Breaking the cycle

The careers of research mathematicians depend on their publications. Those who make funding and appointment decisions quite often judge the quality of applicants’ work by the caliber of the journals in which their papers are published. Newcomers among established scientific journals face a vicious cycle (“circulus vitiosus”): if the journal wants to attract high-quality research papers, it must have a good reputation, but it cannot develop a good reputation until it has a good publishing record. If we add to this the competition among journals and their publishers, the probability of success for a new journal diminishes unless it can quickly break the vicious cycle. Nowadays a great deal of reputation comes from a listing of the journal in the Science Citation Index. Recently, we made a formal request that *Ars Mathematica Contemporanea* be included on the SCI list. Thomson Scientific has a special web page where scientists may recommend a journal to be included in their database. We would like to ask our readers who think that AMC is ready for inclusion on the Web of Science list to visit the page http://science.thomsonreuters.com/info/journalrec/ and cast their votes. Thank you!

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