



Maintaining and promoting editorial proficiency in the life sciences



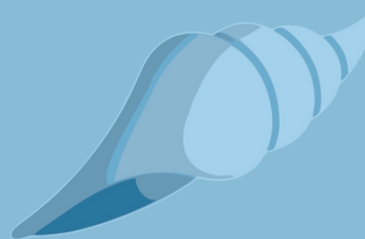
From the President

Here we are in July already, midway through 2023. The year seems to be flying by. That often is the case when there is a lot going on, and a lot is happening here at BELS! We are working on a variety of initiatives, including ways to better raise awareness of our organization and also to recognize our members, as well as our newly certified editors. New ELS and ELS(D) holders will now be acknowledged after each exam window, both in our newsletter and on social media. It's just one more way we want to make sure to applaud them for their achievement and celebrate them. And speaking of social media, be sure to check out and follow our new Instagram account, @bels_editors.

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The BELS Letter

Bryan Tutt, ELS(D)
Managing Editor

Alex Rudie
Publications Coordinator



From the President

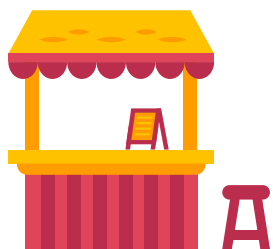
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Look for posts featuring timely updates and our latest editing poll of the month (see the latest results on page 4 in this newsletter).

Thank you to everyone who joined last month's social event, "Tell Me an Editing Story." Sharing your best and/or worst editing experiences was, I hope, cathartic! Keep an eye out for more networking, membership, and professional development opportunities in the months ahead.

For those of you planning to attend the American Medical Writers Association's annual conference in Baltimore this October, be sure to stop by the BELS booth to say hello, and please spread the word about our booth to other attendees. We're happy to answer any questions attendees might have and help them on their journey to certification if that is part of their career development plans.



Melanie Fridl Ross, MSJ, ELS
BELS President

BELS Member Discounts

BELS has partnered with resource providers to offer valuable members-only discounts on products and services that help make your job easier. These offers are exclusive to BELS members and should not be shared with any non-member.

BELS member discounts include a **30% discount** on a single license of PerfectIt software. PerfectIt improves consistency, ensures quality, and saves time. BELS members also receive a **20% discount** on reference books such as *Scientific Style and Format: The CSE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers* and *The Chicago Manual of Style*. The discount can be applied to both online and print versions of these books. Visit bels.org and click on Member Resources to claim your discounts today!



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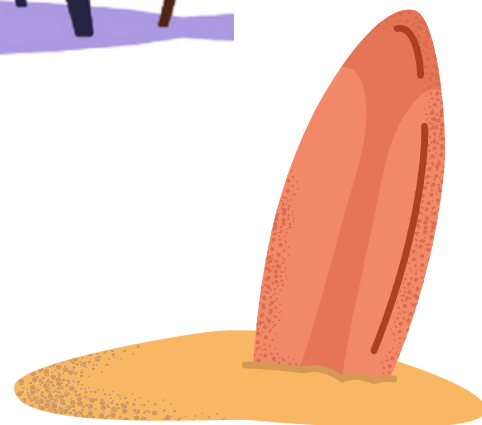
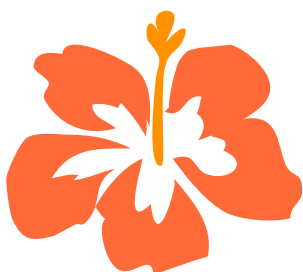
THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE
for Writers, Editors, and Publishers

BELS Virtual Members-Only Event: Editor Meet & Greet

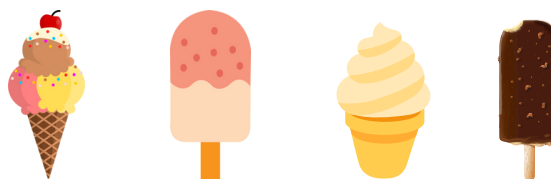


Our next members-only event will be an informal speed networking event. It's a chance to get acquainted with other BELS editors or reconnect with old friends.

The Editor Meet & Greet—which is free and open to BELS members—will take place via Zoom on Thursday, August 10, from 5:00 to 6:00 PM, Central time. Please visit bels.org for details.

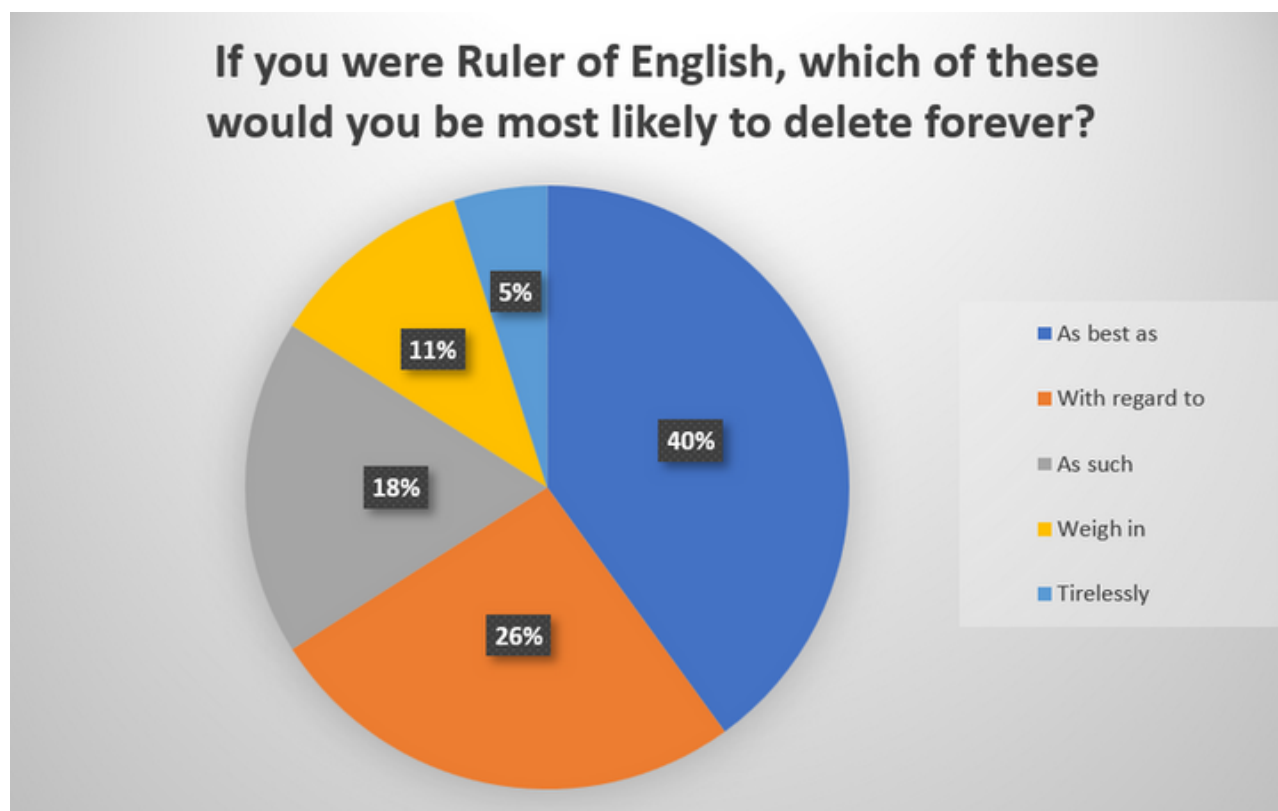


Monthly Poll Results



Last month's poll asked you to imagine yourself as the Ruler of English (the language, not the people) and choose one annoying phrase to delete forever. As such, you weighed in. With regard to your responses, we've worked tirelessly to present them as best as we can.

Visit bels.org to participate in July's poll, in which you'll be asked to predict future changes to our beloved language.



Be There With BELS On!

BELS branded merchandise is now available! Now you can proudly display the BELS logo on your tote bag, mug, travel tumbler, sweatshirt, laptop case, or mouse pad. They make great gifts for colleagues, employees, friends, family, and yourself! Please visit www.bels.org/store to order.



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The Board of Editors in the Life Sciences (BELS) was founded in 1991 to evaluate the proficiency of manuscript editors in the life sciences and to award credentials similar to those obtainable in other professions.

Potential employers and clients of manuscript editors usually have no objective way to assess the proficiency of editors. For their part, editors are frustrated by the difficulty of demonstrating their ability. That is why both employers and editors so often resort to personal references or ad hoc tests, not always with satisfactory results. The need for an objective test of editorial skill has long been recognized.

To meet that need, BELS developed a process for testing and evaluating proficiency in editing in the life sciences. The Board administers two examinations—one for certification and one for diplomate status. The examinations, written by senior life-science editors assisted by testing experts, focus on the principles and practices of scientific editing in English.

