

Authorship

The dissemination of new knowledge through publications, presentations and other scholarly works is central to an academic institution's mission. The credit that accompanies authorship has significant impact on academic life, career development and advancement. Responsibility and accountability for the work are linked to authorship. Conventions of authorship can vary among disciplines. Essentially the same criteria of authorship are echoed among different disciplines. The American Physical Society (http://www.aps.org/policy/statements/02_2.cfm) the Ecological Society of America (<http://esapubs.org/esapubs/ethics.htm>) and American Psychological Association (<http://www.apa.org/index.aspx>) each emphasize that authorship is linked to those who made a substantial contribution. In the biomedical sciences the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE)(<http://www.icmje.org/>) has provided definition of the role of authors and contributors. The ICMJE recommends authorship to be based upon:

- I. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
- II. Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND
- III. Final approval of the version to be published; AND
- IV. Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

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