

Calls for Volunteers

The JOSF has grown by leaps and bounds, and we're now receiving a consistent stream of scholarly submissions. Our special issue on Afrofuturism, in particular, drew a large number of high-quality pieces. We expect to see similar response to our next special issue on disability in science fiction, slated for early 2019. The journal's reception has been gratifying, as well: in the past year, the JOSF has been added to EBSCO's holdings, which is an acknowledgment of the journal's scholarly quality.

All of that good news creates a significant challenge: we need more staff! If you're interested in being part of the JOSF, please contact us and get involved. Working with the JOSF is a great opportunity to help shape a young, exciting publication and see the scholarly process in all of its stages. We welcome applications from experienced scholars, early-career scholars, and advanced graduate students, as well as scholarly readers from outside academia.

If you're interested in volunteering with us, please read the descriptions of the different roles and let us know which job(s) you're interested in! Send an email to Heather McHale, managing editor, at heather.mchale@museumofsciencefiction.org, specifying what job you wish to apply for and including some details about your qualifications and/or a copy of your current CV.

Peer Review Coordinator

This person manages and oversees the process of peer review for the JOSF—a process that is central to our mission and purpose. The Peer Review Coordinator will work closely with the managing editor.

The peer review coordinator's duties include:

- Tracking manuscripts through the stages of peer review, using the OJS system. (No experience with OJS is necessary, as long as you're willing to invest a bit of time learning to use it!)
- Emailing the journal's editors to request their votes about whether to send an article to peer review.
- Identifying, contacting, and securing appropriate peer reviewers for each manuscript that the editors vote to send to review.
- Guiding reviewers through the process.
- Following up, if necessary, to make sure that reviewers complete their reviews in a timely fashion.
- Emailing the editors of the journal with the reviewers' comments to ask for votes on whether the JOSF should accept an article.
- Contacting the authors of declined articles to offer constructive feedback (based on the reviewer's comments and the editors' remarks).
- Notifying the Managing Editor when the editorial group votes to accept an article.

Many of these functions will be assumed by the managing editor for the annual themed issue of the journal; for that issue, the peer review coordinator will serve as a support person for the managing editor.



These functions are the core of an academic journal's work, and it is essential that the JOSF's peer review coordinator understands and respects the confidentiality and purpose of peer review. This is an excellent position for an advanced graduate student or early-career scholar who wishes to get some experience with the scholarly publication process.

Because the JOSF accepts submissions all year long, this person should be able to dedicate time each week to the journal and be prepared to contact the Managing Editor if they will be out of contact for more than a week. The amount of time required for this position varies widely, depending on how many submissions we receive.

Layout/Design Editor

This person transforms the copy for the journal into a readable, visually appealing final product. The layout editor's duties include:

- working with the final, copyedited text for each article to produce PDF and EPUB versions consistent with the journal's visual identity;
- Collating these into a complete issue of the journal for download from the website;
- Creating the cover of the journal (using artwork provided by the managing editor).

The JOSF is published three times per year; layout work would mostly be needed in the month leading up to publication of each issue. The JOSF usually contains 3-6 articles per issue, plus front matter, author bios, and the cover, totaling somewhere in the vicinity of 60-90 pages.

We are particularly interested in finding a volunteer for this position who has knowledge or prior experience with improving accessibility for screen readers and other assistive technology; however, any volunteer with layout experience is welcome to apply.

General Editorial Staff

As the number of submissions to the JOSF grows, our general editorial staff must also grow—so we're looking for more editors to join our team!

Editors should have some experience with scholarly publication, at least as readers. Writing experience—either for scholarly publication or for graduate coursework/dissertation—also desired.

Core duties, expected of all JOSF editors, include:

- Reading incoming submissions and voting on whether or not articles are sent to peer review;
- Once an article has been through peer review, reading the reviewer's report and casting a vote on whether the JOSF should publish the article;
- Providing substantive, constructive feedback to article authors—combining tact with intellectual rigor.

JOSF editors may also participate in other functions of the journal, such as helping to plan themed issues; however, their most important tasks are evaluating the incoming submissions and working directly with

authors to guide revisions. We accept and edit submissions year round, so editors should be available at least weekly to read and vote on submissions. Each editor should expect to provide substantive editorial feedback on at least three articles per year.

In other words: join our team and help shape the future of science fiction criticism. The JOSF is growing, but we're still a small enough publication to provide supportive, detailed feedback to our authors. You can be part of the reason that the JOSF is a great place to publish!

Copy Editors

The JOSF's copy editors carry out a variety of tasks, working with the final version of an article:

- Correct errors of grammar, spelling, usage, etc.;
- Make judicious edits to improve clarity, readability, and style;
- Catch errors (or ambiguities) of fact or attribution and request clarification from the author if needed;
- Ensure that all citations are correct and complete in APA style.

A copy editor should be an expert at sentence-level revision, with a good eye for clear, concise expression. The JOSF also requires APA style expertise and familiarity with the conventions of scholarly writing. We do not administer a copy editing test—instead, the managing editor may send a sample article for you to copy edit to give us an idea of your style and experience.

Copy editors are needed leading up to the publication of each issue. This is a great role for a grad student or scholar who wants to contribute to the JOSF, but doesn't want to commit time to the journal every single week.

Peer Reviewers

Peer reviewers are the unsung heroes of the scholarly process: they dedicate their time and intellectual effort to providing useful, detailed feedback on manuscripts, some of which will never be published. Many of our JOSF readers already serve as peer reviewers, and we are very grateful for your support!

If you are not a peer reviewer and you'd like to be, email Aisha Matthews at aisha.matthews@museumofsciencefiction.org. Please include a description of your area(s) of scholarly expertise and attach a copy of your CV. You can also go into the journal's [website](#) and make sure that you have a) checked "reviewer" in your subscriber bio and b) included a description of your areas of study. We can't invite you review a submission if we don't know what area you study!

Book Reviewers

The *Journal of Science Fiction* is always on the lookout for reviews of science-fiction works, both academic and fiction, and welcomes submissions and book review requests from all scholars.

Our current list of Books Available for Review is as follows:

- *Astounding: John W. Campbell, Isaac Asimov, Robert Heinlein, L. Ron Hubbard, and the Golden Age of Science Fiction*, by Alec Nevala-Lee (forthcoming in October 2018)
- *Codex Orfeo: A Novel*, by Michael Charles Tobias (2017)
- *The Dark Arrow of Time*, by Massima Villata (2018)
- *Excavating the Future: archaeology and geopolitics in contemporary North American science fiction film and television*, by Shawn Malley (2018)
- *Hollyweird Science: The Next Generation - From Spaceships to Microchips*, by Kevin R. Grazier & Stephen Cass (2017)
- *The Hunt for FOXP5: A Genomic Mystery Novel*, by Wallace Kaufman & David Deamer (2016)
- *J.G. Ballard (Modern Masters of Science Fiction)*, by D. Harlan Wilson (2017)
- *Lingua Cosmica: science fiction from around the world*, by Dale Knickerbocker (ed.) (2018)
- *Posthumanism in Young Adult Fiction: Finding Humanity in a Posthuman World*, by Anita Tarr and Donna R. White (eds.) (2018)
- *Rarity from the Hollow*, by Robert Eggleton (2017)
- *Science Fiction by Scientists: An Anthology of Short Stories*, by Michael Brotherton, ed. (2017)
- *Zion's Fiction: a treasury of Israeli speculative literature*, by Sheli Teitelbaum, Emanuel Lottem and Avi Katz, eds. (2018)
- *Zombies in Western Culture: a twenty-first century crisis*, by John Vervaeke, Christopher Mastropietro and Filip Miscevic (2018)

This list is updated regularly, and can also be viewed [here](#). Alternatively, if you have a **specific SF/F work that you would like to review**—whether a scholarly work, novel, story collection, TV show, film, or video game—we would be very happy to hear from you. Contact Thomas Connolly at thomas.connolly@museumofsciencefiction.org.