

Background

Volcanica recognises that authors may change their names for many reasons, including marriage or divorce, religious conversion, gender identity change, and other personal reasons. Authors may wish to update the publication record to reflect this change in name or identity. Volcanica sees allowing this change to be made retroactively on publications as an important step in respecting the rights of its authors, and reducing barriers to inclusivity in science. This policy outlines how Volcanica can help published authors who change their names.

Policy Statement

There are two mechanisms for authors to change their name on journal articles published with Volcanica.

1. If an author wishes to replace their prior name with their new identity, Volcanica will (i) update the metadata related to the articles in question, and (ii) update and replace the journal-hosted PDFs of those articles. Metadata will be updated on the Volcanica journal platform, and in the databases of CrossRef (the Digital Object Identifier Registration Agency) and the Directory of Open Access Journals.
2. If an author wishes to link their new name with their publications, but wishes to retain their prior name on those publications, Volcanica can add an erratum to the journal article. In such cases, it is recommended that the author merge any existing external accounts to which the articles are linked to (e.g. ORCID, Google Scholar).

In the case of option 1 it will be necessary to store the originally-published version of record and documentation of the purpose of the correction but this will only be available upon request for good cause (e.g. a legal case).

Volcanica will not link two identities of any author without the written consent of that author.

Volcanica is unable to control the use or appearance of an author's prior name in the material from other publishers or scientists, e.g. as citations or in copies of the PDF hosted on external sites. Volcanica considers it a violation of professional ethics and an incident of professional harassment to request to link or update the name of another individual without their explicit consent.

Questions and Requests

The Volcanica Editor in Chief can be contacted in confidence for any:

- Questions about the interpretation of this policy
- Appeals of decisions made under this policy
- Requests made under this policy
- Suggestions for changes to this policy

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