

Manuscript preparation

01 June, 2007 2:00:33 PM

From Henry Bauer <hhbauer@pop.vt.edu>
To DuBoisReview@fas.harvard.edu
Reply-to hhbauer@vt.edu

I am considering writing an article about how racial stereotyping figures in HIV/AIDS. Your instructions state that self-references are to be omitted from manuscripts sent for review. But part of my case rests on an analysis of HIV data that I have published, and I cannot make my case without that. Can you offer any guidance on how I might proceed? Do your instructions mean only that references to my own work should be made in the third person?

RE: Manuscript preparation

04 June, 2007 4:26:14 PM

From Du Bois Review <dbreview@fas.harvard.edu> Du Bois Review
To Henry Bauer
Reply-to dbreview@fas.harvard.edu

Hello,

Yes, this is a common question, and referring to your own work in the 3rd person is exactly how we address it. It may not be perfect, but the best good-faith solution we have for the peer-review process.

Please let me know if I can answer any further questions!

Thanks!
Carmella

Carmella Schaecher
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11 July 2007

Laurie Calhoun, Managing Editor
DuBois Review
W. E. B. DuBois Institute
Harvard University
104 Mount Auburn Street
Cambridge MA 02138

Dear Managing Editor Calhoun:

I am enclosing two copies of a manuscript, "Racist Stereotypes Meet HIV/AIDS", which I hope may be suitable for publication in the *DuBois Review*.

As per exchanged e-mails, I have referred to my own cited work in the third person, and my name and affiliation are shown only on the Title Page.

This is a new MS that has not been published or submitted anywhere else, nor posted anywhere on the Internet, I am not clear whether a Copyright Transfer Agreement is required at this stage, if so, please let me know.

I enclose also a disk with an electronic file of the text.

Sincerely,

MS. "Racist Stereotypes Meet HIV/AIDS"

03 March, 2008 10:00:37 AM

From Henry Bauer <hhbauer@pop.vt.edu>
To calhoun@fas.harvard.edu
Reply-to hhbauer@vt.edu

Is there anything I can provide that might help you reach a decision about publication of this article, which I submitted nearly 8 months ago?

Would you like me to suggest the names of possible reviewers?

I am fully aware of the dilemmas this MS must raise since it flies in the face of the accepted mainstream view as to HIV/AIDS, but I believe that the documented evidence from the mainstream literature is solid enough to withstand any scrutiny, and I would welcome the opportunity to respond substantively to any criticisms that reviewers might have ventured.

I have not yet sent this MS anywhere else, because I regard the DuBois Review as the most suitable venue. In view of this long delay, however, would you object to my submitting it also to other journals?

No reply received, so I wrote to the Editors of the Review, Bobo and Dawson:

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11 July 2008

Professor Lawrence D. Bobo
Harvard University
Dept. of Sociology
33 Kirkland Street
Cambridge, MA 02138

Professor Michael C. Dawson
Dept. of Political Science
The University of Chicago
Pick Hall, 406
5828 S. University Ave.
Chicago, IL 60637

Dear Professors Bobo and Dawson:

A year ago I submitted to the *DuBois Review* a MS. entitled "Racist Stereotypes Meet HIV/AIDS". Last November I asked about it, and the response mentioned tardy reviewers. I asked again in March, and once more in May, both queries going unacknowledged--see attached copies of e-mails. During quite a lengthy academic career in which rejections have not been unknown, I have never before encountered such unprofessional and discourteous editorial behavior.

The MS. addresses a situation that is of some importance to African Americans. It is generally acknowledged that HIV/AIDS in the United States has become a disease primarily affecting blacks. In every part of the world, in fact, people of African ancestry are much more likely to test HIV-positive than people from every other racial group. Since it is believed that HIV tests accurately detect active infection that results primarily from unsafe and promiscuous sexual activities, African ancestry is taken--at least by implication--to correlate with carelessly promiscuous sexual conduct.

The degree of this inferred promiscuity has been quantified by James Chin, former epidemiologist for the World Health Organization, in "The AIDS Pandemic": the magnitude of the purported epidemic in sub-Saharan Africa means that 20-40% of adults in that region must have been engaged continually in sex with multiple concurrent partners, with partner pairs changing every month or so. The prevalence of HIV-positives among African Americans is similarly ascribed to networks of multiple concurrent sexual partners; in addition, African-American men are supposed to be engaged to a significant degree in "down low" activities.

The sexual behavior thus ascribed to people of African ancestry is contrary to attested reality and is consistent with racist stereotypes that might be thought obsolete.

For that reason, it seemed to me that my manuscript would be of interest to the *DuBois Review*. I am fully aware how difficult it is to entertain the idea that something is amiss with HIV tests, see the attached publication, "Questioning HIV/AIDS...". I also understand the related editorial dilemmas, having myself been editor of several periodicals. So I have no interest in pursuing the matter of unprofessional conduct and discourtesy. My only interest here is to have the MS. reviewed by people vested neither in the belief that HIV tests accurately detect HIV infection nor in sociobiological beliefs that genes determine behavior.

Sincerely,

My e-mail of 25 November 2007 to calhoun@fas.harvard.edu:

When do you expect to be able to reach a decision about this MS., which I sent in mid-July?

On Wed, 28 Nov 2007 11:08:25 -0500, Du Bois Review <dbreview@fas.harvard.edu> wrote:

Dear Professor Bauer,

Just a note to let you know that we are still following up with the reviewers. We apologize that the review process can take some time due to the busy schedules of the reviewers. We will let you know as soon as we have the results.

Best,
Carmella

to which I immediately replied:

OK, thanks, wanted to make sure I hadn't missed an e-mail from you. I appreciate that this MS offers difficulties in finding unbiased reviewers.

My e-mail of 3 March 2008 to calhoun@fas.harvard.edu:

Is there anything I can provide that might help you reach a decision about publication of this article, which I submitted nearly 8 months ago?

Would you like me to suggest the names of possible reviewers?

I am fully aware of the dilemmas this MS must raise since it flies in the face of the accepted mainstream view as to HIV/AIDS, but I believe that the documented evidence from the mainstream literature is solid enough to withstand any scrutiny, and I would welcome the opportunity to respond substantively to any criticisms that reviewers might have ventured.

I have not yet sent this MS anywhere else, because I regard the DuBois Review as the most suitable venue. In view of this long delay, however, would you object to my submitting it also to other journals?

P.S. It occurred to me that the attached essay may help explain difficulties that I infer---you haven't mentioned any---in getting reviews or reviewers for my MS. It occurred to me, too, that the editors of the Journal of American Physicians and Surgeons (JAPS), where the attached was published, experienced similar dilemmas, including diametrically opposite recommendations from reviewers; so the editors of JAPS might be able to serve for you as a professional and unbiased resource for suggestions of possible reviewers.

NO REPLY

My e-mail of 3 May 2008 to calhoun@fas.harvard.edu:

In November, you said the reviewers were being slow about my MS.

I have not had a reply to my queries of 3rd March.

Please let me know how you intend to proceed regarding the MS I sent in July.

Thank you.

NO REPLY

**I never received an acknowledgment or reply from Bobo or Dawson.
However, I did hear in less than 2 months that MS. had been rejected:**

From: "Du Bois Review" <dbreview@fas.harvard.edu>
To: hhbauer@vt.edu
Cc:
Subject: Results #07-74
Date: Tue, 26 Aug 2008 12:41:07 -0400

Dear Professor Bauer,

We have received the reports back on your manuscript, "Racist Stereotypes Meet HIV/AIDS." Based on the referees' feedback we will not be able to publish the paper in the Du Bois Review. However, we wish you well with your research. I have attached our referees' comments in hopes that they will be helpful to you. I would appreciate if you could please confirm receipt of this email.

Thanks,

Carmella

.....
Managing Editor | Du Bois Review


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Fwd: Results #07-74

23 February, 2012 7:30:45 PM

From: Henry Bauer <hhbauer@vt.edu>
To: dbreview@fas.harvard.edu
Attachments:  07-74Comments to Author.doc
Reply-to: hhbauer@vt.edu

Several years ago I was unsuccessful in having a MS published by the Review. The issues I raised seem to me still relevant, and in writing about them I would like to refer to comments made by the reviewers about my original MS. May I take it that I am free to quote from the reviewers' comments as I continue to argue my case?

Sincerely

Henry Bauer

RE: Results #07-74

24 February, 2012 12:41:23 PM

From: Du Bois Review <dbreview@fas.harvard.edu>
To: Henry Bauer

Dear Mr. Bauer,
Thank you for your note and interest in the Du Bois Review. Best of luck in your work.
The Editors

[Du Bois Review](#)

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Re: Results #07-74

24 February, 2012 4:06:52 PM

From: Henry Bauer <hhbauer@vt.edu>
To: cbreview@fas.harvard.edu
Reply-to: hhbauer@vt.edu

Does that mean "yes"?

No reply ever received.