

Mass Retractions at Environmental Research Due to Unauthorised Authorship Changes

Most of the retracted articles were published between 2021 and 2024, when the journal was under the management of the previous Editor-in-Chief, Wang Aijie (王爱杰), of the Harbin Institute of Technology, China. Although the publisher required the editorial team to oversee authorship changes during the publication process, this policy was ignored or deliberately violated by that editorial team. A previous investigation by the 5GH Team uncovered unethical editorial practices by former Editor-in-Chief Wang Aijie.

Recently, Chinese researchers have been seeking greater influence in the academic publishing industry. On the other hand, records of unethical conduct involving Chinese editors raise concerns about whether their contributions will help build a more sustainable academic publishing industry in the future.

This article is licensed to the 5GH Foundation under a CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 International License