Praise for J. Stanton King

Recent postings on a listserv for medical editors discussed concerns about excessive editing of authors’ manuscripts and about failure to show authors the results of editing before they are asked to approve proofs. The experienced editor Susan Eastwood wrote about such problems and remembered the previous editor of Clinical Chemistry, J. Stanton King, who was known to take an aggressive approach to editing. The following is an excerpt:

Copyediting for a journal under rigorous deadlines can be highly stressful and, if the copyeditor doesn’t acknowledge his or her limitations, simply exhausting. If a journal is severely understaffed or uses freelancers who are working past their limitations to make ends meet, [such problems] happen...

When I was new to biomedical editing, I had the privilege of seeing papers accepted to Clinical Chemistry, which was then edited by J. Stanton King. Dr. King’s extensive editing of the papers I had helped with was breathtaking in its precision and insight—I learned so much from him!

I share Eastwood’s gratitude for Dr King’s example—and for his improving my papers in the 1970s and 1980s. As one clinical chemist said, “King made the world think that clinical chemists know how to write”.

Opportunity Available for Volunteer in Country of Bhutan

Jack Ladenson sent the following announcement:

Medical Technologist with clinical chemistry experience is needed to help in upgrading clinical chemistry activities in the country of Bhutan. Bhutan is a small country mostly in the Himalayas that is making a concerted effort to continually upgrade its medical system including the clinical laboratories. This is an opportunity for the appropriate individual to help make a real difference in the clinical chemistry testing for the entire country.

Housing and a per diem for incidental expenses, as well as travel costs, are provided. The time period is for a minimum of one year. Interested individuals please contact: Dr. Jack Ladenson, Director of Clinical Pathology, Pathologists Overseas, Inc., E-mail: ladenson@labmed.wustl.edu.

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