

Minutes
British Psychological Society
68th Annual General Meeting
Levinsky Room, Roland Levinsky
Building, Plymouth University
17:00 – 18:00 Tuesday 7th January 2020

Present: Christine Campbell, Geoffry A. Codd, Eileen Cox, Maeve Edwards, Elizabeth Y. Haworth, Emily Hutchinson, Anne Jungblut, Hiroshi Kawai, Martin Kelly, Hannah Kemp, Regina Kolzenborg, Jan Krokowski, Keelan Lawlor, Jane Lewis, Adam Lewis, Christine Maggs, Clare Marshall, Linda Medlin, Dónal McGee, Suzanne McGowan, Hilary Redden,
Michael Rodríguez, Kate Schoenrock, Teresa Shelly, Nicky Slee, Joe Taylor, Alison Taylor, Seth Thomas, Hennie Thomson, Graham Underwood (GU), Eleanor Wood, Jo Wilbraham, Chris Williamson, Martin Wilkinson, Chris Yesson.

1. Apologies for absence

Andy Davies, Gill Malin

2. Announcements

None

3. Approval of the Minutes of the 67th AGM, January 2019 SAMS, Oban

Proposal to accept these minutes: Juliet Brodie

Seconded: Martin Wilkinson

4. Matters arising

None

5. Reports from Elected Officers (* reports available at <https://brphycsoc.org/>)

a. Secretary (Francis Bunker)

519 emails were received in 2019. These included some SPAM and many from organisations trying to see their service to the BPS (conference organisers, bid writing advice etc.). Relevant correspondence was forwarded to appropriate members of Council to be dealt with or for advice as to how to deal with them. Selected events were forwarded to the Web Master (Andy Davies) for consideration of posting on the BPS web site.

The BPS insurance was renewed in the secretary's name on 12th November 2019 by the society's treasurer, Maeve Edwards.

b. Treasurer (Maeve Edwards)

Accounts not through from accountants but will be emailed to members as soon as they are received. An overview of current financial status was given (and is available on the web site). Subscription increase was discussed.

Payments

Expenditure on the current account has run normally in the last six months, with the majority of requests for payments running on time, with a few exceptions for both members of council and students, for which I apologise for any delays.

Accounts overview: Current balance, 3/1/20

Current a/c: £31,295.94

Savings a/c: £37,613.44

NS&I investment a/c: £97,314.77

WooCommerce (card payment facility linked to web payments): £540.00 (automatic payout to bank due 9/1/20)

Paypal: £4819.34 (manual payout to bank account after membership rush of January).

Total: £171,583.50

Outgoing funds committed but as yet unspent:

Prizes: £250

Travel: £8396

Small grants: £12792

Council: £808

Other (administration): £946

Total: £23193

Accounts preparation

Accounts for 2017 and 2018 have been prepared and sent by the accountants in advance of this AGM, although I apologise for them not being produced earlier to allow for a longer period of reflection/query. I propose that the accounts can be distributed to the membership via email in the next few days and leave a time period of one week for comments before any corrections/explanations are made and submission to the Charity Commission.

The paperwork for the 2019 accounts is being prepared and will be ready by the summer council meeting.

Membership and website administration costs and implications – current and future

Financial capture of memberships appears to be going well, thanks to the systems put in place by Andy. The vast majority of memberships are now rolling over in January, which makes the tracking of society income much more efficient, although there are always those few that join any time during the rest of the year. However, these systems cost money to run, at approximately £1.76 per member after Paypal and WooCommerce fees and upgrades are taken into account, as well as website monthly hosting costs from Jolt. The good news is that this is nearly half as cheap as the financial administration costs in 2017 when we used Paypal and paid for the rental/use of a credit card machine (£3.21 per member).

While we need these online financial mechanisms in a digital age (particularly where over half of our subscription income comes from beyond the borders of the UK), it is still quite costly for us to gather them and I propose the council (and BPS membership) consider a modest increase in membership fee. To this end, I would propose that we discuss this at the summer council meeting and present a new subscription structure at the AGM 2021 that also includes a new category for businesses. We must also outline the clear benefits of the increased membership fee for all, which can then be used as recruiting material for a variety of different targets (e.g. young postgrads, early stage researchers, businesses etc.).

Graham Underwood commented that threats to BPS finances from Open Access is something to watch.

c. Membership Secretary (Hilary Redden)

d.

Membership

On, 17th Dec 2019, the active membership of the Society was 376, this includes our 12 Honorary Life Members.

European Journal of Psychology

Of our 376 active members in 2019, 109 (29%) opt to receive the EJP by post. This is up from 59 members in 2018.

Membership breakdown

<u>Membership Plan</u>	No. Active Members	% of Total
Honorary Membership	12	3
Ordinary Membership with Journal	74	20
Ordinary Membership without Journal	147	39

Retired Membership with Journal	16	4
Retired Membership without Journal	18	5
Student (3 year) Membership without Journal (NEW)	37	10
Student Membership with Journal	7	2
Student Membership without Journal	65	17
Corporate Membership	0	0
Total Members Active	376	

Total membership (Fig 1) although up on 2018 is still nearly 100 members less than the heady days of 2010 (470 members). Why this is I don't know, but perhaps the new 3-year membership for students and the automatic renewals will keep members active as their annual renewal now requires no effort on their part.

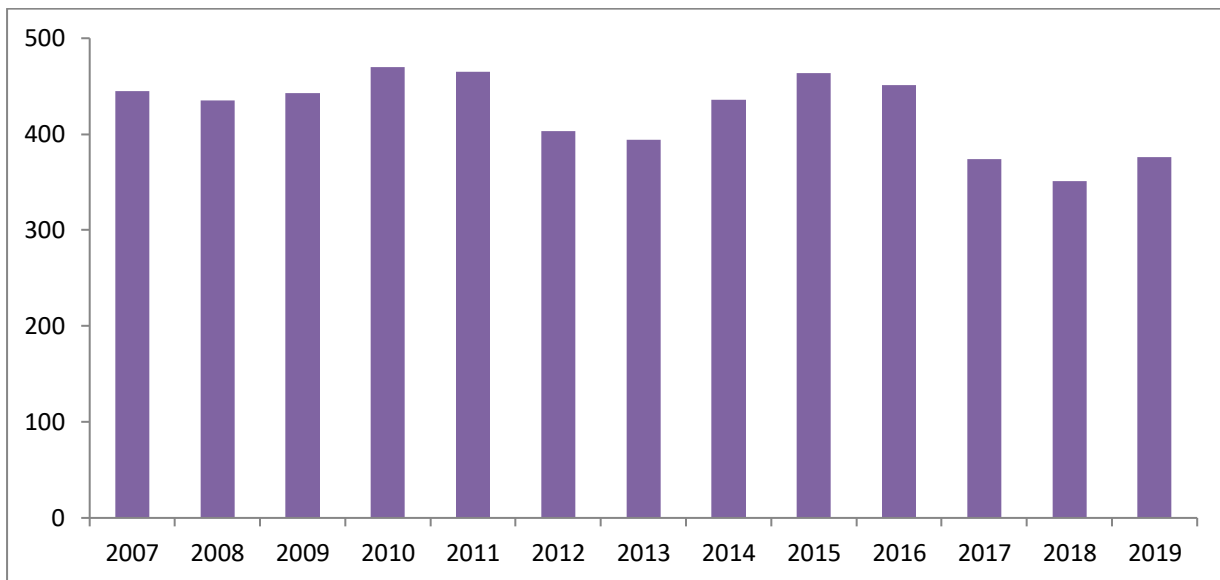


Fig 1 Total membership by year

Membership Country of Origin

Based on the suffix of their email and no other personal identifier, it can be seen that our membership comes from 36 different countries (Fig 2). Unsurprisingly the majority (216, 57 %) are British based email addresses. Of our other most welcome colleagues (43 %), 16 EU countries are represented, and the two largest non-British contingents are from the USA and Germany.

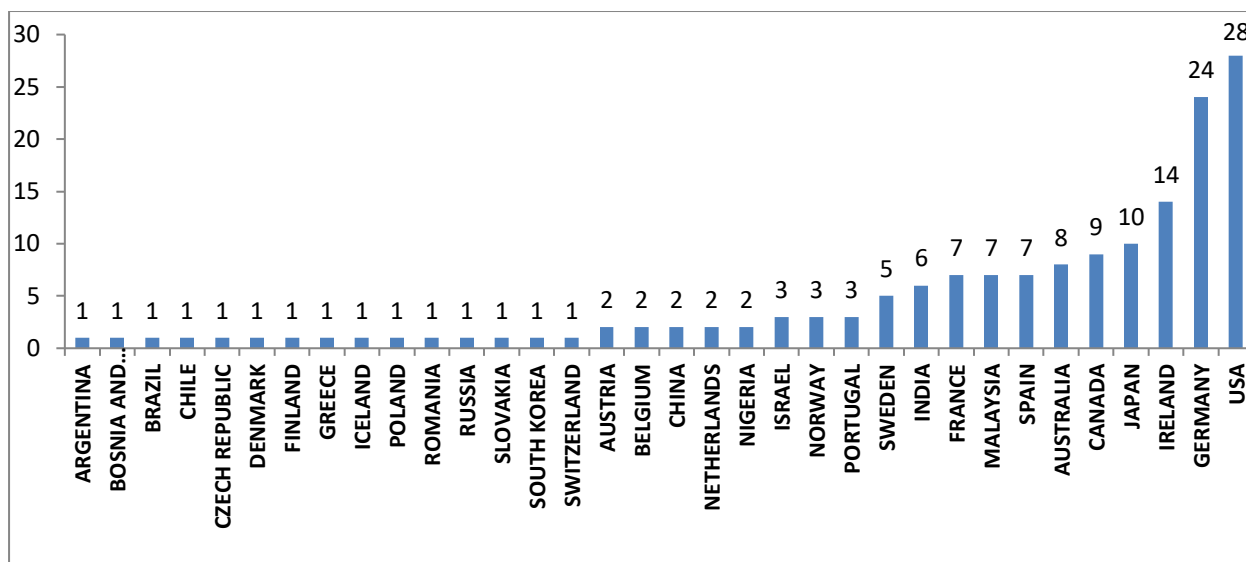


Fig 2 Country of origin, based on email suffix, of non-UK BPS members, actual no. of members indicated

Database and Renewals

As we have had a full year of the online membership application and payment methods I can report that most but not all membership attempts are successful. There are 8% of which fail or pause. Examination of these usually indicates some problem at the PayPal payment end which is the responsibility of the applicant. These are often an expired payment card or miss-type into an information field and a successful membership application is subsequently made when the flawed attempt is abandoned, and information resubmitted.

Membership Attempts		Count
Successful	Active	376
Flawed (8%)	Cancelled	7
	Expired	8
	Paused	5
	Pending	11
	Total	407

However, if on examining your membership details on the website that you discover you have miss-typed any information e.g. a post code you should be able to edit it yourself or send the correction to the membership secretary (membership@brphycsoc.org) for editing.

e. Student Representative (Amie Parris)
No report submitted.

6. Reports from the Editors and Webmaster ([*https://brphycsoc.org/](https://brphycsoc.org/))

a) Joint Editors of the *European Journal of Psychology* and *Applied Psychology* (Chris Maggs and Juliet Brodie)

Editors in Chief, Editorial Assistant and Associate Editors

Christine Maggs and Juliet Brodie have been joint Editors in Chief for the period. Caroline Magill continues as Editorial Assistant.

Associate Editors are unchanged since last year's report but we are very sorry to report the recent sudden death of Prof. Mario Giordano, Ancona, one of EJP's Associate Editors for Biochemistry and Physiology.

General Comments

The last 12 months have been very busy with 148 new submissions to the journal. Adding revised papers coming back to that figure, there was a turnover of 228 papers handled in the last 12 months.

2019

Volume 54 Issue 1 February 2019 (published in Feb) – 128 pp

Volume 54 Issue 2 May 2019 (published in April) – 124 pp

Volume 54 Issue 3 August 2019 (published in August) – 272 pp (larger issue to clear papers)

Special Issue: Abstract booklet for EPC7 – published in August ahead of the conference

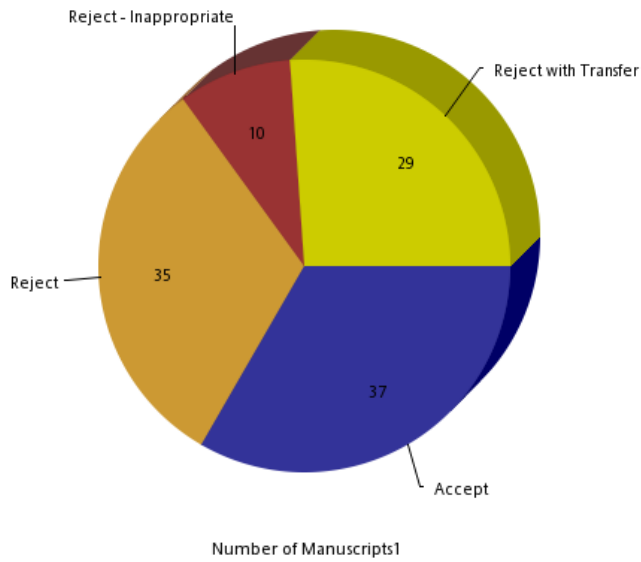
Volume 54 Issue 4 November 2019 (published in December) – 124 pp

Manuscripts submitted by author country Jan 1st to Dec 31st

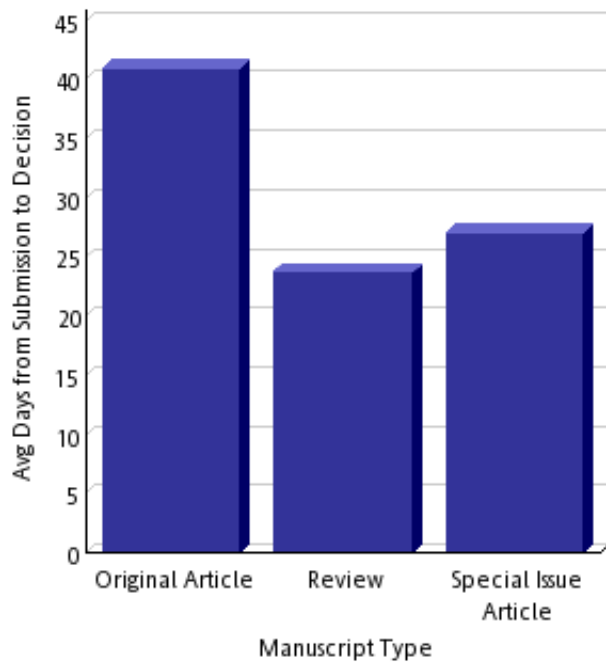
Author Country	Number of submissions
Argentina	4
Australia	1
Bangladesh	1
Belgium	1
Brazil	5
Canada	2
Chile	1
China	12
Croatia	4
Czech Republic	5
Denmark	1
Egypt	1
Ethiopia	1
Finland	1
Germany	2
Greece	1
Hungary	1
India	18
Indonesia	1
Iran (the Islamic Republic of)	8
Iraq	2
Ireland	1
Israel	1
Italy	6
Japan	6
Korea	1
Lithuania	1
Malaysia	2
Mexico	3
New Caledonia	1
Nigeria	2
Oman	1
Pakistan	1
Philippines	1
Poland	3
Portugal	14
Russian Federation	9
Spain	7
Taiwan	1
Thailand	1
Tunisia	2
Turkey	3
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	4
United States	4
Summary	148

Decisions made on manuscripts Jan 1st to Dec 31st

Accept ratio 37:34 (33.3%)

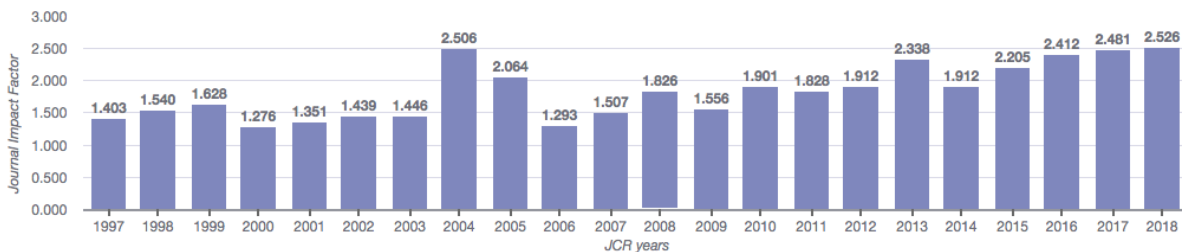
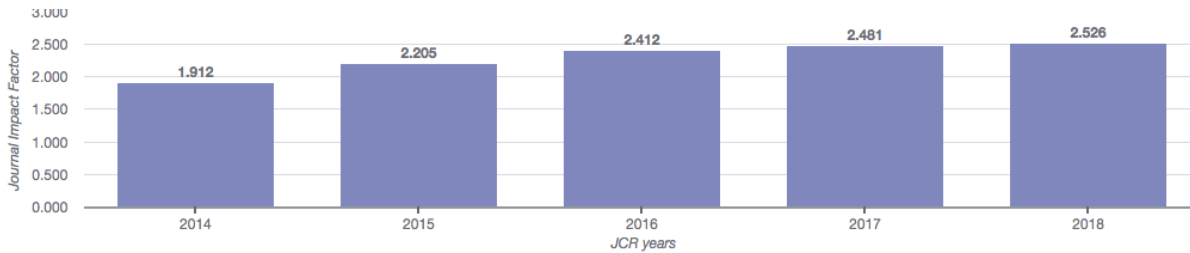


Average time from submission to decision Jan 1st to Dec 31st



Journal Impact Factor

European Journal of Phycology's 2018 Impact Factor increased to 2.562 from its 2017 value of 2.481. It is now at its highest ever level. The EJP five-year impact factor has increased from 2.335 to 2.621. However, due to rising IF in other journals EJP is still (just) Q1 in Marine & Freshwater Biology and continues to be Q2 in Plant Sciences.

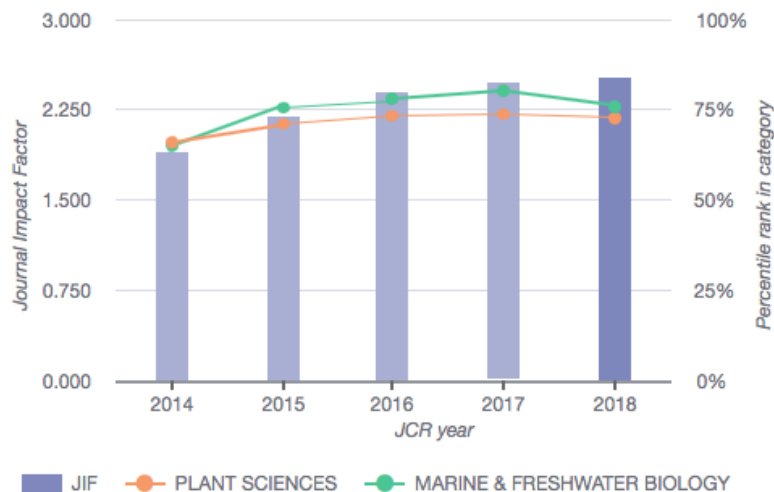


Journal Impact Factor Trend 2018

[Printable Version](#) ↗

2.526

2018 Journal Impact Factor



Top cited papers for the 2018 Impact Factor (papers published in 2016 and 2017)

Journal Impact Factor contributing items

Citable items in 2017 and 2016 (78)

Citations in 2018 (197)

[Seaweed production: overview of the global state of exploitation, farming and emerging research activity](#)

Buschmann, Alejandro H.; Tadmor-Shalev, Niva; Critchley, Alan T.; Camus, Carolina; Infante, Javier; et al.
20

[A polyphasic approach for the taxonomy of cyanobacteria: principles and applications](#)

Komarek, Jiri

18

[The genera *Melanothamnus* Bornet & Falkenberg and *Vertebrata* SF Gray constitute well-defined clades of the red algal tribe *Polysiphonieae* \(Rhodomelaceae, Ceramiales\)](#)

Diaz-Tapia, Pilar; Mclvord, Lynne; Freshwater, D. Wilson; Verbruggen, Heroen; Wynne, Michael J.; et al.
7

[Inflated organelle genomes and a circular-mapping mtDNA probably existed at the origin of coloniality in volvocine green algae](#)

Featherston, Jonathan; Arakaki, Yoko; Nozaki, Hisayoshi; Durand, Pierre M.; Smith, David R.
6

[Long-term survival of haptophyte and prasinophyte resting stages in marine sediment](#)

Ellegaard, Marianne; Moestrup, Ojvind; Andersen, Thorbjorn Joest; Lundholm, Nina
5

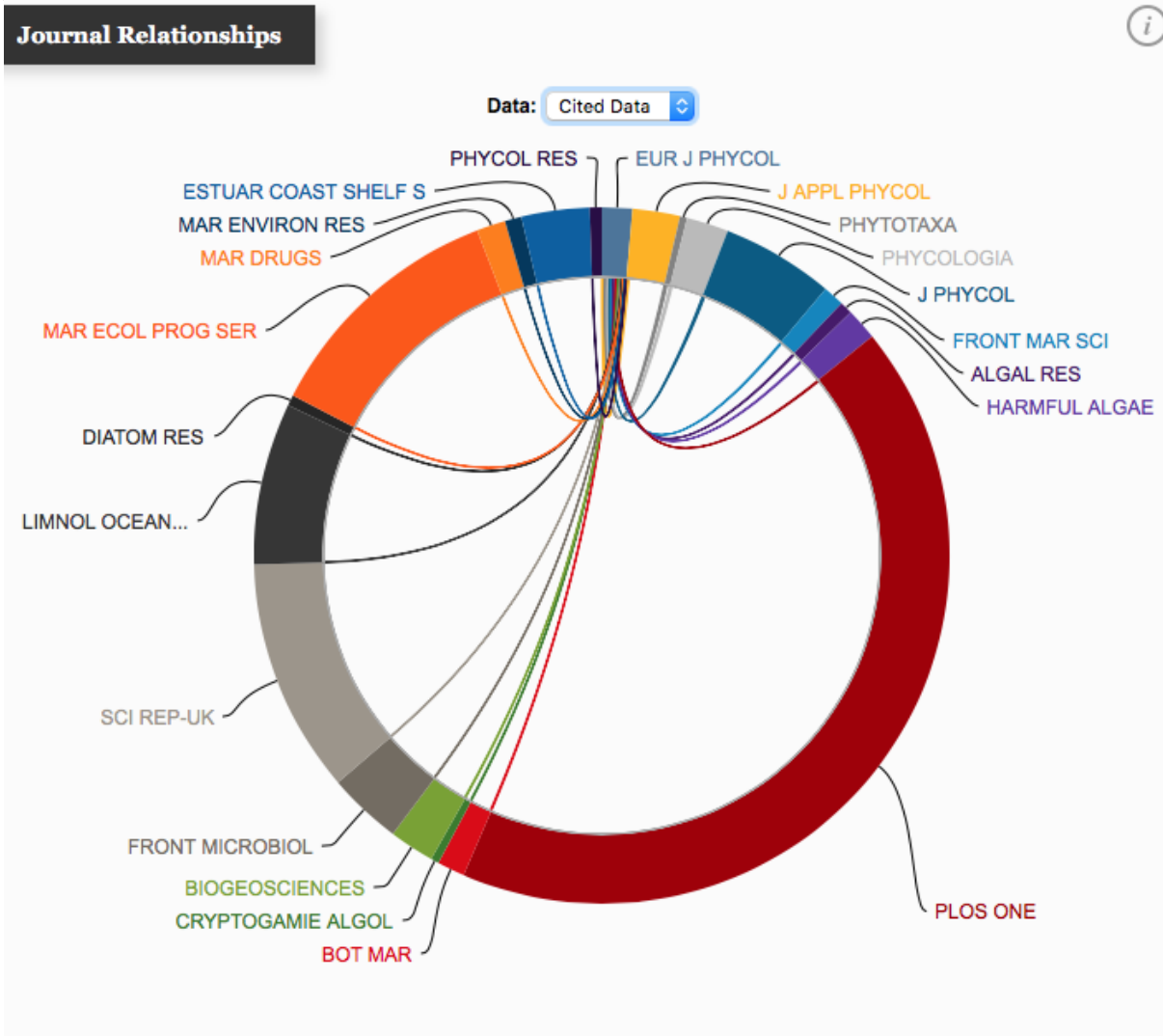
[Cellular aggregation in Chlamydomonas \(Chlorophyceae\) is chimaeric and depends on traits like cell size and motility](#)

Sathe, Santosh; Durand, Pierre M.
5

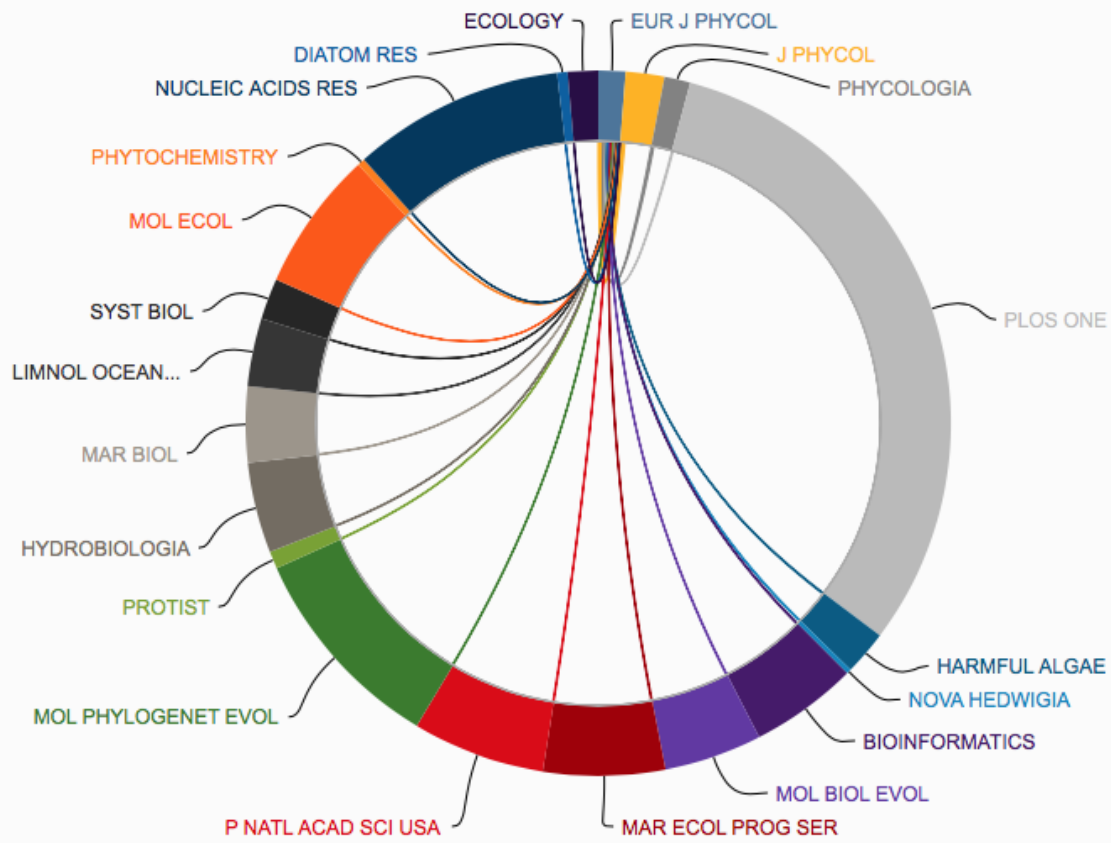
[Cyst-theca relationship and phylogenetic positions of Scrippsiella plana sp nov and S-spinifera \(Peridinales, Dinophyceae\)](#)

Luo, Zhaohe; Mertens, Kenneth Neil; Bagheri, Siamak; Aydin, Hilal; Takano, Yoshihito; et al.

Clarivate now include a range of analyses; this is particularly interesting showing the contrast between journals EJP is cited by (Cited data) vs. those we cite (Citing data).



Data: Citing Data



Applied Phycology Editorial Report December 2019

(01 Jan 2019– 31st Dec 2019)

There have been 21 submissions to the journal

Four manuscripts have been accepted and are awaiting publication this year

The planned Special Issue 'Algal culture collections in the –omics age' has so far attracted five submissions and more are expected to come in shortly.

Manuscripts submitted by author country

Author Country	Number of submissions
Australia	2
Brazil	1
Egypt	2
Ethiopia	1
Germany	1
India	7
Indonesia	2
Japan	1
Malaysia	1
Poland	1
Portugal	2
Summary	21

b) Editor of *The Phycologist* (Amanda Burson)

A vote of thanks was given to Jan Krokowski for all his years' service as Editor.

Spring 2019- Number 96 Costs:

Printing- £186.40 (35 copies with insert)

Postage- £68.30

Autumn 2019- Number 97 Costs:

Printing- £128.40 (40 copies)

Postage- £39.71

There has been a dramatic decline in the number of requests for printed and mailed copies of *The Phycologist* (down approx. 75% from 2018). I assume this is likely due to the default selection of 'via email' when joining the BPS on the new website. As this keeps printing costs low, future issues will be produced with colour of all images not just covers. Of course, this will be within reason and adjusting to any surges in printed copy requests.

Two requests were made to use material published in *The Phycologist*. One was requested by The Open University of Israel for the use of an illustration of desmids by David Williamson which appeared in issue 94 of *The Phycologist*. The request was made via Dr. Elizabeth Haworth the curator of the Fritsch Collection of Algal Illustrations of the Freshwater Biological Association where many but not all of Williamson's illustrations are held. Dr. Haworth confirmed with David Williamson that he granted permission for this particular illustration to be used in the textbook. I confirmed with Jan Krokowski (acting editor at time of publication) and we also gave permission for the use of the illustration. The second request was by the marketing group representing the ioLight field microscope manufacturers. The request was to use Francis Bunker's review of their microscope which appeared in the autumn number 97 issue of *The Phycologist* as promotional material at the BPS 2020 conference. I gave permission for this after checking with Francis that he agreed for his article to be used in this capacity.

c) Webmaster (Andy Davies)

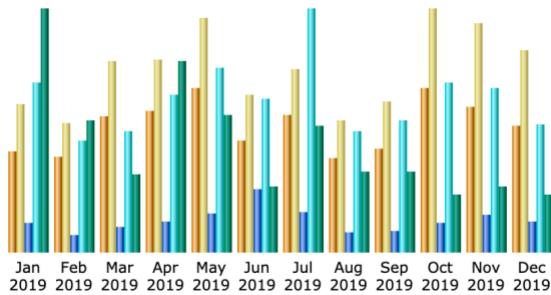
Graham Underwood presented the following report on behalf of Andy Davies.

Main BPS Website

Since the last AGM, we have released the updated the website to reflect the new logo design and undertaken the second automated annual renewal during early January. Overall, this went very well, we had some minor issues with some member renewals that were largely due to their entry of incorrect PayPal account details, expired credit cards and so on. Each of these were handled manually by the webmaster and/or the Membership secretary.

We have had approximately 99.5% uptime on the site, with the longest outage of 5 hours occurring in November 2019 due to an issue at our hosting company. We promptly resolved this issue through communication with their support team.

Visitor numbers for the website are summarised below, currently we have received approximately 32,000 unique visitors to the site, accumulating over 1.7 million hits.



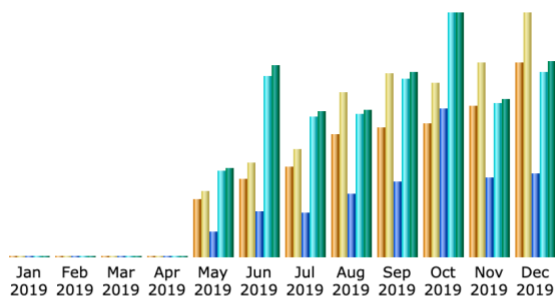
Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2019	2,178	3,207	27,530	163,968	14.19 GB
Feb 2019	2,050	2,792	16,784	107,374	7.68 GB
Mar 2019	2,926	4,148	23,711	116,789	4.56 GB
Apr 2019	3,057	4,159	29,764	152,474	11.12 GB
May 2019	3,560	5,085	36,720	178,634	7.98 GB
Jun 2019	2,409	3,399	61,211	148,810	3.81 GB
Jul 2019	2,959	3,961	39,018	235,630	7.36 GB
Aug 2019	2,046	2,846	19,030	116,892	4.68 GB
Sep 2019	2,235	3,263	20,344	127,375	4.66 GB
Oct 2019	3,547	5,262	27,848	164,207	3.33 GB
Nov 2019	3,148	4,961	35,541	159,389	3.80 GB
Dec 2019	2,735	4,367	29,635	123,607	3.36 GB
Total	32,850	47,450	367,136	1,795,149	76.54 GB

BPS Algal Records

The Webmaster was contacted by David John about an outage of the BPS Algal Records site, in discussion with David and Martin Wilkinson, we agreed that the site would be moved to under BPS Webmaster control. This decision was made to ensure that control of the site and the domain name was not lost. The site and the domain names were moved to our current hosting provider (Jolt.co.uk) in May/June 2019, with thanks to Martin for facilitating this move.

The inaccessibility issue was repaired after some difficulties due to the complexities of the database system used. The site was also updated to use SSL (secure communication between visitors and the website, an internet standard that is now required for a good listing on search engines and to reflect the new logo of the BPS.

Visitor statistics are only available for part of the year, but these numbers seem healthy for a highly targeted website:



Month	Unique visitors	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
Jan 2019	0	0	0	0	0
Feb 2019	0	0	0	0	0
Mar 2019	0	0	0	0	0
Apr 2019	0	0	0	0	0
May 2019	247	284	513	1,763	24.69 MB
Jun 2019	333	402	935	3,701	53.34 MB
Jul 2019	384	459	902	2,868	40.38 MB
Aug 2019	525	703	1,281	2,942	40.98 MB
Sep 2019	554	785	1,540	3,647	51.32 MB
Oct 2019	571	748	3,042	4,997	67.91 MB
Nov 2019	648	833	1,636	3,161	43.83 MB
Dec 2019	835	1,044	1,699	3,788	54.36 MB
Total	4,097	5,258	11,548	26,867	376.82 MB

7. Elections to Council Membership (Francis Bunker)

a) Election of Ordinary Member of Council 2020 and other Council changes

On November 26th 2019, BPS Members were informed of the election of an ordinary member of council and asked to vote by secret ballot. Candidates were as follows:

Donai McGree (AlgaeCytes Ltd.): Proposed by Jo Taylor, seconded by Mahasweta Saha

Bill Brierley (FBA): Proposed by Jan Krokowski, seconded by Martyn Kelly

Dan Franklin (Bournemouth University): Proposed by Gill Malin, Seconded Graham Underwood

A total of 45 members voted in the elections, resulting in a win for Dan Franklin who now commences a 3 year term as an ordinary member of council. Council wish to thank all the candidates for standing.

Dan is replacing Jo Wilbraham who is stepping down after a 3-year term and a vote of thanks was given to her for her service.

Jason Hall-Spencer becomes the new President of BPS

Jayne Lewis becomes the new President Elect

Graham Underwood is now the Immediate Past President.

Gill Mailin steps down as Immediate Past President.

A vote of thanks was given to Gill for her service over a 6 year term, being President, Immediate Past President and chair of the Awards and Training Committee. Gill remains as chair of the Algal Applications Committee.

Hiroshi Kawi steps down as Overseas President and his place is taken by Mariana Olivera. A vote of thanks was given to Hiroshi Kawai.

BPS is still looking for a student member of council to replace Amy Parris. Council wish to thank her for her work.

8. Subcommittee reports ([*https://brphycsoc.org/](https://brphycsoc.org/))

a) Awards and Training Committee (Gill Malin)

The report was presented on behalf of Gill Malin by Graham Underwood.

Gill Malin, Immediate Past president, Chaired the Awards and Training Committee 2018-2019 and Graham Underwood takes over this position as of the January 2020 AGM. The BPS Ordinary Members of Council are now involved in judging the applications and are thanked for their work this past year.

In 2019 the nominal budget was £30,000, 28 applications for a total of £58,733 were received and funding of £21,988 was allocated.

There are now 3 funding rounds per year instead of 4: 1st February, 1st June and 1st November.

The BPS Funding Guidelines were revised in Oct 2019 and the Membership advised by email. The aim was to increase clarity to reduce the number of queries and ineligible applications. Summer Undergraduate Project have been renamed Summer Undergraduate Internships and academic and corporate members are eligible for these. A new Early Career research Bursary for up to £500 for attendance at the BPS Annual Meeting was introduced.

For all schemes the applicants must have been a member of the BPS for at least 3 months before the application date and successful applicants should be prepared to renew their membership where the project or meeting falls in the following calendar year. Applicants for Internships and Project Award from members who do not have an independent position (e.g. a short-term postdoctoral scientist) need to provide a letter from their line manager to assure the BPS Council that the applicant has the time and access to the general facilities and materials required for the project. PhD student

members should note that they are not eligible to apply for Summer Undergraduate Internships and Project awards.

BPS members are also reminded that we are an active member of the Federation of European Microbiological Societies and this gives BPS members access to the FEMS funding schemes.

<https://fems-microbiology.org/fems-activities/>

b) Biodiversity and Conservation Committee (Martin Wilkinson)

Three new committee members were announced: Angie Gall, Nick Steward and Chris Yesson.

Field meetings and courses

- Annual seaweed identification course at MBA, Plymouth, 5-7th May, organised by Francis Bunker
- Possible marine field meeting at St. Andrews, 19-22 August 2020, in the new Scottish Oceans Institute which has replaced the Gatty Marine Lab. M. Wilkinson and C. Scanlan have met with Dave Patterson and Emma Defew from St. Andrews who are very enthusiastic and would be happy to co-organise to help keep costs down.
- Eileen Cox and Elliot Shubert's Freshwater algae course at Kindrogan could not take place in 2019 due to renovation work at the field station. They are not listed as running this course in 2020.
- Paula Lightfoot is running a course on biotope mapping at Millport FSC field station from 24th-27th July 2020.
- Dave's and Brian Whitton's freshwater identification course at Durham ran in summer 2019 with a largely UK contingent. Less easy to run courses now at Durham, so the course may not run in 2020. Possibility of holding it elsewhere, but the location needs to fulfil certain criteria. NHM is a possibility, as is the FBA. Dave John and Jo Wilbraham to look into this.
- Martyn Kelly and Dave John had a second joint freshwater field meeting with the Quekett Society at Ennerdale Bridge. Found at least 55 desmid taxa. A plate of the desmids will go into the Quekett magazine. They would like to organise a further meeting at Malham Tarn.

Algal Recording

- Front page of BPS recording site needs improvement, particularly to encourage freshwater records. Dave John with Liaise with Andrew on this.
- BRC recorders meeting in Edinburgh on Saturday 7th March 2020 which it is hoped one or more committee members can attend to represent BPS.

Publications

- Freshwater Flora - sales are beginning to drop off, 9 in the past six months. Now £152 per copy.
- Desmid posters - sold 3 copies in last 12 months, now about 10 left.
- Brown seaweed flora - Juliet now has everything, ca.600pp. Juliet valiantly to continue preparing for publication for which we are really grateful – simplification of nomenclature needed.
- Seaweeds book (FB) - no update from publishers.

- Noted that FSC guide to diatoms is out of date, and Alan Pentecost's freshwater book is out of print and out of date but still useful.
- European book on charophytes in progress. 32 charophyte species in the UK. Molecular work needed and is in progress.

Research projects

- BPS-funded Desmids of Britain & Ireland - checklist & conservation (JW). Going well but a large mis-match between the record cards and the current checklist being resolved. IPAs should be revisited when lists are confirmed, so rare species can be identified. BPS funding has run out, but not necessary for this phase of the project.
- Natural England-funded Gongrosira scourfieldii project (DJ) - Found travertine streams on the Jurassic coast with several more sites for G.scourfieldii. No Gongrosira at Malham Tarn. Report submitted to NE in March. Thanks are due to Richard Landsdown at NE for funding.
- Diatom project with National Museum of Wales (MK) - BPS funded. The project is proceeding, but slower than planned. Subject to approval from BPS Council, Ingrid has been given 40 days per year for the project for ca.£100 per day from BPS. Unclear who has overall responsibility for the project and its direction. Martyn to discuss with Graham Underwood as he will become chair of the grants committee.
- IUCN aquatic plants taxon group/Natural England Aquatic Plants Taxon Group
- This group deals with all types of aquatic plants (except seaweeds) and has an interest in freshwater algae. Dave John has been attending. Projects might include possible red-listing of Nostoc and Rivularia and freshwater Vaucheria but there are major problems. Guidelines for SSSIs for algae need to be revisited.

Threats to large brown seaweeds

- OSPAR Threatened and/or Declining Species & Habitats - proposals to include kelps being discussed. Jo Foden from OSPAR was unable to attend our meeting but sent detailed information to us. It was not clear who exactly has made the assessments so far, and Juliet will follow this up with Jo.
- Seaweed harvesting – an online petition circulating in summer 2019 started a scare that the Scottish Government might have reversed its decision in 2018 not to allow destructive mechanical sampling of kelp beds. It turned out that this was an old petition from before the 2018 legislation that was still going round – a danger with online petitions. Martin now receives weekly digests of business from the Scottish Government so we can avoid this in future. Martin will collate the committee's views on seaweed harvesting with a view to having a possible BPS position on this.

c) Outreach and Education Committee (Martyn Kelly)

Martyn Kelly presented his report (below) and explained how the committee will endeavour to facilitate members with outreach.

A new competition for outreach ideas is being put forward and professional press releases will be implemented.

The BPS, along with the Quekett Microscopical Society, held a weekend of algal-themed microscopy in September 2019 in the Lake District. This was the second time that such an event has been held and provided a good opportunity for the BPS to link up with amateur scientists with an interest in the natural world.

During 2020 the Education and Outreach Committee will focus on ways of facilitating outreach amongst members. This may include establishing areas of the website that provide resources for a range of outreach activities

The Education and Outreach Committee is also considering having a BPS presence at the Green Man Festival in the Brecon Beacons in August 2020. Several members have already expressed interest in helping with this event, and the Green Man organisers are enthusiastic about our participation.

Algal Applications Committee (Gill Malin)

Gill Malin's report was presented by Graham Underwood.

REMIT

(As discussed by AAC 1/6/16 and Council 6/16)

The remit of the Algal Applications Committee covers all aspects of applied phycology from biotechnology through to the use of algae as bioindicators and the production of algal biomass for *inter alia* biofuels, food, feed, nutritional supplements, and various high value products. The overall aim is to foster stronger connections between the BPS and the commercial companies, public agencies and regulatory bodies that use or consider algae in their work. A particular focus will be inspiring and training the next generation of applied phycologists.

PLEASE NOTE

Re. Corporate Membership – wording needs to be agreed and put on website asap. A fee of £250 has been proposed.

We would need to set up a 'vetting' committee and members of the AAC could contribute to this.

The AAC could also contribute to invitation to companies to join and judging of applications for summer internships from companies.

d) Natural History Museum Representative (Juliet Brodie)

No report delivered by Juliet Brodie spoke briefly on the subject and responsibilities of this post.

9. Federation Reports

a) Federation of European Phycological Societies (FEPS) (Geoff Codd)

Federation of European Phycological Societies (FEPS) Website

In addition to the British Phycological Society, FEPS includes the national phycological societies (or phycological branches of national botanical societies) of: Spain, France, Belgium, Germany, Poland, Italy, Greece, Croatia and Macedonia.

For the FEPS website, including announcements of conferences, newsletters etc. see <https://www.facebook.com/FEPSalgae/>

A new database on invasive seaweeds in Europe is being developed on the website.

IPC7: the 7th International Phycological Congress, Zagreb, Croatia, 25-30 August, 2019.

A very successful congress was held, which included 432 participants from 48 countries.

Student attendance accounted for 35% of the registrants. The largest student contingents were from South Korea and France.

Individual membership of FEPS.

The initiative introduced by the current FEPS President (Professor Cecilia Totti, Italy), to enable individuals in countries with no national phycological societies, to join FEPS on a personal basis, is attracting new members.

IPC8: the 8th International Phycological Congress, to be organised by FEPS, will be held in 2022 in Brest, France.

b) Federation of European Microbiological Societies (FEMS) (Anne Jungblut)

Anne Jungblut took over from Paul Hayes as FEMS representative in 2019 and hopes to create awareness of BPS in FEMS and vice versa. Anne pointed out that FEMS have good grants which BPS members can access. Next FEMS meeting is 2020 in Split, Croatia in 2020 and Anne wants BPS to put in a topical session on Algae.

Anne D. Jungblut represented BPS at annual member society delegate meeting in Milan, Italy, from 6-8 September 2019. As a new delegate Anne D. Jungblut was invited to introduce her research and BPS. She gave an overview on aims and membership of BPS as well as publications and conferences. She highlighted the publication of well performing and peer-reviewed journals such as

the European Journal of Phycology and the new open-access journal Applied Phycology as well as advertised the next annual meeting in Plymouth in January 2020.

Prof Hilary Lappin-Scott was announced as new President of FEMS.

The next FEMS member society council meeting will be in Split Croatia, 4-5 September 2020.

c) Royal Society of Biology (Graham Underwood)

The BPS is a full organisational member of the Royal Society of Biology (RSB). The RSB is a single unified voice for biology: advising Government and influencing policy; advancing education and professional development; and encouraging public interest in the life sciences. This year we have contributed to the work the RSB is doing on learned society publishing activity and income generation, in response to plans to make all publishing open access (plan S). This could have a significant detrimental impact on many Learned Societies, where publishing generates a significant element of the annual income. The BPS is in this category. It is important that the RSB can represent their members in this matter. We receive various notifications of events and training, which are passed to Council member and Society members where appropriate. Events are mainly based in London. The BPS will remain a member of the RSB in 2020.

10. Future Annual meetings

69th Annual Meeting will be held in Nottingham in January 2021.

2022, suggestions wanted

At the close of the meeting Jason Hall-Spencer (the incoming President) gave a special vote of thanks and presentation to Graham Underwood (the outgoing President).

Minutes by Francis Bunker (Secretary)
Reports by individual officers.