

MT appears in the cradle of Western philosophies

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On July 24, 2023, a philosophical essay regarding the roles of editors with multiple retractions in the publishing system was officially published in *Epistemes Metron Logos*. [1]. This scientific journal primarily covers “methodological and philosophical topics concerning the structure and the growth of science” (<https://ejournals.epublishing.ekt.gr/index.php/episteme/about>). *Mindsponge Theory* (MT) was employed in the essay to explain epistemic aspects of academic publishing [2].

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Editors with multiple retractions, but who serve on journal editorial boards: Case studies

■ Jaime A. Teixeira da Silva¹, Quan-Hoang Vuong^{2,3}

Abstract

In a recent opinion paper (<https://doi.org/10.3897/ese.2022.e95926>), it was argued that individuals with multiple retractions or a record of academic misconduct should not serve as editors, including as editors-in-chief, on the editorial boards of scholarly or academic journals. As a first step towards appreciating how such a policy could be applied in practice, the presence of 30 individuals listed on the Retraction Watch Leaderboard on editorial boards was screened. Six cases are highlighted to gain an appreciation of the potential reputational risks that journals and publishers might incur by including individuals with a tainted academic record on editorial boards. Given the reputational, legal and other risks associated with this type of assessment and decision, more formal positioning and guidance are needed by global ethics policy-related bodies such as COPE, the ICMJE, and the CSE, even more so in journals that claim to follow these organizations' ethical guidelines.

Keywords: negative academic profile; responsibilities, reform, and role models; scholarly reputation; self-correcting science

Illustration: The publication in [Epistemes Metron Logos](#) [1]

What is meaningful is that the journal is operated by The National Documentation Centre, a national infrastructure located in Athens, Greece. Athens is one of the world's oldest cities, once the center for the arts, learning, and philosophy, and the home of Plato's Academy and Aristotle's Lyceum.

The publication in [Epistemes Metron Logos](#) marks the first-time presence of [Mindsponge Theory](#) in the land of ancient philosophies (i.e., Ancient Greek Philosophy), where Western civilization and democracy were founded.

References

[1] Teixeira da Silva JA, Vuong QH. (2023). [Editors with multiple retractions, but who serve on journal editorial boards: Case studies](#). *Epistemes Metron Logos*, 9, 1-8. <https://doi.org/10.12681/eml.33935>

[2] Vuong QH. (2023). *Mindsponge Theory*. De Gruyter. <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0C3WHZ2B3>

