

Editorial

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Special issue of *Names: A Journal of Onomastics*

The fourth issue of volume 65 (2017) will be edited by Iman Nick and Jan Tent on the theme of “Indigenous Names and Toponyms”. It will deal with such issues as the transcription (spelling) of indigenous names and/or determining their meanings, indigenous naming practices, indigenous names as identity markers, the reinstallation of indigenous toponyms, the reclamation of indigenous language and culture through their names, and the appropriation of indigenous names. Dr Nick also edited three previous special issues of *Names*. The others were on the topics of “Names and War” (58: 4 (2010)), “Names and the Internet” (60: 4 (2012)), and “Names in Science Fiction, Fantasy, Horror, and Mystery” (64: 2 (2015)). Alleen Pace Nilsen and Don L. F. Nilsen served as co-editors of a special issue of the journal (56: 1 (2008)) with the theme of “Names and Ethnicity” when I began my tenure as editor of *Names*.

Reminder about *Names* cover

The inside front and back cover and the outside back cover of *Names* will be slightly different beginning with volume 66 (2018). It should be noted that there will be no changes to the front cover of the journal with its distinctive multilingual representation of the word for “names”. The original idea for the unique front cover for *Names* came from ANS Treasurer Dr Michael McGoff (Binghamton University, SUNY, USA), and we all appreciate his efforts. The inside and front and back covers will contain generic information about the journal in order to facilitate periodic updates in information by Taylor & Francis. The outside back cover will no longer contain a replication of the table of contents in order to avoid the possibility of a mismatch of information between the outside back cover and the table of contents.

Writing an effective abstract

Faye Halpern and James Phelan wrote an article about writing effective abstracts (“Writing an Effective Abstract: An Audience-Based Approach”) in *Inside Higher Education*. The authors pose a series of questions to help authors to write a successful abstract.

1. What is the central issue or question or problem driving your inquiry?
2. What is your answer to this question or problem?

3. What steps does your article take to get to this answer?
4. How does your article contribute to an existing scholarly conversation?

The complete essay is available at the following website: <https://www.inside-highered.com/advice/2017/02/23/importance-writing-effective-abstract-when-you-submit-journal-article-essay>.

Requirements for submissions to *Names*

Several recent submissions to the journal indicate that authors have not paid attention to the following requirement for submissions to *Names*. We ask that all authors read and comply with this prerequisite for submissions to the journal. Following these rules will facilitate the processing of submissions, and it will expedite editorial responses. This policy was decided at the meeting of the Executive Council of the American Name Society January 2011 and published in the Editorial in *Names* 59: 2 (2011), p. 65.

Names is dedicated to publishing a broad diversity of previously unpublished scholarly articles and book reviews in the field of onomastics. Authors from every corner of the world are therefore warmly encouraged to submit their work. Please be aware, however, that *Names* requires all submissions to adhere to US American English grammar, punctuation, spelling, and style. All manuscripts must be scrupulously edited before submission to ensure the highest standard of academic writing. Work with numerous factual, typographical, and/or grammatical errors will not be accepted for peer review. Before submission, it is therefore strongly recommended that all manuscripts be carefully edited for style, content, and grammar by an experienced proofreader who is a native-speaker of US American English. Any contractual arrangement, which the author(s) may enter into will, however, be exclusively the sole financial responsibility of the author(s). Please be aware that the use of professional proofreading services will in no way guarantee the acceptance of a submission by the review committee and Journal editorial staff. However, the failure to appropriately edit a submission will automatically be considered sufficient grounds for immediate, unqualified rejection.

Submissions to *Names*

Names: A Journal of Onomastics publishes articles of general, theoretical, and topical interest, reviews of recent books and other significant resources, queries, notes, and comments of concern to onomastics. Reports of original research in onomastics as well as redactions and summaries of existing research are welcome. *Names* is a fully refereed journal; manuscripts of articles are read and evaluated anonymously by at least two qualified scholars. Membership of the American Name Society is not required for initial submission to *Names*; manuscripts from non-members and from scholars in related disciplines are encouraged. Once an article is accepted for publication in *Names*, the author must join the American Name Society.