Academic Publishing
Online Webinar
26th February 2021

On February 26th 2021, the Early Career Lecturers in Biosciences group hosted the first online Academic publishing themed webinar. This event was designed to cater for the specific needs of science colleagues who are relatively newly appointed in Higher Education; from new lecturers, research focused academics, to postgraduate students and early-career researchers. The webinar brought together a line-up of editors and publishers from top journals such as Nature Communications, eLife and Open Biology as well as academics serving as guest editors. It provided an open discussion forum to address the challenges and opportunities for new academics in dealing with the publishing world as senior authors, reviewers, and editors. The program was structured in two parts. The first saw Dr Cristina Sisu giving a welcome address and presenting a short introduction to the ECLbio, the aims of the group and events currently run by ECLbio and HUBS. The opening address was followed by a lively discussion from the panel members Dr Elisa De Ranieri (chair of the panel – Editor-in-chief Nature Communications), Dr Peter Rodgers (special issue editor eLife), Dr Laura Poliseno (Group Leader – National Research Centre, Pisa, Italy), Ms Buchi Okereafor (Publishing Editor – Open Biology), and Prof. Michael Ginger (University of Huddersfield). The discussion ranged on a number of topics: preparing submissions, choosing reviewers, dealing with rejection, becoming a reviewer/editor/book editor, the importance of impact factor metrics/altimetric for publishers, publishing fees. On the day we had a wide audience of 49 academics from HUBS member

universities from all over UK. While we missed the enthusiastic coffee break networking opportunity from previous in person events, the positive feedback that we received from the audience and panel members after the meeting showcased that our online event was successful. All recordings from the meeting are available on the Advance HE connect platform.