Session 3. Note on publication bonuses

For quite some time, a debate has been going on in PSE about the opportunity of paying bonuses to researchers based on their publications, as is done in several universities as a way of increasing the number of publications and the visibility of research. We would like to seek the advice of the Scientific Committee on this matter before taking a decision.

The choice seems to be among three alternatives:

- No bonus, on the basis that their incentive effect is expected to be too limited, if not zero

- Strongly convex bonus schedule with very high bonuses – say € 3,000 per article – in top-5 journals, moderate bonuses (e.g. € 500) for a set of approximately 30 intermediate journals, including top field journals, and zero for any other publication.

- More progressive bonus schedule with a very small bonus - say € 200 - for an article published in journals at the bottom of some reference ranking and a bonus increasing more slowly along the ranking until reaching maybe €2,000 for the top-5.

Presumably, no bonus would be paid to the “Chaires associées” on the ground they have already proven they had the proper natural incentive to publish.