

Editor in Chief – Journal of Operational Oceanography

Volunteer Role Description

1. Introduction

The Journal of Operational Oceanography (JOO) is a respected, high-impact publication at the forefront of applied oceanography. Published by the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology (IMarEST) in partnership with Taylor & Francis, the Journal advances operational oceanography through research on observing systems, forecasting, modelling, data assimilation, and real-world marine applications.

As Editor-in-Chief, you will lead the Journal's Editorial Board—working closely with Associate Editors, IMarEST, and Taylor & Francis—to maintain and elevate the Journal's quality, scope, and scientific integrity. You will guide policy, oversee strategic development, ensure the timely and rigorous review of manuscripts using Editorial Manager™, and champion the Journal within the global oceanographic community.

2. What you will be doing

- Lead the Editorial Board to define editorial direction, scope, and annual objectives.
- Oversee scientific quality, ensuring accuracy, relevance, and academic integrity.
- Recruit, support, and oversee Associate Editors and Editorial Board members.
- Ensure an effective peer-review process using Editorial Manager™.
- Identify and secure qualified reviewers for all submissions.
- Make final publication decisions based on Associate Editor recommendations.
- Ensure adherence to publishing ethics and Journal scope.
- Attract high-quality submissions through networks, outreach, and special issue proposals.
- Collaborate with IMarEST and Taylor & Francis to maintain the Journal's reputation and success.
- Represent the Journal at meetings and in the wider oceanographic research community.
- Report performance, policy needs, and publication metrics to the Publications Supervisory Board.

3. About you

You are a recognised leader in operational oceanography with extensive research or applied experience in areas such as ocean observing, modelling, prediction systems, data assimilation, or the delivery of marine information services.

You will have:

- Strong academic or applied professional standing;
- Proven leadership experience overseeing teams, boards, or scientific programmes;
- An active presence in the global operational oceanography community;
- A strong professional network that supports reviewer recruitment and content development;
- Confidence in guiding authors, reviewers, and Associate Editors;
- Excellent organisational skills to ensure timely decision-making and workflow management;

- The ability to foster constructive collaboration with IMarEST, Taylor & Francis, and the Editorial Board.

4. How you will benefit

- Expand your influence across the global operational oceanography community.
- Promote science and innovation that you care deeply about.
- Receive recognition as a leading figure in operational oceanography.
- Strengthen your professional profile and contribute to your continuing professional development.

5. Time Commitment

- 75 to 150 working hours per year (subject to submission volume).
- Oversight of approximately 150 submitted manuscripts annually, including managing review processes for around 30 papers.
- Lead five Editorial Board meetings per year.
- Aim for initial manuscript assessment within four weeks and final decisions within twelve weeks.
- Participate in bi-monthly Editorial Board meetings focused on Journal policy, review progress, and strategic planning.

6. Period of appointment

Editors-in-Chief serve a minimum three-year term, with the option to continue for additional terms.

7. How to apply & appointment method

Please apply via the IMarEST website using the online application form. The page will be removed once the role is filled.

8. Support and Onboarding

Taylor & Francis will provide full training on the Editorial Manager™ system, along with ongoing administrative support to help you manage your editorial responsibilities smoothly.

A structured handover process will be provided by the outgoing Editor in Chief and the IMarEST Publications Supervisory board are on hand to provide continuous guidance and support.

9. Further Information

As recognition for your contribution, IMarEST provides an annual honorarium to Editor in Chiefs. While no additional expenses are expected or covered for this role, your editorial work will be fully supported through training and administrative assistance.

Is this role location specific?	No
Closing date	Upon Filling
Number of roles available	1

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