

Editorial

*That is the personification of science in Ohio,
done with duty and sincerity,
always looking forward with humility and grace.*

By DR. JEFFREY K. MCKEE
Editor, *The Ohio Journal of Science*

Dr. Jeffrey K. McKee is a Professor in the Department of Anthropology at The Ohio State University. He holds degrees from Miami University of Ohio and Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri. Dr. McKee is a physical anthropologist conducting research on hominin evolution and paleoecology. He has directed excavations at the early hominin sites of Taung and Makapansgat, and has published on fossils from other South African sites as well. His current interests focus on computer modeling and simulation of evolutionary and fossilization processes, toward an understanding of the pace and causes of human evolution in an ecological context.

Ohio is a wonderful home for science. I grew up in Ohio and was educated in this great state from k-16, including my years at Miami University. Ohio is where my fascination with science was born and nurtured. That love of striving toward greater knowledge of the natural world never died, and never will.

Recently I got a notification that a letter I had written to what was then the Ohio Historical Society, now the Ohio History Connection, had been digitized and archived. I was 17 years old when I wrote that letter to Martha Potter Otto, then associate curator of archaeology. She responded with replies (done back then before computers and the internet) on a typewriter, with prospective encouragement for my hopeful career. That is the personification of science in Ohio, done with duty and sincerity, always looking forward with humility and grace.

So Ohio gave me my start as a scientist. I went on to live overseas to do paleoanthropology in fossil-rich South Africa. The excavations I led there became a large part of my academic career, and the foundation for the bulk of my research publications, both descriptive and theoretical. Yet upon returning home, I wanted to both give back and pay forward to my own academic origins. Once back in Ohio, taking a position at the Ohio State University, I committed to promoting science in Ohio. This included not only my own fields of study, but all of science, at all levels of education.

My associations with The Ohio Academy of Science have been long-running, and quite privileged. Everything from State Science Day to working with the Ohio Board of Education through OAS has been part of my life-blood. Through Sigma Xi, the scientific research society, we created with OAS the "Science of Evolution" award—the first of its kind in the USA—for high-school students in Ohio, and a precedent others have followed.

Every year at State Science Day and other OAS-sponsored events, I learn that Ohio science rocks! While editing *The Ohio Journal of Science*, I've seen a wealth of expertise throughout the state and beyond. My successor at editor, and my predecessor as the same, is the venerable Lynn Elfner, who shaped The Ohio Academy of Science for decades. We are in good hands.

Thank you, Ohio scientists, for allowing me the privilege of being editor of this journal for so many years. I can imagine no greater honor.

Next Steps for *The Ohio Journal of Science*

Something there is that doesn't love a wall.

—ROBERT FROST (1916)

By DR. LYNN E. ELFNER
Editor designee (2018),
The Ohio Journal of Science

Dr. Lynn E. Elfner, CEO Emeritus and Fellow of The Ohio Academy of Science, holds degrees (BS and MS) from The Ohio State University and an Honorary Doctor of Science from Ohio Northern University.

Published since November 1900, *The Ohio Journal of Science* has enjoyed a mutually beneficial academic and administrative relationship with The Ohio State Universities Libraries. The Journal is an international multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed, hybrid publication. The Ohio Academy of Science publishes a printed issue of peer-reviewed annual meeting abstracts and a cumulative issue of peer-reviewed papers. The Libraries publish Annual Meeting Abstracts and articles as approved throughout the year in an Open Access, online form. Knowledge Bank archives fully searchable articles published in *The Ohio Journal of Science* since November 1900 <https://kb.osu.edu/dspace/handle/1811/686>.

Please know that such topics as agriculture, Lake Erie, water quality, Ohio geology and soils, ecology, aquatic science, biodiversity, invasive and endangered species, environmental sciences, and education will remain a forte of the Journal.

Team Science

A Sigma Xi White Paper (Elfner et al. 2011) entitled "Team Science: Heaving Walls & Melding Silos," emphasizes team-based inter, multi and transdisciplinary research that may underpin solutions to world problems. The prophetic lines of the Robert Frost (1916) poem "Mending Wall" have haunted me since 1962 when I first read them in Freshman English at The Ohio State University. Frost wrote:

"Something there is that doesn't love a wall, / That sends the frozen-ground-swell under it, / And spills the upper boulders in the sun; / And makes gaps even two can pass." Later in the poem he laments: "Before

I built a wall I'd ask to know / What I was walling in or walling out, / And to whom I was like to give offense."

The Journal will feature a special class of invited research reviews in emerging areas of R&D such as OSU's Discovery Themes and Ohio's Third Frontier initiatives. Priority would include areas that are team-based, inter, multi or transdisciplinary and have impact on agriculture and food, the environment, energy, medical/health care, the economy, big data/data analytics, manufacturing, construction, transportation, education, and sustainability. I will invite multi-author teams from academia, government and industry to submit manuscripts for peer-review that summarize the history, status and future of emerging areas of team research—especially transdisciplinary research and development. I will expect authors to summarize concepts, principles and understandings from seminal papers that have spawned new or emerging fields of inquiry.

Notes

The Geology Fund will enable us to publish at least 150 pages of geology and soils-related papers free to authors. Now you will see Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) for the Journal articles and for citations in the reference lists at the end of articles. A DOI is a permanently retrievable internet link to an article. We welcome suggestions from members for books to review. We anticipate receiving a research review manuscript on design learning, a parallel to inquiry learning. Finally, we will invite a team of scientists to submit a manuscript for peer review that would summarize contemporary research techniques and findings in evolution and their applications to science and society.

How to Submit a Manuscript

Go to <http://ohiojournalofscience.org> to peruse recent issues of *The Ohio Journal of Science*. Read the author guidelines linked there. Register at that site and upload your manuscript and illustrations.

Literature Cited

- Elfner LE, Falk-Krzesinski HJ, Sullivan KO, Illman DL, Baker J, Pita A. 2011. Team science: heaving walls & melding silos, a Sigma Xi White Paper. *American Scientist*. 99 (6):1-8.
- Frost R. 1916. Mending Wall. In: *The poetry of Robert Frost by Robert Frost*, edited by Edward Connery Lathem. Holt Rinehart and Winston, Inc. (Accessed 1 Dec 2017 <https://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poem/mending-wall>)