



To: Prospective Journal Contributors

From: The Executive Leadership Council

Re: Call for proposal (CFP)

Date: October 1, 2020

The Executive Leadership Council (ELC) is the preeminent membership organization committed to increasing the number of global black executives in C-suites, on corporate boards, and in global enterprises. Its mission is to increase the number of successful black executives, domestically and internationally, by adding value to their development, leadership, and philanthropic endeavors, thereby strengthening their companies, organizations, and communities across the life cycle of their careers. Its purpose is to open channels of opportunity for the development of black executives to positively impact business and its communities.

We propose to publish the 2021 winter edition of our research journal. The proposed publish date is March 2021.

Activity	Deadlines
CFP send to prospective contributors	October 16, 2020 and continually after
Article abstract	November 30, 2020
Notification of acceptance of article	December 7, 2020
Article submission	January 11, 2021

Call for Proposal

Introduction

The Executive Leadership Council (ELC), a nonprofit organization located at 1301 K. Street, NW Suite 210 West, Washington, DC 20005 proposes to publish a research journal for winter 2021. The Executive Leadership Council Journal is a research journal for black professionals. We request that your confirmation of intention to author an article as shown by your submission of your article abstract, for the upcoming journal be submitted by **November 30, 2020** and your article submission, if abstract is accepted is due by **January 11, 2021**.

Specifications

We welcome articles on a wide range of subjects, so long as they support the purpose statement: **to open channels of opportunity for the development of black executives to positively impact business and our communities**. An article should be the right length for what is being covered, although *1500-5000 words* is a rough target. Articles should emphasize practical applications and pointing the reader to useful work that has gone before can certainly be helpful.



Questions journal contributors need to keep in mind:

- What is the central message of the article you propose to write?
- What is important, useful, new, or counterintuitive about your idea?
- Why do black professionals need to know about it? How can your idea be applied today and in the future?
- What is the source of your authority? Is there any previous work (either your own or others') that this idea builds on?
- What academic, professional, or personal experience will you draw on?

Content welcomed in the ELC journal includes but is not limited to:

- Thought pieces on various industry specific topics and impact on black executives, or the way we do business.
- Findings on industry trends and the impact on black business or community.
- Thought pieces on the big problems associated with black executives and technology, ideas for new solutions, visions for the future.
- Best practices.
- Reviews/comparisons of business practices, frameworks, development, etc.

Above all, we encourage creativity and flexibility, and the editor welcomes submissions across a broad variety of topics. Anything that supports the purpose of the ELC is welcome. Writers should aim for the middle ground between, on the one hand, blog or mailing-list posts, and, on the other hand, articles in traditional journals. Publishing in the ELC journal should be efficient, helping the community to share timely, relevant information.

Content Evaluation Guidelines

Editors will use these guidelines when editing and approving drafts. They are quite intentionally subjective judgements, but some guidelines for our collective editorial goals.

- Clarity of writing:
 - Clear, concise writing, easy to follow and understand. It can take more time to write concisely but is a service to our readers to make articles no longer than necessary.
 - At appropriate technical level, neither too basic nor too jargon-y. Different parts of article may be appropriate at different technical levels.
 - Section headings where appropriate—we are not interested in the standard 'scholarly paper' sections unless it helps readability, but *appropriate* section headings typically help readability a lot.
 - Check for grammatical errors, spelling errors, passages with unclear, ambiguous, or confusing meanings.
 - Humor can be appropriate if it helps with getting information across.
- Sufficient depth
 - Articles should be of sufficient depth.
 - If possible and appropriate, talk a bit about 'what it means', future steps/directions, what lessons to draw from experience, etc.
- Consider audience
 - What is/are the intended audience(s) for this article?
 - How will this article be of use to them?
 - Both article contributor and editor should be able to answer these questions, and the answers should be apparent from the article.



How to Submit a Proposal

Submission of Abstract

Abstract should be original and submitted as a one-pager attached to an email to cbutts@elcinfo.com. The abstract should be accompanied by some brief author metadata.

The more specifics you provide in the abstract, the easier time we'll have making a decision about your submission. Due to the journal's relatively quick turnaround time, work on finished or mature projects is strongly preferred.

Authors will be notified if their abstract has been accepted within a week of the submission deadline of **November 30, 2020**. Approval of the abstract does not commit the ELC to publishing the article or set a date when it might be published, but it does signal to the author to proceed with submission of their article. Approval of the abstract also signals to the author that the ELC will likely publish the article provided any necessary changes in content or style are made and space allows. If changes are made to the article after the provisional approval, prior to publication, the article will be reviewed for final approval.

Prospective Contributor Metadata

Contributors submit the following information at the time of their abstract submission:

- Article title
- Article abstract
- Author full name (as it will appear in the published journal)
- Author biography (one or two-sentence description of who the author is, including current job title and current place of work)
- Author email (for editorial and public communications)
- Author URL (optional)

Submission of Article

Proposed articles should be original and submitted to cbutts@elcinfo.com. The article should be accompanied by some brief author metadata (see **Prospective Contributor Metadata** above) and, if appropriate, disclosure statement (see below). An article should be the right length for what is being covered, although *1500-5000 words* is a rough target. Articles should emphasize practical applications and pointing the reader to useful work that has gone before can certainly be helpful.

Figures or other graphics may be in png (preferred), gif, or jpg formats. Images that are going to be inline in the article should be no more than 500 pixels wide. We can also use a small thumbnail in the article that links to a larger image, when that works better. **Note: All images must be submitted as separate image files; included in a zip or other archive is fine (and ideal); but included images only as embedded in a Word file does not work well for us.** Due to the journal's relatively quick turnaround time, work on finished or mature projects is strongly preferred.

Authors will be notified if their article has been provisionally approved within a week of the submission deadline of **January 11, 2021**. Provisional approval does not commit the ELC to publishing the article or set a



date when it might be published, but it does signal to the author that the ELC will likely publish the article provided any necessary changes in content or style are made and space allows. If changes are made to the article after the provisional approval, prior to publication, the article will be reviewed for final approval.

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Authors retain copyright on their works, but articles we publish in the journal must be licensed by their authors under a [US CC-BY license](#).

Prospective contributors should note that only original and previously unpublished articles will be considered. Final decision regarding acceptance/revision/rejection will be based on the reviews received from the ELC reviewers. All submissions as well as inquires must be forwarded electronically to: **Christopher Butts, Ed.D.**, cbutts@elcinfo.com.