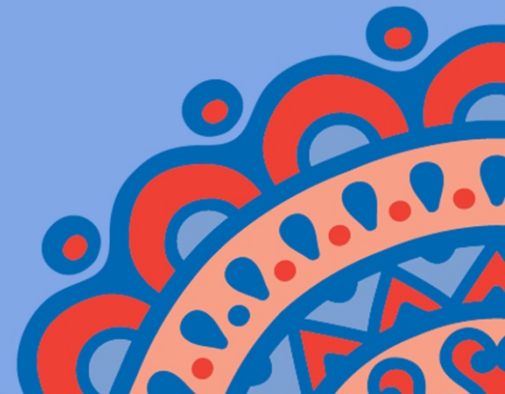




# Workflow 2020

**Jennifer Fleet**, Director of Strategic Client Solutions  
[jfleet@ariessys.com](mailto:jfleet@ariessys.com)



# The Author Experience

- In a post from 2015 on the SSP blog the Scholarly Kitchen, Rick Anderson described his manuscript submission experience as follows:  
“The process was a nightmare. In order to finalize my submission, I had to
  - negotiate a misleading and counterintuitive third-party platform
  - read and try to absorb several pages of arcane (and sometimes self-contradictory) format guidelines
  - categorize my article according to a rubric that did not make sense
  - follow an uploading process that left me, at several points, unsure of whether I would have the opportunity to include essential figures”<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Rick Anderson, *The Manuscript Submission Mess: Brief Notes from a Grumpy Author*, The Scholarly Kitchen, 2015

# The Author Experience

- In a recent HighWire blog post by John Sack, John points out that “It appears that a significant part of the problem is the effort an author has to exert, only to experience a desk rejection shortly afterward.”<sup>2</sup>

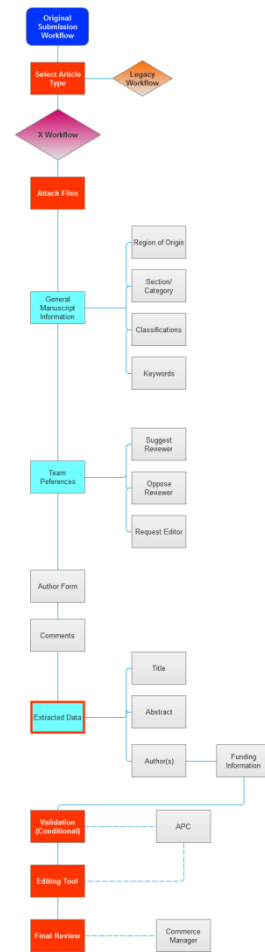


<sup>2</sup>John Sack, “Format-neutral”: Why doesn't every journal accept submissions this way?, HighWireblog, 2016

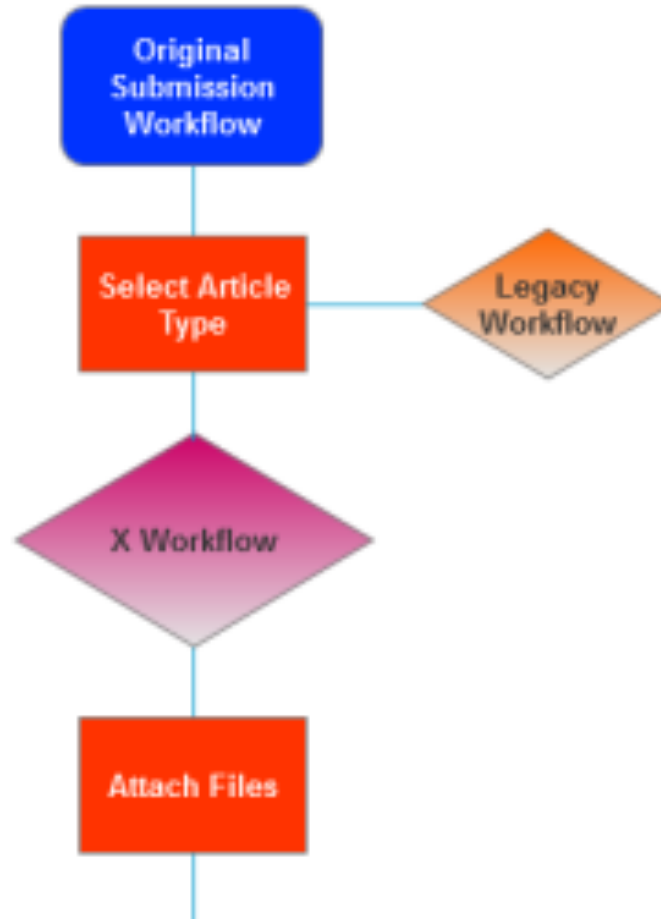
# Who can help?

- Publishers?
  - Reduce requirements
- Funding Agencies?
  - Reduce requirements
- Advisory Committees (Ethics, Standards, etc.)
  - Reduce requirements
- Technology Providers?
  - Automation

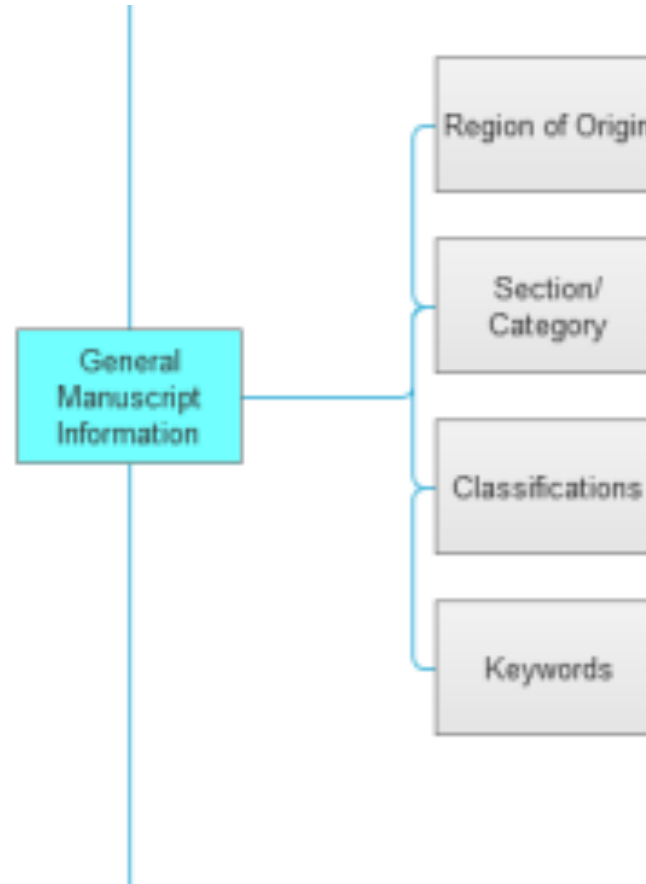
# What we envision



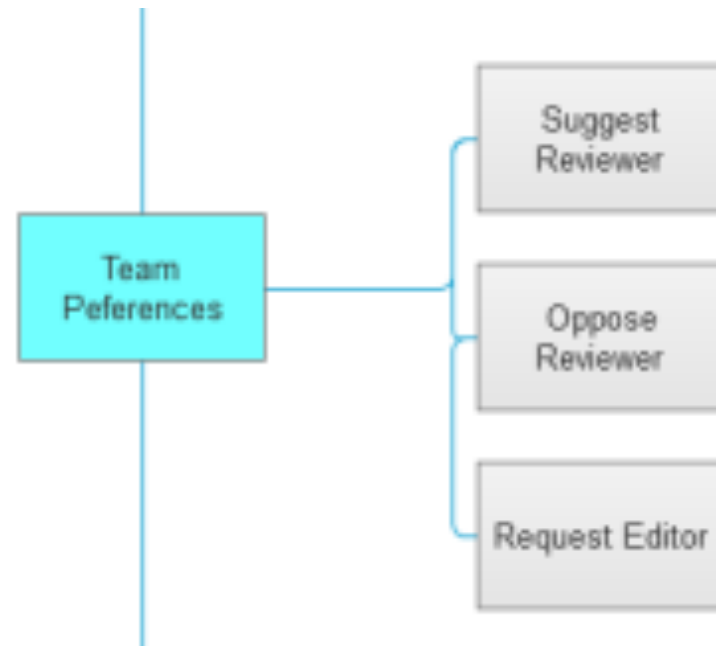
# What we envision



# What we envision

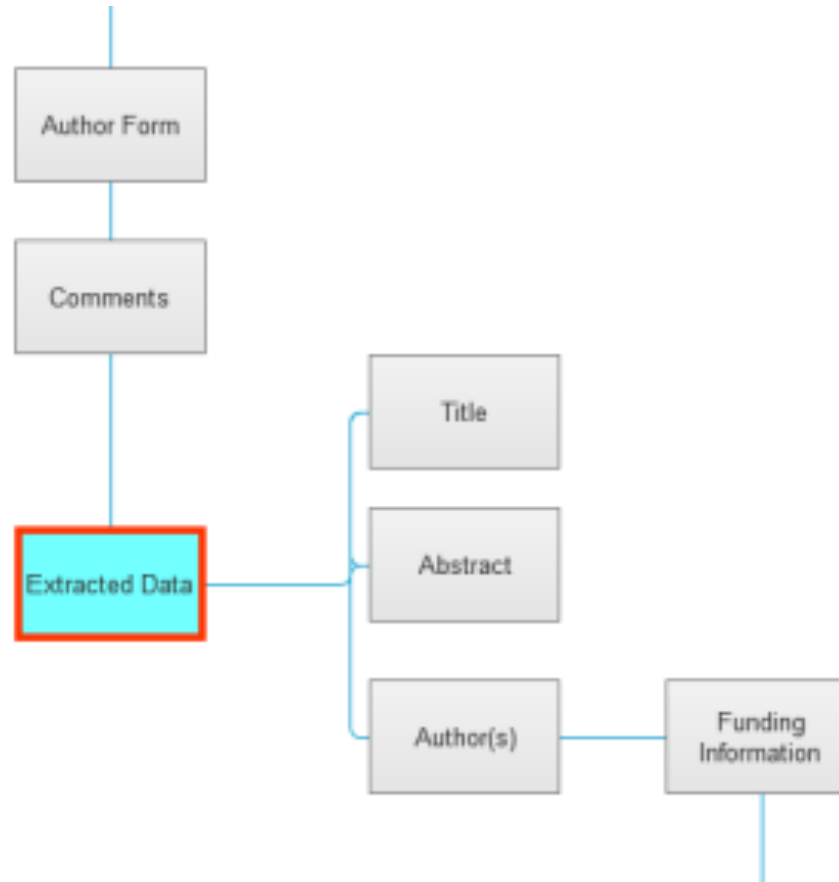


# What we envision

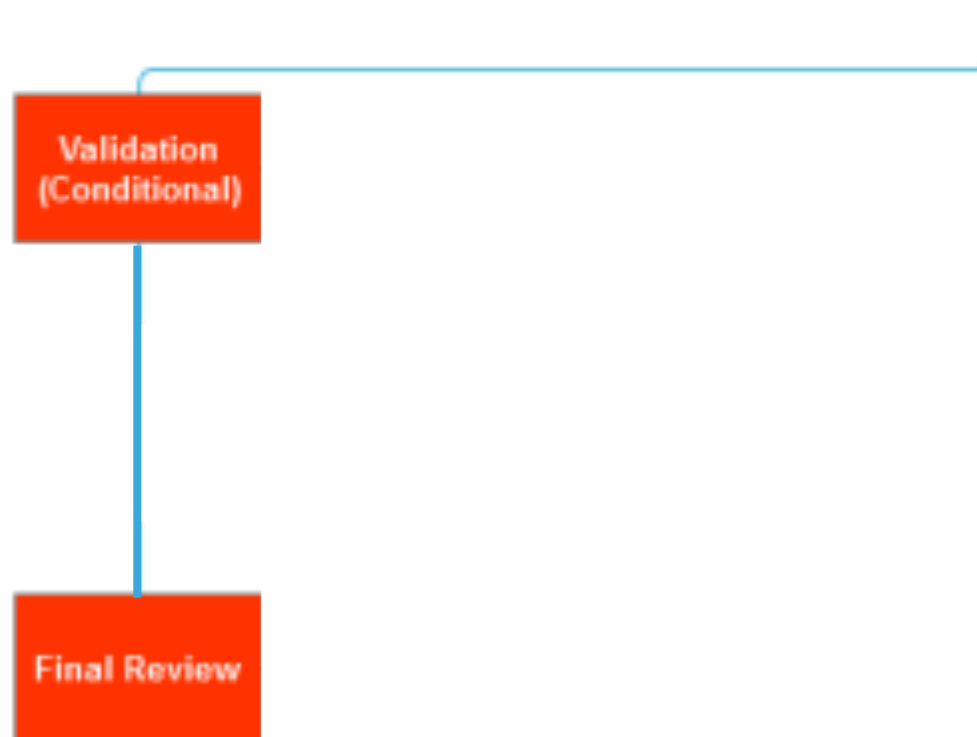




# What we envision



# What we envision



# What might this look like to the Author?

The screenshot displays the Editorial Manager interface. At the top, the logo 'em Editorial Manager™' is visible on the left, and on the right, there are search and user information fields: 'Go to: -- Search Page --', 'Role: Managing Editor', and 'Username: qa'. Below the header is a navigation menu with links: HOME, LOGOUT, HELP, REGISTER, UPDATE MY INFORMATION, JOURNAL OVERVIEW, MAIN MENU, CONTACT US, SUBMIT A MANUSCRIPT, and INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS. A progress bar with eight steps is shown below the menu: Attach Files (filled), General Information, Handling Preferences, Author Form, Comments, Extracted Data, Edit, and Final Review. The main content area features the instruction 'You must upload your Word document to begin.' followed by a 'Choose Word File' button and the text 'OR Drag and drop files here' with a blue folder icon.

em Editorial Manager™

em Editorial Manager™

HOME • LOGOUT • HELP • REGISTER • UPDATE MY INFORMATION • JOURNAL OVERVIEW  
MAIN MENU • CONTACT US • SUBMIT A MANUSCRIPT • INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS


Go to: -- Search Page -- English

Role: Managing Editor Username: qa

Attach Files General Information Handling Preferences Author Form Comments Extracted Data Edit Final Review

**You must upload your Word document to begin.**

Choose Word File OR Drag and drop files here



# What might this look like to the Author?

The screenshot displays the Editorial Manager web interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the 'em Editorial Manager' logo on the left and user information on the right, including a search bar and a language dropdown set to 'English'. Below the navigation bar is a progress indicator consisting of a horizontal line with eight circular markers. The first marker is filled with green, while the others are hollow blue circles. The markers are labeled: 'Attach Files', 'General Information', 'Handling Preferences', 'Author Form', 'Comments', 'Extracted Data', 'Edit', and 'Final Review'. Below the progress indicator, the title 'General Manuscript Information' is centered. To the left of this title are plus and minus signs. Underneath, there are four blue horizontal bars, each with a plus sign and a label: '+ Region of Origin', '+ Section/Category', '+ Classifications', and '+ Keywords'. At the bottom right of this section is a 'Proceed' button. The entire interface is set against a light blue background.

# What might this look like to the Author?

The screenshot displays the Editorial Manager user interface. At the top, the logo 'em Editorial Manager™' is visible on the left, and navigation links including 'HOME', 'LOGOUT', 'HELP', 'REGISTER', 'UPDATE MY INFORMATION', 'JOURNAL OVERVIEW', 'MAIN MENU', 'CONTACT US', 'SUBMIT A MANUSCRIPT', and 'INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS' are on the right. A search bar and user information (Role: Managing Editor, Username: qa) are also present. Below the navigation is a progress bar with eight steps: Attach Files, General Information, Handling Preferences, Author Form, Comments, Extracted Data, Edit, and Final Review. The 'Handling Preferences' step is currently active. The main content area is titled 'Handling Preferences' and contains three expandable sections: '+ Suggest Reviewer', '+ Oppose Reviewer', and '+ Request Editor'. A 'Proceed' button is located at the bottom right of the content area.

em Editorial Manager™

HOME • LOGOUT • HELP • REGISTER • UPDATE MY INFORMATION • JOURNAL OVERVIEW  
MAIN MENU • CONTACT US • SUBMIT A MANUSCRIPT • INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

Go to:  English

Role:  Username: qa

Attach Files General Information Handling Preferences Author Form Comments Extracted Data Edit Final Review

## Handling Preferences

+ -

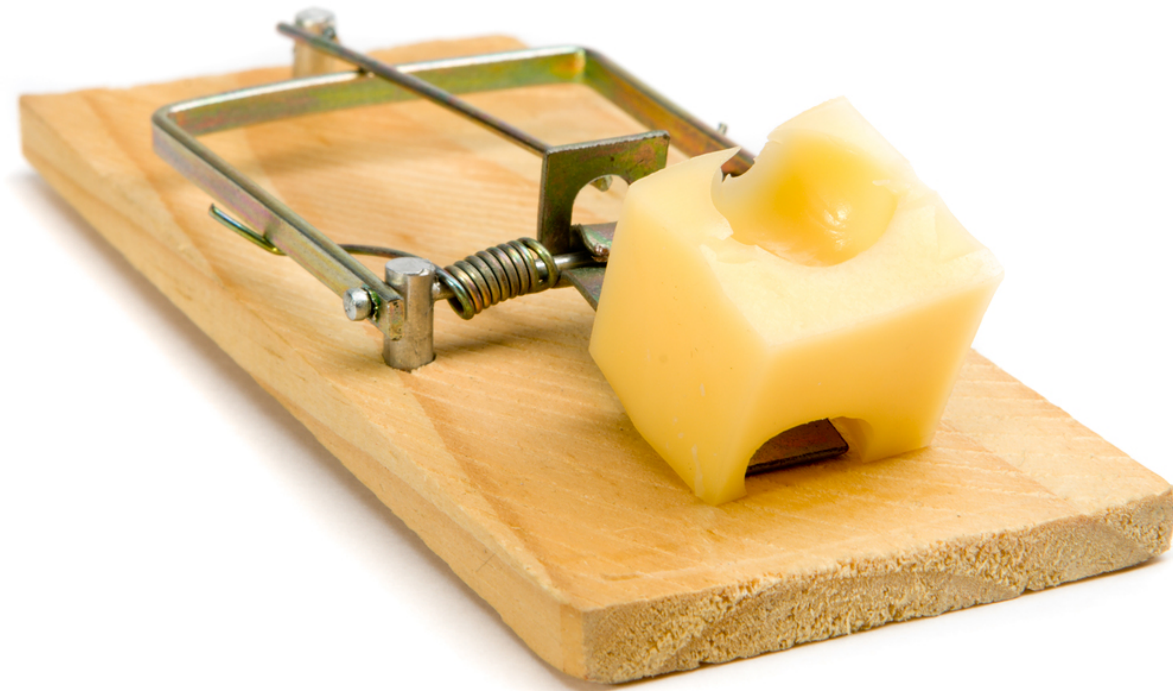
- + Suggest Reviewer
- + Oppose Reviewer
- + Request Editor

Proceed

# The Benefits

- Speed
- Less entry
- Fidelity
- Fewer screens/clicks
- Directed workflow

# A Better Mousetrap?





# Questions

Jennifer Fleet

Director of Strategic Client Solutions

[Jfleet@ariessys.com](mailto:Jfleet@ariessys.com)