
Editorial

Urednički entuzijazam

U prethodnom sam broju predstavio sebe, no sad je red da vas upoznam s *Jabrom* iz perspektive Uredništva.

U godini u kojoj obilježavamo stotu obljetnicu Jahrova spomena bioetike časopis nazvan njemu u čast kontinuirano raste. Nije to nikakav pokazatelj statistike, metrike, čimbenika odjeka ili koječega sličnog, dovoljno nejasnog, već rezultat mukotrpnog rada nekolicine entuzijasta kroz godine (što god entuzijazam u današnje vrijeme značio i koliko se god mogao kvantificirati). Tim entuzijastima nije cilj ispunjenje uvjeta za napredovanje – oni su u tom kontekstu odavno ispunjeni; nije im za cilj niti financijska dobit (novca ionako nema, a rad u našem uredništvu je, štđno se kaže, *pro bono*) niti, pak, neki oblik slave (koje od uređivanja znanstvenog časopisa ionako nema, a i sama je, priznajmo si, u današnje vrijeme odlutala u nekome drugom smjeru).

Iako sustav zaprimanja i protokoliranja članaka djeluje hladno, generički, gotovo bezlično, s druge strane tog sustava klikće nekoliko entuzijasta koji se svakodnevno suočavaju s mnogim naoko nevidljivim problemima. Procjena relevantnosti članka često zavara: interdisciplinarni smo časopis i objavljujemo interdisciplinarnu temu, no to ne znači da težimo objavljivanju desetina članaka različitih disciplina. Naprotiv, u svakome pojedinom članku tražimo natruhe uvida u bioetičku literaturu i mehanizama obrade rezultata te rasprave onoliko koliko s njima bioetika eksplicitno dolazi u doticaj. I na tome od novog saziva ustrajemo, nauštrb svega.

Potruga za recenzentima ponekad zna biti toliko bezuspješna da autori često pomisle kako članak samo „stoji” u sustavu. A istina je ponekad daleko bliža: pojedinim recenzentima ne treba uvjet recenziranja još jednog članka, a neki upit možda niti ne dobiju – završi im u neželjenoj pošti. Bilo kakav odgovor, prihvaćanja ili odbijanja recenziranja, olakšao bi nam da znamo na čemu smo, a samim time i da autorima možemo opravdati dinamiku postupka.

Kad dinamika zapne, suočavamo se s drugim problemima – svakojakim zahtjevima autora:

Neki su, doduše, pristojni.
Neki malo manje.

Neki su iznimno ponizni.

Neki malo manje.

Neki su srdačno zahvalni.

Neki baš i ne.

Sustav sve to pamti, istrpi gotovo ravnodušno, ali iza njega stoje ljudi – a ti smo ljudi mi, članovi Uredništva, koji se svakodnevno suočavamo s izazovima, donošenjem odluka (čitaj: nečijih napredovanja) i oblikovanjem časopisa u svakome njegovom koraku.

Neki nas potezi revoltiraju, neki nas povrijede. Ponekad sam dojma kako smo nekima tek servis. Čast iznimkama, no i mi smo na kraju dana „samo” ljudi, akademski građani s druge strane pu(l)ta.

I možda je upravo u tome nesavršenom, umornom, ali upornom entuzijazmu razlog zašto *Jabr* još uvijek postoji.

Toni Buterin

Glavni urednik

Editorial

Editorial enthusiasm

In the previous issue, I introduced myself; now it is time to introduce *Jahr* from the Editorial Board's perspective.

In the year in which we mark the centenary of Fritz Jahr's mention of bioethics, the journal named in his honor continues to grow. This is not reflected in statistics, metrics, impact factors, or any similarly obscure measures, but rather in the painstaking work of a handful of enthusiasts over many years (whatever enthusiasm may mean nowadays, and whether it can be quantified at all). These enthusiasts are not motivated by the fulfilment of promotion requirements – those were met long ago. Nor are they driven by financial gain (there is no money to speak of, and our editorial work is, as they say, *pro bono*), nor by any form of fame (which, let us be honest, scientific journal editing does not bring, and which has, in any case, drifted in quite another direction in our times).

Although the article submission and processing system may appear cold, generic, and almost impersonal, on the other side of that system sit enthusiasts who confront a host of seemingly invisible problems every day. Assessing an article's relevance can often be deceptive: we are an interdisciplinary journal and we publish interdisciplinary topics, but this does not mean that we seek to publish dozens of articles from different disciplines. On the contrary, in every individual manuscript we look for at least some engagement with the bioethical literature, as well as for approaches to analyzing results and conducting discussion wherever bioethics explicitly intersects with the subject matter. This is a principle on which the new Editorial Board insists, regardless of the cost.

The search for reviewers can sometimes prove so unsuccessful that authors assume their manuscript is merely 'gathering dust' in the system. Yet the reality is often quite different: some reviewers have no need to add another review to their record, while others may never even receive the invitation because it ends up in their spam folder. Any response at all – whether accepting or declining the review invitation – would help us understand where we stand and, consequently, enable us to explain the pace of the process to our authors.

When the process slows down, we are confronted with a different set of challenges – authors’ requests of every conceivable kind:

Some are, admittedly, polite.
Others less so.
Some are exceptionally humble.
Others less so.
Some express heartfelt gratitude.
Others do not.

The system records all of this and endures it with near indifference, but behind the system stand people, and those people are us, the members of the Editorial Board, who face challenges every day, make decisions (which often means decisions affecting someone’s academic advancement), and shape the journal at every stage of its development.

Some actions frustrate us; others hurt us. At times, I have the impression that to some we are merely a service provider. There are, of course, notable exceptions, but at the end of the day we too are ‘only’ people – members of the academic community on the other side (of the desk).

And perhaps it is precisely this imperfect, weary, yet persistent enthusiasm that explains why *Jahr* continues to exist.

Toni Buterin
Editor-in-Chief