

## *Project Management Journal® (PMJ) welcomes proposals on important topics and seeks guest editors for upcoming special issues.*

Special issues help PMJ to advance its research agenda, explore significant issues, and open necessary debate on topics affecting project management and related fields. Example topics might explore temporary organizations (such as transitory assignments and temporary alliances), relief efforts, cultural events, or event series and festivals.

The following details can assist potential guest editors in preparing special issue proposals for evaluation by the PMJ editorial board. Selection of proposed special issues will be made by the two PMJ editors-in-chief, together with the four senior editors, based on the outlined criteria below. Selection decisions are made twice a year, in March and November. To allow for this timing, special issue proposals must be submitted for consideration by either 28 February or 31 October. Please submit your proposal to: [Kim.Shinners@pmi.org](mailto:Kim.Shinners@pmi.org) and include the following in the email subject line: “Call for Special Issue Proposals.”

### **Guest editors are responsible for the following deliverables for all special issue proposals:**

1. Include the names and affiliations of all proposed guest editors.
2. Submit a short CV of all proposed guest editors, including a list of major publications and editorial experience. The number of guest editors should not exceed five members, including one member of the PMJ editorial board. Further, the editorial team should reflect geographic, ethnic, and gender diversity.
3. Include the following information in each proposal
  - Provisional title of the special issue
  - Justification for dedicating an entire issue of *Project Management Journal* to this topic: *What is its broad appeal and what are the projected theoretical, practical, and policy implications for the field?*
  - Objectives and scope for the special issue, including potential themes to be addressed
4. List other special issues on this topic or related topics that have been published, or will be published, by the potential guest editors in *PMJ* or other journals. In addition, show how this proposal is unique and innovative in comparison, and explain how it will add to existing literature. Importantly, guest editors must show the balance between novelty and already existing interest for the topic. Guest editors should also consider how communities typically understood as being outside of the field of managing projects—and other types of temporary organizations—might be engaged in or stimulated by the proposed topic. Special issues should provide a bridge to other academic disciplines, beyond the field of project management.
5. Outline a plan explaining how the final Call for Papers will be advertised beyond publication on the PMJ and Project Management Institute websites (e.g., other websites, distribution lists, conferences, associations, etc.). Guest editors should be aware that a minimum of 40–50 initial submissions will be required to successfully publish a special issue.

- 6.** Ensure that special issues are truly open to any researcher working on the addressed topic. This means that these issues cannot be restricted, for example, to researchers participating in specific workshops, symposia, or small group meetings. Importantly, special issues are not meant for commissioned work.
- 7.** Adhere to all PMJ editorial processes, using the online submission and manuscript-tracking system ScholarOne Manuscripts. These editorial processes include a rigorous, double-blind peer-review process which ensures that only the highest-quality manuscripts will be selected for inclusion. Guest editors are also asked to include a list of potential reviewers in their proposal (including reviewers who are members of the PMJ editorial review board). Please note that both reviewers and guest editors must adhere to the quality and timing standards set by the journal.
- 8.** Ensure that all guest editors can work closely with our editorial office. Each special issue will be assigned an editor-in-chief who approves all decisions recommended by the guest editors. The editorial board member who is proposed to join the guest editors serves as contact for the PMJ managing editor and editor-in-chief.
- 9.** Select up to six papers to be included in the special issue and write an introduction to the issue topic. In turn, guest editors must not submit their own papers for consideration and publication in the special issue. If too few papers are initially submitted or do not reach the required high standard for publication, the editors-in-chief may change the issue into a special-themed section in which regular papers will also be published, or may cancel the special issue entirely. If too many high-quality papers are submitted and accepted for the special issue, one or more papers may be shifted to a regular issue of *PMJ*.
- 10.** Plan for a special issue workshop, held either online or in person, adjacent to a leading conference focused on project management and other types of temporary organizations (such as IRNOP), or with a strong track record on such topics (such as AOM, EGOS, or EURAM).