Editorial 2016

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This editorial is the second of my annual reports to our authors, readers, and referees, aiming to provide an easily accessible source of information about acceptance rates and manuscript processing times, editorial policy, and public acknowledgement of the individuals who help make this journal what it is. Please see Jenkins (2015) for further discussion of editorial practice, Special Issues and Forums, Rediscovered Classics, replication policy for empirical papers, and advice for authors submitting original research articles.

1 Publication statistics

Publication statistics are derived from Springer's Editorial Manager software, and reflect the situation in mid-2016.

The *number of submissions* continues to rise: see Table 1. There were 240 Original Research Article submissions in 2015, compared with 198 in 2014, representing an increase of 24 %. We expect around 270 submissions for calendar year 2016, having already received 205 new submissions between 1 January and 1 October.

The *rejection rate* has been increasing slowly over the last five years, but has now levelled off. It was 91 % in 2015 compared with 90 % for 2014. See Table 2.

Manuscript processing times have continued to decline: see Table 2. The mean number of days from submission to first decision was 88 in 2013 and 53 in 2014 but only 29 days in 2015. The mean number of days to final deposition Accept fell from 407 in 2014 to 279 in 2015, and to final deposition Reject from 60 in 2014 to 46 in 2015.

The *number of submissions that is desk-rejected* has continued to rise: see Table 3. The desk-rejection rate of original research articles may be calculated as a fraction of submissions, or of articles decisioned. Using the first measure, the rate was 49 % in 2013, 57 % in 2014, and 69 % in 2015. Using the second measure, the rate was 50 % in 2013, 61 % in

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Table 1 Numbers of articles submitted, by type

Article type	2013	2014	2015
Original Research Article	176	193	240
Book Review	4	4	1
Other	3	1	1
Editorial Notes	2	0	1
Forum	1	0	0
Special Issue Article	0	0	9
Total	186	198	252

2014, and 75 % in 2015. We continue to aim to make desk-rejections within seven days of receipt of the submission and also to provide some comments to authors. Our desk-rejection policy is discussed in more detail by Jenkins (2015).

The *total number of articles published* in 2015 was 39 including 11 in a special issue on Appraising Cross-National Income Inequality Databases. Submissions in 2015 came from 31 countries, including 50 from the USA, 16 from Italy, 14 each from Germany and the UK, and 10 from France.

The journal's *Impact Factor* which had been increasing year on year since 2010 fell between 2014 (1.362) and 2015 (1.041). The 2015 5-year Impact Factor is 1.837.

The 10 *most downloaded papers* from the Springer website in 2015 are shown in Table 4. As for 2014, the majority of the papers appeared either in a themed Special Issue, or in the Rediscovered Classics section. The 15 *most cited papers* (according to Google Scholar, as at August 2016) are shown in Table 5, with papers ranked by number of citations per year. Original Article submissions feature more prominently in this table than Table 1 but, nonetheless, a notable fraction appeared either in a themed Special Issue or in the Rediscovered Classics section.

2 Acknowledgments

I couldn't do my job without the contributions of the *Associate Editors*: Olivier Bargain, Andrea Brandolini, Valentino Dardanoni, Cecilia Garcia-Peñalosa, Markus Jäntti, and Dirk

Table 2 Decisions and times to decision

	2013	2014	2015
Total Submitted	187	198	253
Total Decisioned	185	191	240
Accept	27	19	22
Reject	158	172	218
Acceptance rate (%)	15	10	9
Rejection rate (%)	85	90	91
Average days to first decision	88	62	29
Average days to final disposition Accept	282	407	279
Average days to final disposition Reject	85	60	46

Notes. 'Reject' includes Reject before review; Reject after review; Reject, but resubmit; Reject, out of scope; and so forth. Only papers for which the 'Final Disposition Date' has been set are taken into account. Final disposition means that a manuscript is fully completed

Table 3 Decisions by type

Type of decision	2013	2014	2015
Reject without review	87	110	166
Reject after review	59	61	47
Accept	24	5	6
Still pending final decision	3	13	18
Total	176	193	240

Van de gaer. I thank them all. Andrea resigned in early-2016 due to other commitments but saw out the remaining papers under his charge. We are grateful for his service and are glad that he continues on the Editorial Board. Also making substantial contributions to the JEI are Nora Lustig (Forum Editor) and Xavi Ramos (Book Review Editor). I also wish

Table 4 Top 10 most downloaded papers from Springer's JEI website, calendar year 2015

Rank	Downloads	Paper	Corresponding author	Volume	Issue	Year
1	881	Inequality and growth: evidence from panel cointegration	Herzer	10	4	2012
2	831	The measurement of multidimensional poverty	Bourguignon	1	1	2003
3	596	Decomposition procedures for distributional analysis: a unified framework based on the Shapley value	Shorrocks	11	1	2013
4	521	Understandings and misunderstandings of multidimensional poverty measurement	Alkire	9	2	2011
5	521	The origins of the Gini index: extracts from <i>Variabilità e Mutabilità</i> (1912) by Corrado Gini	Ceriani	10	3	2012
6	442	Inequality and happiness: insights from Latin America	Graham	4	1	2006
7	422	A vulnerability approach to the definition of the middle class	López-Calva	12	1	2014
8	417	The Foster-Greer-Thorbecke (FGT) poverty measures: 25 years on	Foster	8	4	2010
9	407	On multidimensional indices of poverty	Ravallion	9	2	2011
10	404	The HDI 2010: new controversies, old critiques	Klugman	9	2	2011

Table 5 Top 15 JEI papers ranked by number of citations per year (as at August 2016)

Rank	Cites per year	Cites	Authors	Title	Year
1	238.00	714	AF Shorrocks	Decomposition procedures for distributional analysis: a unified framework based on the Shapley value	2013
2	84.23	1095	F Bourguignon, SR Chakravarty	The measurement of multidimensional poverty	2003
3	70.00	118	LF López-Calva, E Ortiz-Juarez	A vulnerability approach to the definition of the middle class	2014
4	54.20	271	S Alkire, J Foster	Understandings and misunderstandings of multidimensional poverty measurement	2011
5	48.00	240	M Ravallion	On multidimensional indices of poverty	2011
6	42.80	214	J Klugman, F Rodríguez, HJ Choi	The HDI 2010: new controversies, old critiques	2011
7	41.15	535	AB Atkinson	Multidimensional deprivation: contrasting social welfare and counting approaches	2003
8	38.67	348	J Esteban, C Gradín, D Ray	An extension of a measure of polarization, with an application to the income distribution of five OECD countries	2007
9	37.10	371	F Bourguignon, A Spadaro	Microsimulation as a tool for evaluating redistribution policies	2006
10	37.00	222	D Checchi, V Peragine	Inequality of opportunity in Italy	2010
11	25.00	25	SP Jenkins	World Income Inequality Databases: an assessment of WIID and SWIID	2015
12	24.60	246	C Graham, A Felton	Inequality and happiness: insights from Latin America	2006
13	24.50	147	GS Fields	Does income mobility equalize longer-term incomes? New measures of an old concept	2010
14	24.25	97	L Ceriani, P Verme	The origins of the Gini index: extracts from Variabilità e Mutabilità (1912) by Corrado Gini	2012
15	24.17	145	JE Foster, MC Wolfson	Polarization and the decline of the middle-class	2010

Note: Extracted on 2016-08-14 using Harzing's Publish or Perish™ software (statistics derived from Google Scholar)

to thank Chico Ferreira and Nora Lustig for guest editing the special issue on Appraising Cross-National Income Inequality Databases (published in the December 2015 issue).

Our eminent *Advisory Council* continues to be: Tony Atkinson, François Bourguignon, Nanak Kakwani, Serge-Christophe Kolm, and Amartya Sen.

I am also pleased to acknowledge the support and advice of the *Editorial Board*, the members of which are listed in the journal and on Springer's website. To be able to call on such an august body of individuals for advice and support is invaluable for developing the journal's editorial policy.

I value the advice and assistance received from the *Springer team*, especially the following individuals: Lorraine Klimowich (Senior Editor), Janelle Caculba (Editorial Assistant), plus Barney Boy Cutamura (Journals Production).

Finally, we should pay tribute to those individuals who have given their time and expertise to refereeing papers for us.

Referees in 2015

We would like to express our gratitude for the assistance of the following individuals who agreed to referee articles during Calendar Year 2015:

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Gordon	Anderson	Sirma	Demir Seker	Nora	Lustig	Paul	Segal
Francesco	Andreoli	Emilia	Del Bono	Paul	Maarek	Suman	Seth
Luc	Arrondel	Coral	Del Rio	Kevin	Macdonald	Nicholas	Sheard
Kadir	Atalay	Manthos	Delis	Silvia	Magri	Eva	Sierminka
Luis	Ayala	Richard	Dickens	Vincent	Mahler	Denisa	Sologon
Mehtabul	Azam	Rafael	Domenech	Johannes	Maier	jurgen	spenkuch
Elena	Barcena-Martin	Karina	Doorley	Tuomas	Malinen	Jan	Stuhler
Stephen	Bazen	Denvil	Duncan	Marco	Manacorda	Asep	Suryahadi
Ricardo	Bebczuk	Tasha	Fairfield	Joseph	Marchand	Antoine	Terracol
Rui	Benfica	Francesco	Figari	Gustavo	Marrero	Jeffrey	Thompson
Christopher	Bennett	Sergio	Firpo	Steve	McKay	Roberto	Torri
Sarra	Ben-Yahmed	Emmanuel	Flachaire	Antonio	Mele	Alain	tranny
Michele	Bernasconi	Alessio	Fusco	Dayioglu	Meltem	Fabien	Tripier
Graziella	Bertocchi	James	Galbraith	Paul	Menchik	Dirk	Van de gaer
Erik	Bihagen	Matteo	Galizzi	daria	mendola	Philippe	Van Kerm
Chiara	Binelli	Joseph	Gastwirth	Marta	Menendez	Peter	van Santen
Jo	Blanden	John	Gerring	Branko	Milanovic	Giovanni	Vecchi
Deirdre	Bloome	Paul	Glewwe	Salvatore	Morelli	Fernando	Veloso
Rene	Bocheim	Julien	Gourdon	Andrea	Moro	Philip	Vermeulen
Timm	Boenke	Carlos	Gradin	Ujjaini	Mukhopadhyay	Jouko	Vilminen
Anders	Böhlmark	Paul	Gregg	Ambar	Narayan	Marco	Vivarelli
Mariano	Bosch	Michael	Grimm	Renata	Narita	Sarah	Voitchovsky
Kristof	Bosmans	Ruth	Hancock	Øivind A.	Nilsen	Francesco	Vona
Walter	Bossert	Kenneth	Harttgen	Patrick	Nolen	Jonathan	Wadsworth
Breno	Braga	Nathaniel	Hendren	Hugo	Nopo	Daniel	Waldenström
Massimiliano	Bratti	Nicolas	Herault	Martin	Nybohm	Liz	Washbrook
Julia	Bredtmann	Vincent	Hildebrand	Cathal	O'Donoghue	Daniel	Westbrook
Florent	Bresson	Ruth	Hill	Rodrigo	Paillacar	Emily	Wiemers
Jesse	Bricker	Boris	Hirsch	Andreas	Peichl	Kathryn	Wilson
Ylenia	Brilli	Herwig	Immervoll	Tuomas	Pekkarinen	Gaston	Yalonzetky
Paolo	Brunori	Tullio	Jappelli	Eugenio	Peluso	Ken	Yamada
Richard	Burkhauser	Joachim	Jarreau	Iñaki	Permanyner	Shlomo	Yitzhaki
Leonard	Burman	Juan F	Jimeno	Roberto	Piazza	Buhong	Zheng
Lorenzo	Cappellari	Vanessa	Jorda Gil	Giuseppe	Pignataro	Gabriel	Zucman
Francesca	Carta	Jaewon	Jung	Erik	Plug		
S.R.	Chakravarty	Maximilian	Kasy	Natalie	Quinn		
Arpita	Chatterjee	Jihee	Kim	Michele	Raitano		
Daniele	Cecchi	Tilman	Klump	Xavier	Ramos		
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