Letter From the Editors

Walden’s New Journal! Journal of Sustainable Social Change

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As the editors of Walden’s Journal of Social Change, we are excited to announce that as of April 22, 2023, our journal changed its name to the Journal of Sustainable Social Change and expanded its scope to include the value, concept, and practice of both socioeconomic and environmental sustainability! This change recognizes the increasing salience of sustainability (or advancement of long-term quality of life) in numerous systems, including physical, mental, psychological, sociological, natural, emotional, informational, financial, philosophical, civic, and educational systems. It also acknowledges Walden University’s recent joining of Adtalem Global Education and the latter’s primary mission of addressing the “social determinants of health.”

So, in addition to the journal’s long-standing and current offering of double-blind reviewed essays, book reviews, and articles on mostly social and education change-oriented topics, the journal will now also include (and sometimes feature) submissions on such macro topics as social change related to the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals, international conflict, and various global efforts to achieve human societal goals. In addition, in keeping with the systems approach of focusing on macro groupings of inter-related inputs, processes, outputs, and feedbacks, the journal’s new approach will also include attention to meso-level systems at the organizational, community, professional network, and sub-national levels. Additionally, micro-level systems, at the individual, household, and personal network levels will also be topics of interest. Finally, our concept of sustainability includes consideration of the element of time, a broader context than immediate social change, and a strategic perspective that includes both means and ends.

As mentioned, submissions will be double-blind reviewed, so we welcome volunteer reviewers, both within and outside of Walden and Adtalem, to serve on our Editorial Review Board. In our brief review process, we will ask reviewers to suggest up to three strengths and up to three improvement areas of each submission and to recommend to the editors each submission’s prospects for publication. Given the broadening of the journal’s scope, we expect that the average number of reviews each reviewer will be asked to provide will probably be about three per year.

So, thank you for considering the opportunity to send us your sustainable social change submissions and/or to volunteer to review future submissions in that increasingly salient area. Please contact us if you have any questions about either submitting or reviewing or would like to discuss the appropriateness of your topic for our reoriented journal.

— Mark Starik, PhD and William Schulz, PhD