grounds for including scholarly judgment in the rating of academic journals.

We take the concerns of the peer community very seriously. Hence, the Editors and Management Committee would again welcome informed input and feedback.

Our intention is to update the AJG every three years. We will continue to strive for ever greater rigour, representation and inclusivity, taking account of the concerns across the community of business and management scholarship, whilst retaining the principle of differentiation in research outputs and evading a 'tragedy of the commons'.

Table 2: Data on Subject Areas

The numbers in italic refer to the 2018 Academic Journal Guide.

	Distribution of Journals Across Ratings				
	4	3	2	1	Total
Accounting	6	21	34	28	89
	<i>6</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>28</i>	89
Business and Economic History	3	4	13	9	29
	<i>2</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>8</i>	28
Economics, Econometrics and Statistics	27	67	116	124	334
	<i>23</i>	<i>67</i>	<i>118</i>	<i>122</i>	330
Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management	3	6	10	13	32
	<i>3</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>13</i>	30
Finance	8	32	36	37	113
	<i>8</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>39</i>	<i>34</i>	110
General Management, Ethics, Gender and Social Responsibility	9	12	30	64	115
	<i>8</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>27</i>	<i>31</i>	78
Human Resource Management and Employment Studies	5	9	23	20	57
	<i>5</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>17</i>	53
Information Systems	8	11	36	45	100
	<i>4</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>34</i>	<i>39</i>	94
Innovation	2	5	12	21	40
	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	34
International Business and Area Studies	2	7	18	28	55
	<i>2</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>26</i>	52
Management Development and Education	1	3	17	29	50
	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>25</i>	46
Marketing	8	12	21	35	76
	<i>8</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>29</i>	70
Operations and Technology Management	4	9	10	46	69
	<i>3</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>39</i>	62
Operations Research and Management Science	5	22	18	24	69
	<i>5</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>22</i>	66
Organisational Studies	5	6	12	15	38
	<i>5</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>9</i>	32
Psychology (General)	12	15	13	27	67
	<i>9</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>25</i>	57
Psychology (Organisational)	8	14	18	26	66
	<i>7</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>27</i>	67
Public Sector and Health Care	5	10	25	15	55
	<i>3</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	43
Regional Studies, Planning and Environment	3	9	9	12	33
	<i>3</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>4</i>	24

	Distribution of Journals Across Ratings				
	4	3	2	1	Total
Sports, Leisure, Tourism and Sector Studies	5	10	38	55	108
	5	10	38	54	107
Social Sciences	8	29	29	22	88
	8	29	29	7	73
Strategy	2	2	5	11	20
	1	3	4	9	17
All subject areas	139	315	543	706	1,703
	121	311	532	598	1,562

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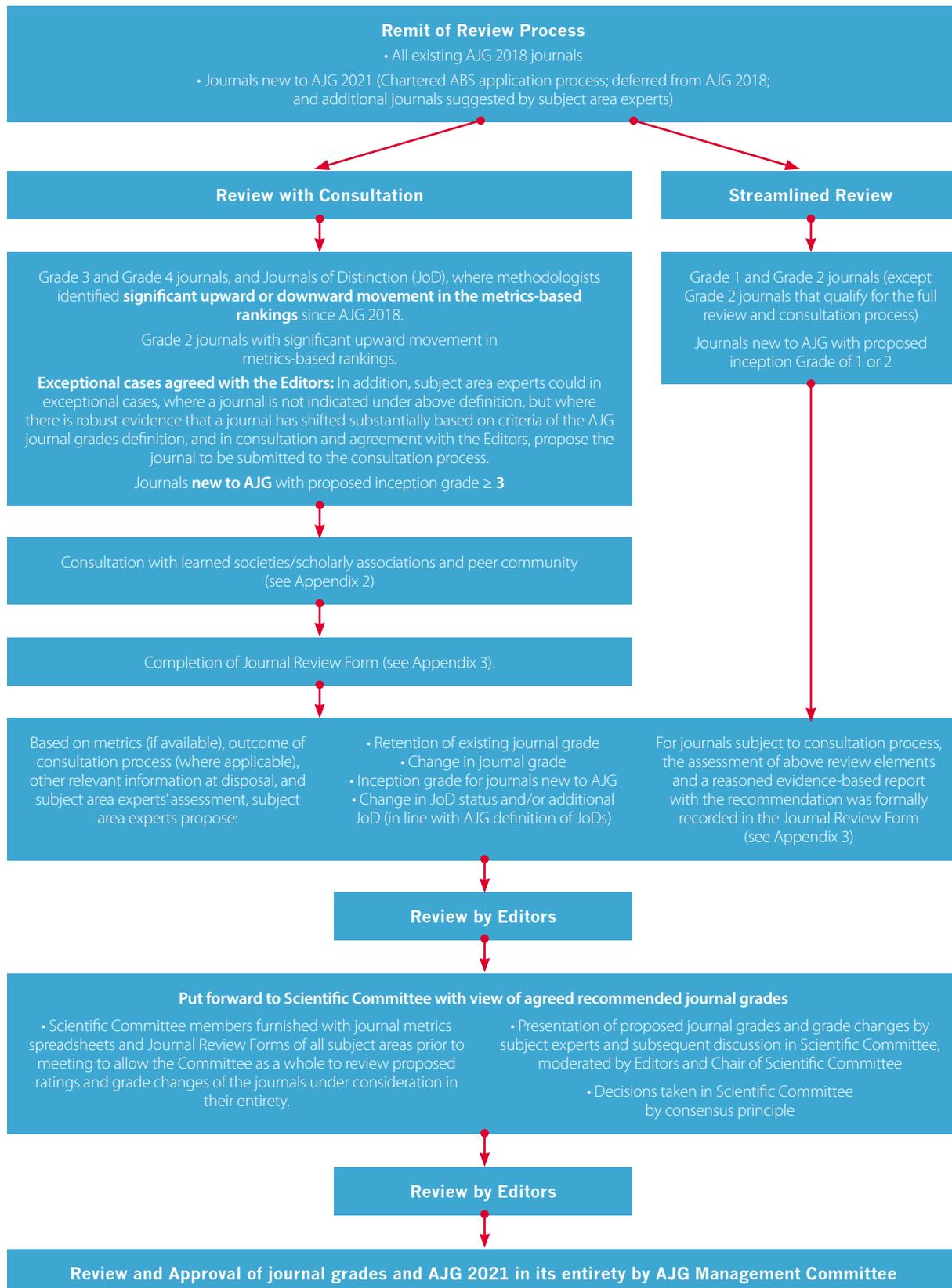
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APPENDIX 1

Overview of the AJG 2021 Review Process



APPENDIX 2

Consultation with Academic Community

Overview and Guiding Principles

The formal consultation process and documented assessment with review forms, piloted in the AJG 2018 interim review process was further strengthened, refined and formalised and rolled out comprehensively in the AJG 2021 process. It involved a consistent, transparent, verifiable and robust consultation with learned societies/scholarly associations and peer community panels in each AJG subject area. The consultation process formed an integral part of the AJG review process. As well as expanding the scope and deepening the extent of expertise of the Subject Area Expert teams of the Scientific Committee, the systematic roll-out of a comprehensive, verifiable and formalised consultation process with the wider academic community ensured a codified process of evaluation based on consultation and expertise residing in both AJG subject area teams and the Scientific Committee across subject areas.

Journals subject to Consultation Process

All journals falling within the remit of “Review with Consultation” in the AJG 2021 Review Process (see Appendix 1).

Consultation Target Audience in the Academic Community

- Where possible and where they exist: main worldwide, regional (e.g. European) and UK based learned societies and scholarly associations in the specific subject area, and with relevant special interest groups in general management and business and related learned societies.
- Peer Group Panel of recognised experts in the field, having regard to appropriate international spread and gender balance.
- Beyond the consultations above, subject experts were welcomed to conduct further consultations with the wider peer community and other stakeholders.

Consultation Process

- Subject area experts were furnished with a bespoke spreadsheet for consultees to record their assessment and to provide comments and narrative if they so wished, as well as with an official Chartered ABS letter to accompany the consultation requests, setting out inter alia the purpose, remit and importance of the consultation process, data protection, ethics, confidentiality undertakings.
- Subject experts provided to Editors and Chair of Scientific Committee on a confidential basis the list of peers (anonymised) and learned societies consulted, which they reviewed to ensure sufficiency and adequacy of consultation in the subject area and consistency across subject areas.

Computation of the Consultation Outcome

- Subject experts retained a record of the consultations.
- The outcome of the consultation process was formally recorded and on a dedicated spreadsheet for each subject area. In addition, a number of subject areas also provided documents with detailed comments and narratives from consultees.
- All consultation records were reviewed by the Editors and Chair of Scientific Committee and logged in the Chartered ABS AJG system with restricted access for the Editors, Chair of Scientific Committee, Methodologists and the Chartered ABS AJG team.

Evaluation of Consultation Outcome and Completion of Journal Review Form

- For all journals that underwent consultations, subject area experts computed a numerical summary assessment of the consultation results in terms of averages and/or means and median for peer group consultations and for the consultations with learned societies, as well as a short synthesis summarizing the subject area experts' assessment of the consultation results. These were made available to Scientific Committee members.
- This information was also documented in the Journal Review Form and made available to Scientific Committee members. Review forms were completed if after completion of the consultation process, and based on the metrics, the results of consultation, other information that may be available and subject area experts' assessment, subject experts recommend a change in journal grade, a change in JoD status/addition, or adding a journal which is new to the AJG with a grade of 3 or higher.
- Based on the holistic assessment of the consultation outcome and the other journal grade criteria, this entailed also a reasoned summary assessment to support the recommendation. The completed Journal Review Forms were reviewed by the Editors and made available to Scientific Committee, allowing the Committee as a whole to review proposed rankings/changes of the journals under consideration in their entirety and facilitate informed decision making at the Scientific Committee meeting.



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