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Global Change Research Data Publishing & Repository

LIU Chuang Honored as Outstanding Editor-in-Chief and SHI Ruixiang as Excellent Editor

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On July 6, 2026, at the 15th Academic Conference on English Scientific Journals, co-hosted by the Society of China University Journals (CUJS) and the Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China, the CUJS conferred the honor of "Outstanding Editor-in-Chief" on Professor LIU Chuang, Editor-in-Chief of the *Digital Journal of Global Change Data Repository*, and the honor of "Excellent Editor" on Dr. SHI Ruixiang, Deputy Editor-in-Chief and Associate Senior Editor.

From July 6 to 9, under the theme "Embracing Challenges, Envisioning the Future", the conference was held in Shanghai. The organizers emphasized that China's English-language scientific journals are a window for international academic exchange and are crucial to the internationalization of China's journals. The conference focused on topics including the development of world-class scientific journals, journal academic evaluation, international journal operations, academic journal operations, and editorial career development. Over 360 domestic and international experts and representatives attended.

Keynote speakers included Academicians GAO Fu (*Science Bulletin* and *hLife*), FAN Jia (*Clinical Cancer Bulletin*), ZHANG Jiujun (*Electrochemical Energy Review*), Ms. Nandita Quaderi (Web of Science), and Director YANG Daiqing (ISTIC). On academic evaluation, Research Librarian LIU Xiaomin (National Science Library, CAS) proposed deeper integration with international exchange; LIU Qian (Editorial Office of *Asia-Pacific Journal of Oncology Nursing*, Peking Union Medical College Hospital) discussed implications of international database evaluations for medical journals; and DU Juan (American Chemical Society Content Acquisition) shared American Chemical Society database assessment practices.

On international operations, HUANG Yanhong (General Manager, Beijing Zhongke Journal Publishing Co.) shared branding and dissemination practices; YANG Huabing (Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Higher Education Press) presented HEP's support for university English journals; and YANG Lei (General Manager, Chinese Laser Press) offered insights from optics journal internationalization. On academic journal operations, Professor ZHENG Wenli discussed particle physics journals (*Chinese Physics C* and *Radiation Detection Technology and Methods*); YU Xiezhi (Deputy Director, Editorial Office of School of

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Environment, Nanjing University) addressed new journal board building based on *Eco-Environment & Health*; and DU Yaowen (Project Director, Silverchair China) recommended optimizing international review systems.

On editor career development, Director DING Zuoqi (*Chinese Journal of Natural Medicines* and *Targetome*, China Pharmaceutical University) shared research-editing integration; LI Yuan (Editorial Publishing Department, National Science Library, CAS) analyzed publication pathways for editors; and Editor LIU Shuang (CAMS) explored Vibe Coding's role. A dialogue between editors-in-chief and early-career editors was also held.

In his closing remarks, Chairman ZHANG Tieming (CUJS) praised the enthusiasm of all participants and highly commended the new ideas, measures, and innovative practices presented. He also offered constructive suggestions for the development of China's English-language scientific journals in the coming year. It is clear from these exchanges that the conference was a high-level gathering for China's English journals and a milestone event in China's journey toward becoming a leading scientific and technological power.

Professor LIU Chuang (Editor-in-Chief of *Digital Journal of Global Change Data Repository* and Executive Deputy Editor-in-Chief/Managing Editor of *Journal of Global Change Data & Discovery*), SHI Ruixiang (Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the former and Deputy Director of the latter's editorial office), and editor JIANG Zhaocai attended the conference. LIU noted that universities are the top manuscript source and data-application hub for both journals, and thanked the CUJS for its over-a-decade support to English journal development and to their editorial office.

The editorial office of the *Journal of Global Change Data & Discovery* (Chinese & English) is a scientific journal office focused on the publication of global change research data. Since 2014, the office has successively launched 2 interrelated academic journals—the *Journal of Global Change Data & Discovery* and the *Digital Journal of Global Change Data Repository*—along with the Global Change Research Data Publishing and Repository of the World Data System (Chinese & English) (WDS-GCdataPR) platform and thematic data and knowledge hubs such as Geographical Indications Environment & Sustainability (GIES). Together, these form a publishing system comprising "2 journals, 1 website, and several thematic hubs", which has been approved by the International Science Council as a Regular Member of the World Data System, and has received the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Prize three times (in 2018, 2021, and 2025). In this publishing system, university scholars are the main authors: among the 3,200+ authors of 1,500+ datasets published in the *Digital Journal of Global Change Data Repository*, nearly half come from universities, nearly half are from universities. Among them, domestic authors are from 209 China's universities, out of a total of 225 (including 16 foreign), making higher education institutions the backbone of this field in China.

To promote the emerging field of scientific data publishing, Professor LIU Chuang, with support from the Geographical Society of China (GSC) and the Institute of Geographic Sciences and Natural Resources Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IGSNRR, CAS), organized 47 "Capacity Building Workshop on Big Data Applications" at universities, research institutes, and rural areas across China and abroad. LIU noted that, as a pioneer in the history of scientific data publishing, she initiated and led the launch of the *Digital Journal of Global Change Data Repository*—the world's first journal dedicated to dataset publication. Together with the *Journal of Global Change Data & Discovery*, this publishing system has become the only WDS member characterized by data publication.

As Editor-in-Chief of this innovative journal and the person responsible for the "three-review and three-proofreading" process, her primary tasks are to steer the direction of data publication innovation, select appropriate columns and content, ensure data security, intellectual property rights, privacy, quality, and scientific ethics, and coordinate the editorial

team. She aims not only to make scientific data useful within academia but also to lead it toward promoting sustainable social development, by proposing new ideas, implementing novel measures, and opening up effective pathways. She has effectively integrated data publishing with academic services. Having served as Co-Chair and Secretary of the CODATA Task Group on Developing Countries for over 20 years, she later co-established and co-chairs the Task Group on GIES. The GCdataPR she leads has been a member of the ISC-WDS for 10 years. She initiated and served as Secretary of the Geographic Big Data Working Committee under the GSC for 8 years. Since 2023, she has been Vice Chair of the FAO's "One Country One Priority Product" (OCOP) initiative for the Asia-Pacific region.

She and her team have developed principles, guidelines, and technical specifications for data publishing, while also fostering a professional commitment to the field. She places top priority on ethical conduct in data publishing. In her view, data publishing professionals need not only broad expertise, up-to-date policy awareness, technical skills, and the ability to provide precise feedback to authors, but also a meticulous, dedicated work ethic and the sense of fulfillment that comes from serving others' work. Her innovative approaches have been hailed as "a new milestone for scientific data sharing in China" (XU Guanhua, 2017). She has received the WSIS Prize three times (2018, 2021, 2025), and her project was named a "Digital Publishing Innovation Project 2017–2018" at the 8th China Digital Expo. The data publishing, dissemination, and sharing services she championed became a core value in the FAO's designation of IGSNRR, CAS as a "Centre of Excellence" for the OCOP Asia-Pacific region (2026).

At the conference, Dr. SHI Ruixiang, Associate Senior Editor, was honored with the "Excellent Editor" award. She serves as Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the *Digital Journal of Global Change Data Repository* and Deputy Director of the Editorial Office of the *Journal of Global Change Data & Discovery*. Since 2014, she has been dedicated to the first-round review and first-round proofreading of datasets in the publication of global change research data. Among the over 1,500 datasets published to date—varying widely in source, content, format, spatiotemporal alignment, and author expertise—she has systematically reviewed and edited each for openness, standardization, consistency, accessibility, correspondence between datasets and data papers, consistency with related scientific discovery papers, and bilingual (Chinese-English) alignment. Over the past decade, she has consistently prioritized quality, day in and day out. As a result, all published datasets have achieved two 100% rates (all data are openly accessible in both Chinese and English, and all are fully compliant in terms of data security, intellectual property, quality, privacy, and ethics), as well as an "Excellent" rating in the 2023 annual journal evaluation by the CAS. In 2020, she was awarded the title of "Outstanding Geography Editor" by GSC, and in 2024, she received a nomination for the "Aerospace Data Craftsman of the Year" award.



Figure 1 Certificate presentation: LIU Chuang (Outstanding Editor-in-Chief) and SHI Ruixiang (Excellent Editor) from SCUJ