

iNEER Policy on Papers Submitted to Special Volumes

Beginning with “Innovations 2005”, the International Advisory Board (the “iNEER Board”) has adopted the following policy concerning papers submitted for publication in iNEER Special Volumes. This policy is subject to review and update on an annual basis.

(A) Review Criteria and Process

The Board of Editors shall be responsible for the review process so as to maintain a high quality standard for all papers published. For each iNEER Special Volume, the Board of Editors shall be responsible for ensuring that the review process is among the most stringent and rigorous among all journals on engineering education. The review process shall depend on the time available between receipt of the paper and the production deadline so as to have the book ready for distribution at the conference scheduled for a specific year.

In general, after a paper is received, the principal editor shall have a first review. Then he appoints a member (an associate editor) of the Board of Editors to be responsible for peer review for the paper. Usually, the principal editor also selects at least one reviewer himself. In general, depending on the number of applicable academic areas involved in the paper such as disciplines in engineering and subject matters including web based instruction, collaborative learning, etc., if relevant, between 3-6 reviewers are selected.

Each reviewer’s comments and recommendations are advisory and editors are not bound by the recommendations. Once a minimum of 3 reviews are received, the Board of Editors shall its initial decision concerning each paper. For each paper, the Board decision shall be based on the following three criteria:

- (1) Recommendations by reviewers;
- (2) The degree to which the papers shed new light on trends in engineering education in specific countries; and
- (3) The degree to which the international community will benefit from learning more about the latest innovations in engineering education and research in countries that are new entrants into the global community in engineering education.

Once the Board of Editors makes its decisions, the principal editor shall be responsible for carrying out these decisions and convey them to the authors along with excerpts of the reviews. If the Board decision on a particular paper is a conditional acceptance, that is, "accept if revised", then, the authors will be requested to submit a revised paper or provide a reasoned rebuttal. The Board of Editors shall have the option of forwarding the revised paper to reviewers for additional comments.

(B) Special Rates for Authors

Following publication, the iNEER Secretariat shall make copies of each book available to authors for purchase at a special rate. Owing to the size of each book and the cost of production, shipping, etc., there shall be no provision to offer complimentary copies to the iNEER community including authors, whether or not they have paid page charges.