

# Work, Employment and Society

## Call for Editors in Chief

The BSA and WES invite applications for a team of 2-3 Editors in Chief to join the WES Editors. [Work, Employment and Society](#) is a highly respected journal with an international profile. It is strongly grounded in the sociological tradition, drawing upon adjacent disciplines to make an original contribution to debates in the sociology of work and employment. It receives approximately 1000 submissions a year, has an Impact Factor of 3.8 and is ranked 4 in the Chartered Association of Business Schools Academic Journal Guide. WES is a journal of the [British Sociological Association](#) and the current publishing partner is [Sage](#).

### Key tasks:

- Leading the development of the journal and its intellectual agenda
- Editing manuscripts submitted to the journal, including overseeing peer review and making editorial decisions
- Leading, coordinating and developing the Editors
- Developing and maintaining the specific value-led, collegial culture of WES
- Overseeing the review quality and processes, acceptance rates and academic management of the review process, making editorial decisions on papers and supporting the Editors to ensure sociological contribution
- Working closely with and developing the Editorial Board and International Advisory Board to develop the journal and its content
- Overseeing impact factor, journal rankings, metrics and reputation of the journal
- Participating in academic publishing debates, e.g. impact of AI and Open access to develop an understanding about future implications for the journal
- Representing WES within the BSA and externally
- Handling research integrity issues, in conjunction with the BSA and the publisher

The Editors work in a highly collaborative way, meeting regularly to discuss the workings of the journal. The Editors have made use of peer support activities to develop good working relationships. The Editors in Chief present reports at the biannual Editorial Board meetings and lead monthly Editor meetings (both virtual).

### Editor in Chief Applications

We are looking for a team of 2-3 scholars who demonstrate an understanding of WES, offer a range of sociological and methodological expertise matching the WES remit, and who are keen to work closely with the editors, Editorial Board and BSA colleagues to maintain the collegiate ethos and to advance the journal intellectually.

Applications should include a statement of interest and suitability for the role as well as a 2-page CV, all of which highlight the following:

- Demonstrable experience of team leadership and development
- Editorial experience with academic publications
- Demonstrable experience of research and writing within the sociological field, particularly the sociological approach to issues of work and employment, indicating methodological and sociological/disciplinary expertise
- Published articles in WES or other peer reviewed journals of similar standing
- Experience of reviewing for journals of similar standing and subject
- Ability and willingness to devote between 1 to 1.5 days per week reviewing papers, leading the journal's strategic agenda and other matters as they arise
- Willingness to and to support good journal response times
- Ability and willingness to work in a highly collaborative team and contribute to monthly team discussions
- Ability to communicate constructively in exercising editorial judgments
- Interest in developing good collaborative relationships within the WES editorial board, the community, the BSA and Sage staff and BSA Trustees
- Interest in contributing to the development of the journal in a changing publishing environment, particularly in relation to AI and Open Access
- Previous interaction with the BSA and commitment to its ethos

Applicants should be in good scholarly standing. All Editors are members of the BSA and successful applicants will be BSA members throughout their editorial term.

In line with our commitment to diversity, we particularly welcome applications from potential editors who will help the journal reflect the diversity of BSA membership and wider society and to increase the variety of voices and perspectives within the sociology of work and employment, particularly those who are frequently underrepresented in traditional academic publishing. Applications should provide details on how the editors would further address diversity and inclusive practices during their term, which is closely connected to our internationalisation strategies. At least one of the members of the Editors in Chief should be based in the UK, but international partnerships are welcome.

**Deadline for applications: 12 May 2026**

**Online interviews: end of May/early June**

**Formal start: January 2027**

**Handover with current EICs: September-December 2026**

#### **Editors in Chief**

[Laurie Cohen, University of Nottingham](#)

[Marek Korzcynski, University of Nottingham](#)

#### **Chair of the Editorial Board**

[Elizabeth Cotton, University of Leicester](#)

\*The Editors in Chief and Chair of the Board welcome informal conversations about the role; please contact them by email.



### **Editors**

Gabriella Alberti	University of Leeds
Jeremy Aroles	University of York
Ioulia Bessa	University of Leeds
Jimmy Donaghey	University of South Australia
Philip Hancock	University of Essex
Nadia Kougiannou	Nottingham Trent University
Knut Laaser	King's College London
Davide Però	University of Padua
Valeria Pulignano	KU Leuven
Gerbrand Tholen	City University, London
Charles Umney	University of Leeds
Danat Valizade	University of Leeds

\*Please note that WES will open a call for editors later in 2026.

For further information on making an application, please contact us:  
[Alison Danforth, Publications Manager](#)