Call for Commentary Papers

Fall Deadline: Friday, September 27, 2019, 11:59 p.m.

OVERVIEW:

The JPHCOPH Office of Public Health Practice and Research is soliciting 600 to 650 word articles on contemporary and/or high-interest public health interests and topics. We are seeking submissions written jointly by faculty and students, faculty and staff or faculty, students and staff. All contributing writers will be referred to as collaborating authors. It is expected that the first manuscripts will come from student-staff-faculty collaborating authors that are already engaged in the practice or research efforts or have an issue they are passionate about, is of interest to them. These articles will allow us to highlight the scholarly work of those in our JPHCOPH community. All edited and approved articles will be published in digital formats including our college newsletter and/or stand-alone email blasts and our college website. Additionally, articles may be considered for inclusion in our annual college magazine and/or an annual print collection of these articles. This is an opportunity for the JPHCOPH’s community to speak directly to each other, and the broader community, on public health issues.

There will be an initial list of five topical articles selected for our pilot publication period (Fall 2019 – Early Spring 2020). If this new endeavor proves successful, these articles will become a fixed feature of scholarly output from our college. Moreover, the pilot period will allow for logistics and other details to be assessed and refined as needed.

TOPICS:

The choice of topic is at the collaborating author’s discretion, as is the content. Since this is an editorial, commentary paper, the content should reflect the collaborator’s thoughts on a variety of issues. It should complement and offer additional insight into contemporary health and public health stories, not repeat or replace them. The E-TAPH editors (listed below) have complete editorial oversight on each submission. If they uncover something in your article that concerns them, for instance, a controversial issue, they may request a meeting to discuss their concerns further.

INFORMATION:

If the collaborating authors include any statistics, citations, quotes or other attributed facts, they will need to include a link or reference to where it can be located so that the editors can fact-check the information. Collaborating authors can use footnotes, attach a separate page with the source information, or include the links in your email to Dr. Telfair. This is very important because all of the information in each E-TAPH article should be accurate. Our editors will fact-check EVERYTHING. If there is something that cannot be verified, it will not be included in the final product. It is important to note that other newspaper articles are not an adequate source of material. For example, a Washington Post story about opioid use or measles is not a good source, but a CDC or NIH press release is.

AUTHORSHIP:

The collaborating authors should be the primary writers for their article, however, they can seek input and ideas from knowledgeable others. It is courtesy to cite or thank them for their input.
LENGTH:
All submissions should be between 600 and 650 words. If the article is too long, our editors will make adjustments to fit the allotted word count. Collaborating authors are asked to suggest one or two headlines for each submission. Editors will make changes as need be, authors will be notified of those changes prior to publication.

DRAFT:
Editors will email collaborating authors a PDF or MS WORD doc of the draft. This will usually be sent out the day before it is to be published. This will allow authors to do a last-minute read-over and to make sure that our editors did not misconstrue anything while making edits. Collaborating authors will be provided a quick turnaround to get any comments back to the editors (the date and time will be included in our email to them). Substantial edits will not be made at this phase in production, but editors are happy to consider any changes that collaborating authors may suggest.

DEADLINES:
Fall deadline is Friday, September 27, 2019. Spring deadline TBD. Collaborating authors are expected to submit the draft paper by 11:59 p.m. of that day. If collaborating authors, know that they will miss a deadline, it is important to let the lead editor, Dr. Telfair, know well in advance. The editorial staff is very small and works on a very tight schedule, so if authors submit their article too late in the production cycle, our editors may not be able to run it or send it to other collaborating authors for review. These are firm deadlines!

SUBMIT
Submit manuscript to: Dr. Telfair (jtelfair@georgiasouthern.edu)

Please let Dr. Telfair know if any of the contributors have questions or concerns. Our editors look forward to working with all of the collaborating authors on this effort to promote the scholarship and practice work of the JPHCOPH.

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