

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The purpose of the International Public Management Review is to publish manuscripts reporting original, creative research in the field of public management. Theoretical, empirical and applied work including case studies of individual nations and governments, and comparative studies are given equal weight for publication consideration. All work published in IPMR is double blind reviewed according to standard academic journal procedures. Many of these reviews suggest: revise and resubmit. When authors resubmit, the reviewer is asked if the revised version is now suitable for publication.

Some authors have suggested that this practice may be too restrictive. After all, the mission of the International Public Management Network is to provide a forum for sharing ideas, concepts and results of research and practice in the field of public management, and to stimulate critical thinking about alternative approaches to problem solving and decision making in the public sector. The best way to stimulate such sharing and thinking is to get ideas into the public area, even if they aren't perfectly formed.

To address this concern, the Editors of IPMR are launching a new process of publishing work in progress. Initially, there will be three new possibilities for a submitted paper in addition to straightforward publication in IPMR:

1. When one of the reviewers recommends publication, and the other revise and resubmit, the IPMR Managing Editor will consider publishing the paper in IPMR, along with a commentary by the critical reviewer (which may be signed or anonymous), and a response from the author if desired.
2. If the Managing Editor feels that the paper is not yet ready for publication in IPMR, she will ask the author to consider publishing the paper in SSRN, Researchgate, or a similar open access portal. IPMR would then publicize the paper, along with commentary from the reviewers (if they agree) on the IPMN listserve and Facebook page, as an IPMR work in progress. The purpose would be to stimulate debate on the paper, and to provide a forum to help the author improve the paper.
3. If the Managing Editor determines that the paper is only ready after major revisions or has to be revised and resubmitted, she will suggest that the author works with a mentor to improve the paper. There are 32 IPMR Editorial Board members that have agreed to serve as mentors. Once improved, the paper would then be considered some form of publication.

The Editors hope that this new process will help IPMR better contribute to debate on public management, and to expand the diversity of views.