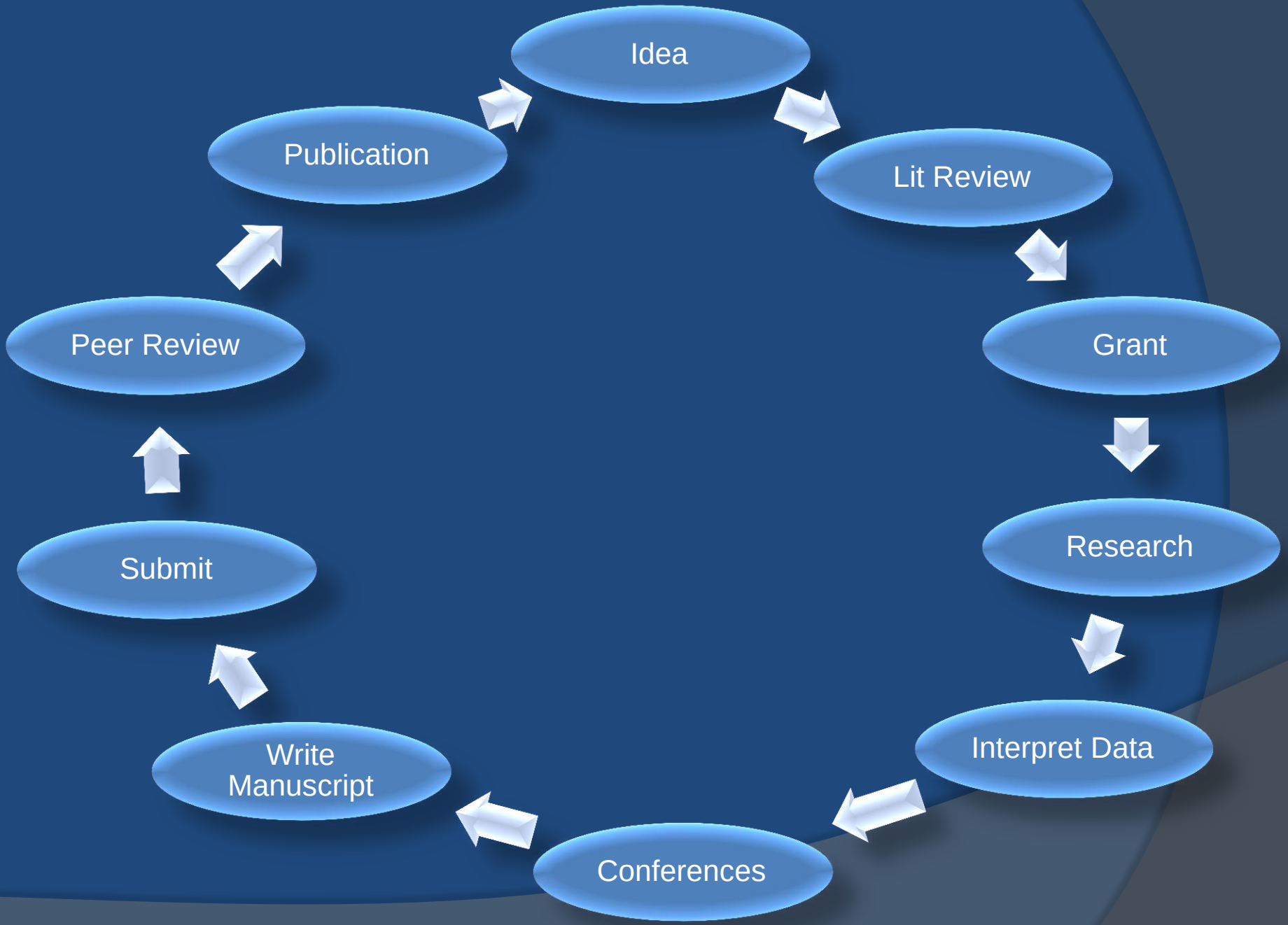
Peer Reviewed Journals: *The Creation of New Knowledge*


Idea
Lit Review
Grant
Research
Interpret Data
Conferences
Write Manuscript
Submit
Peer Review
Publication

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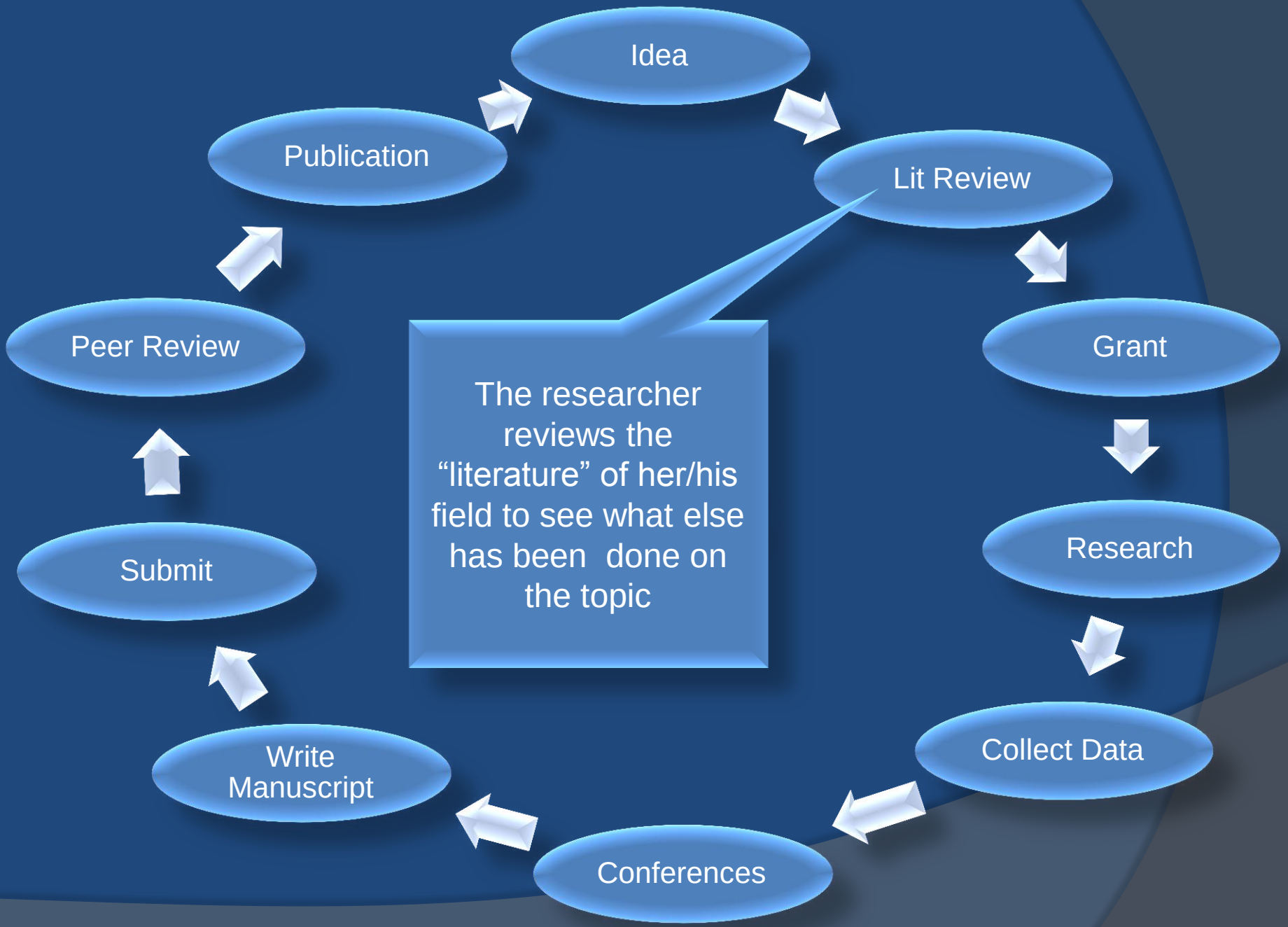
The Peer Review process begins with a researcher and a new idea


Idea
Lit Review
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Collect Data
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The researcher reviews the "literature" of her/his field to see what else has been done on the topic

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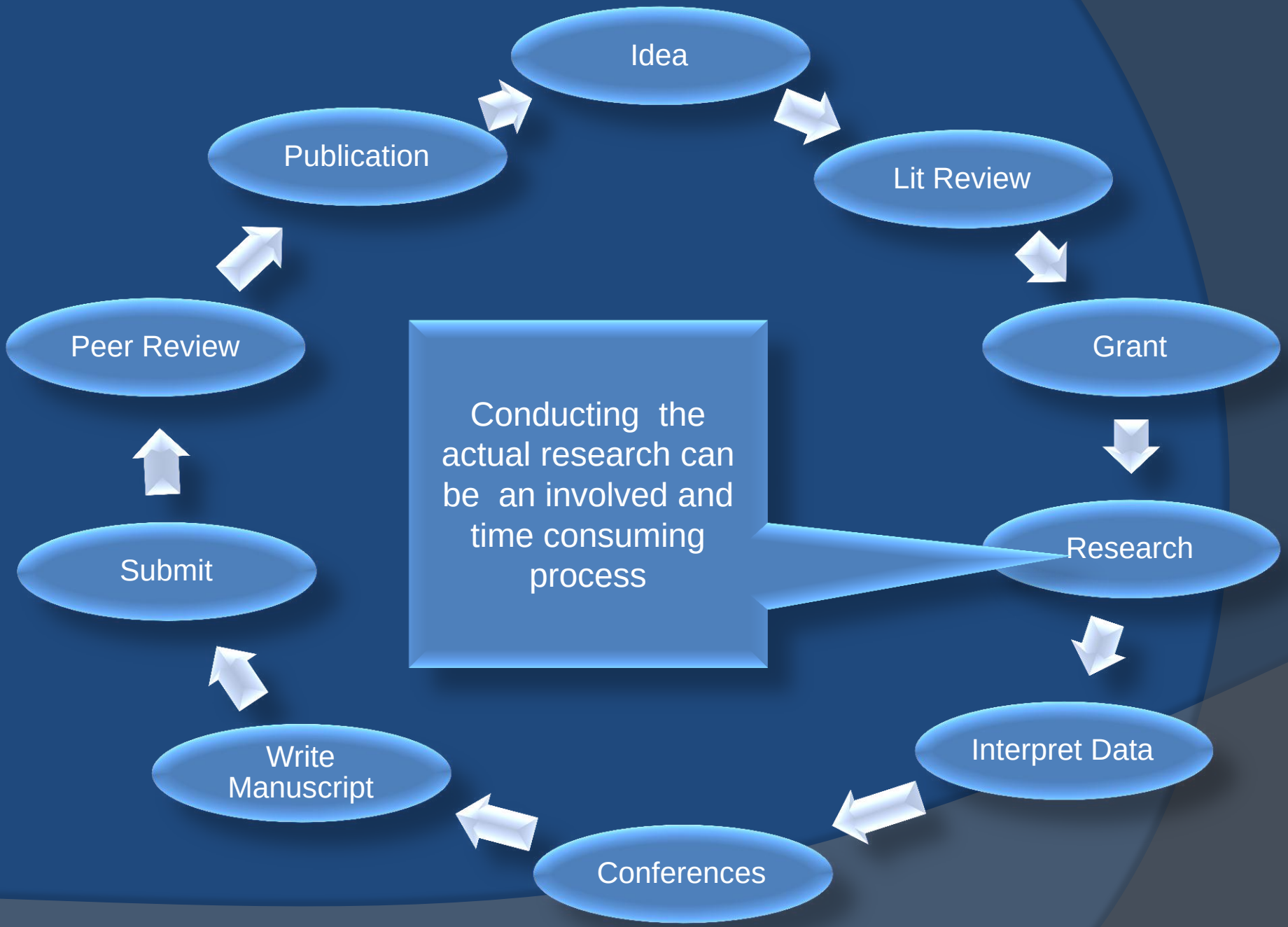
A researcher may secure funding to help pay for her/his research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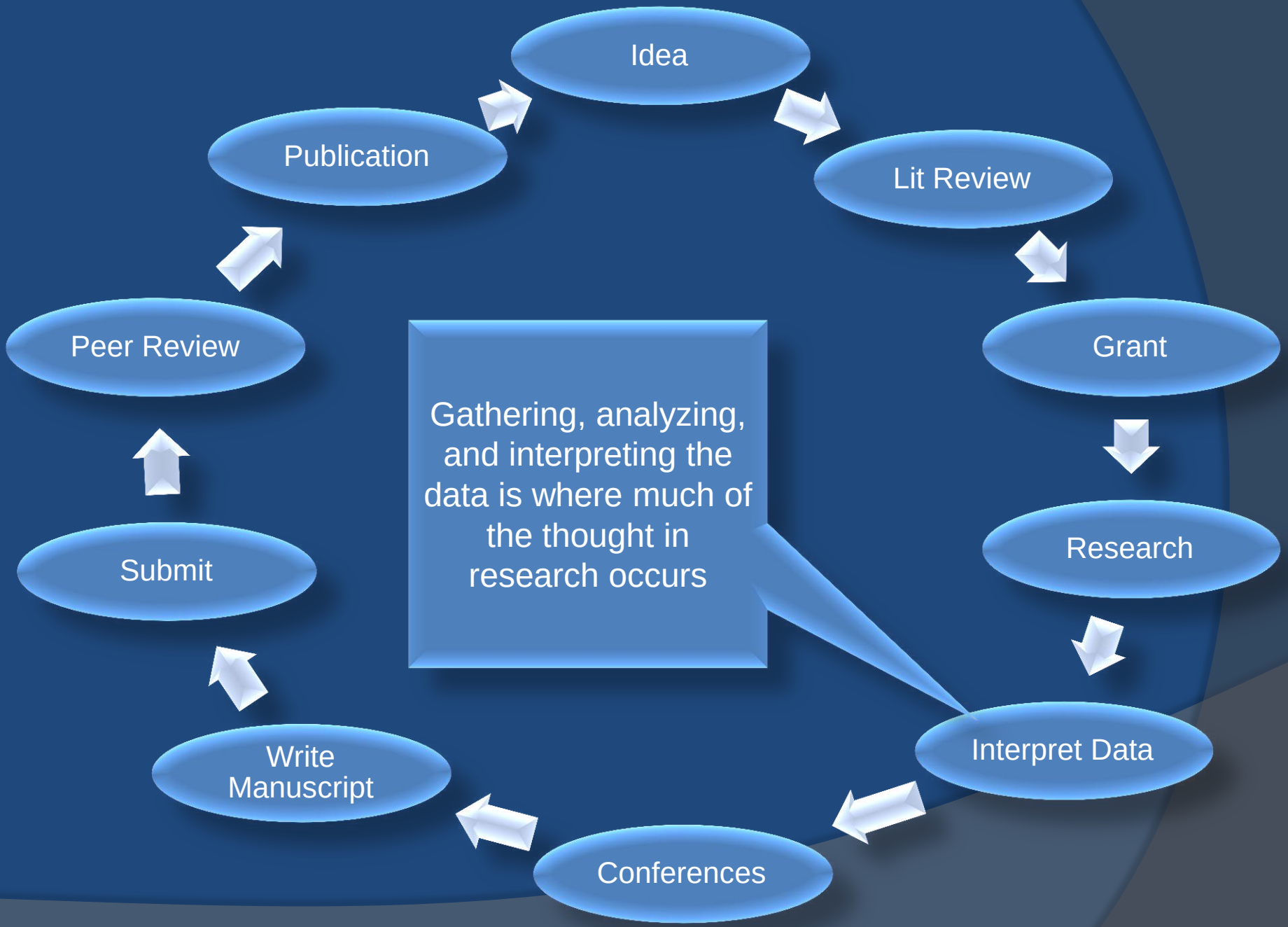
Conducting the actual research can be an involved and time consuming process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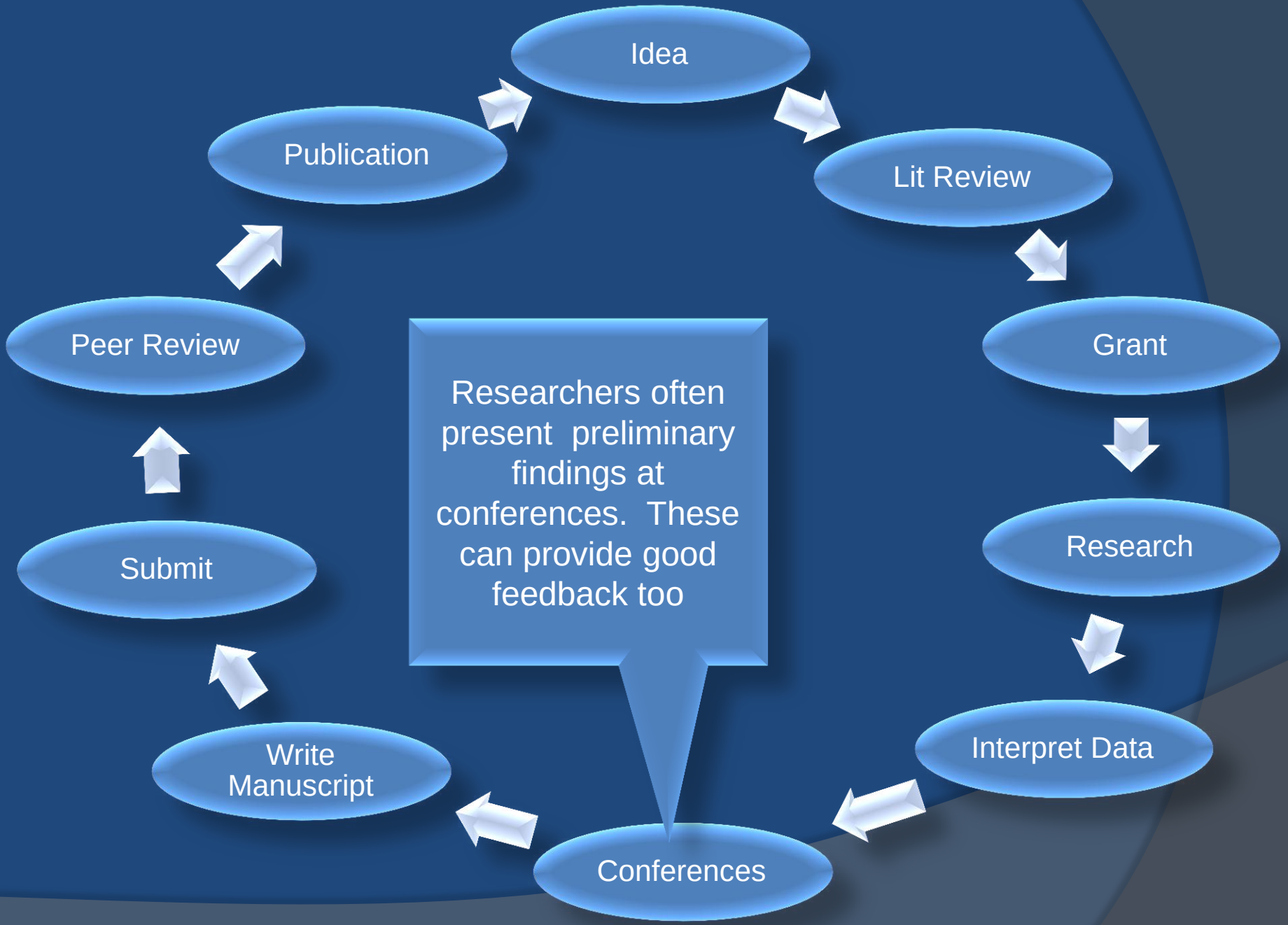
Gathering, analyzing, and interpreting the data is where much of the thought in research occurs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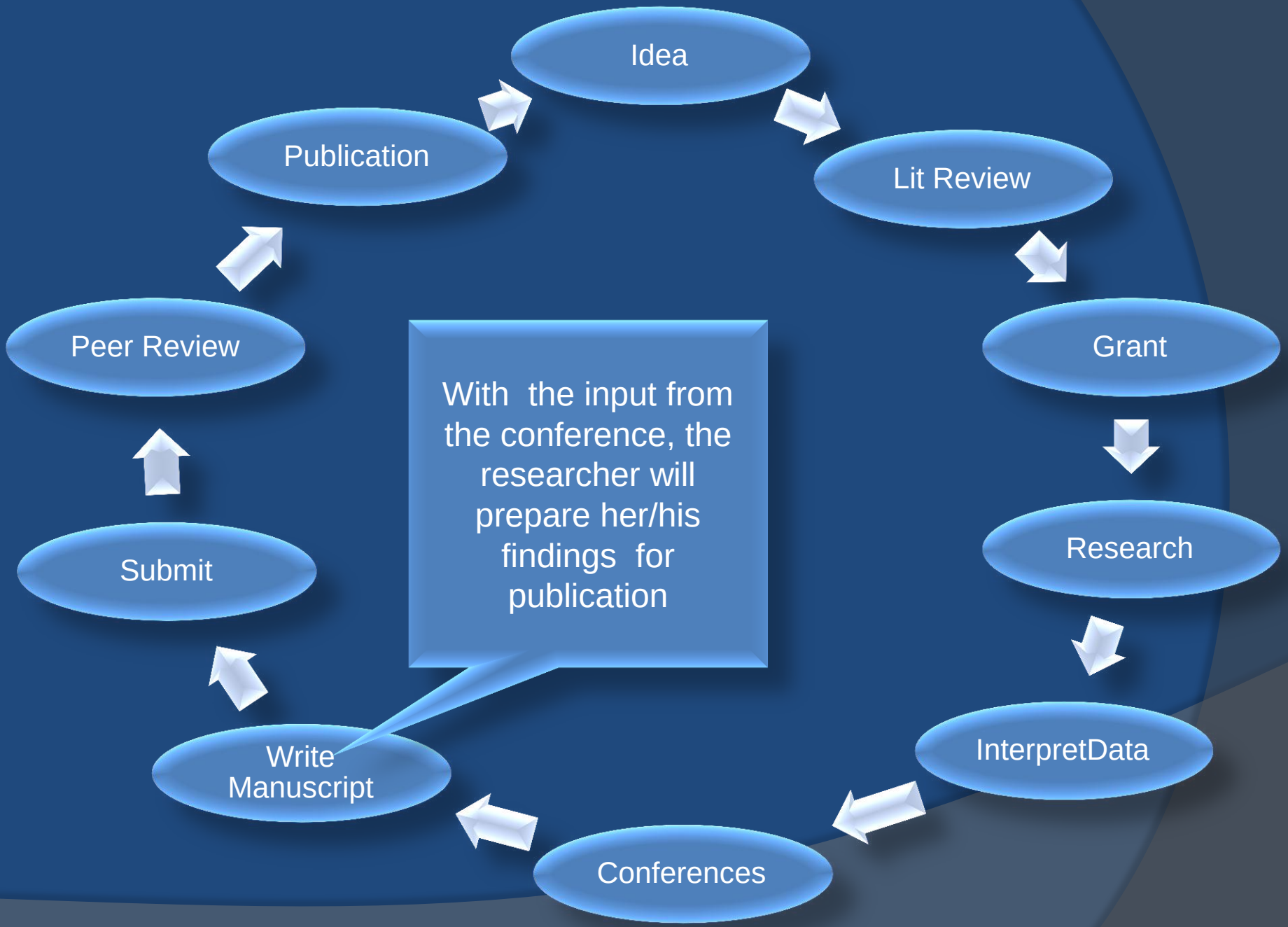
Researchers often present preliminary findings at conferences. These can provide good feedback too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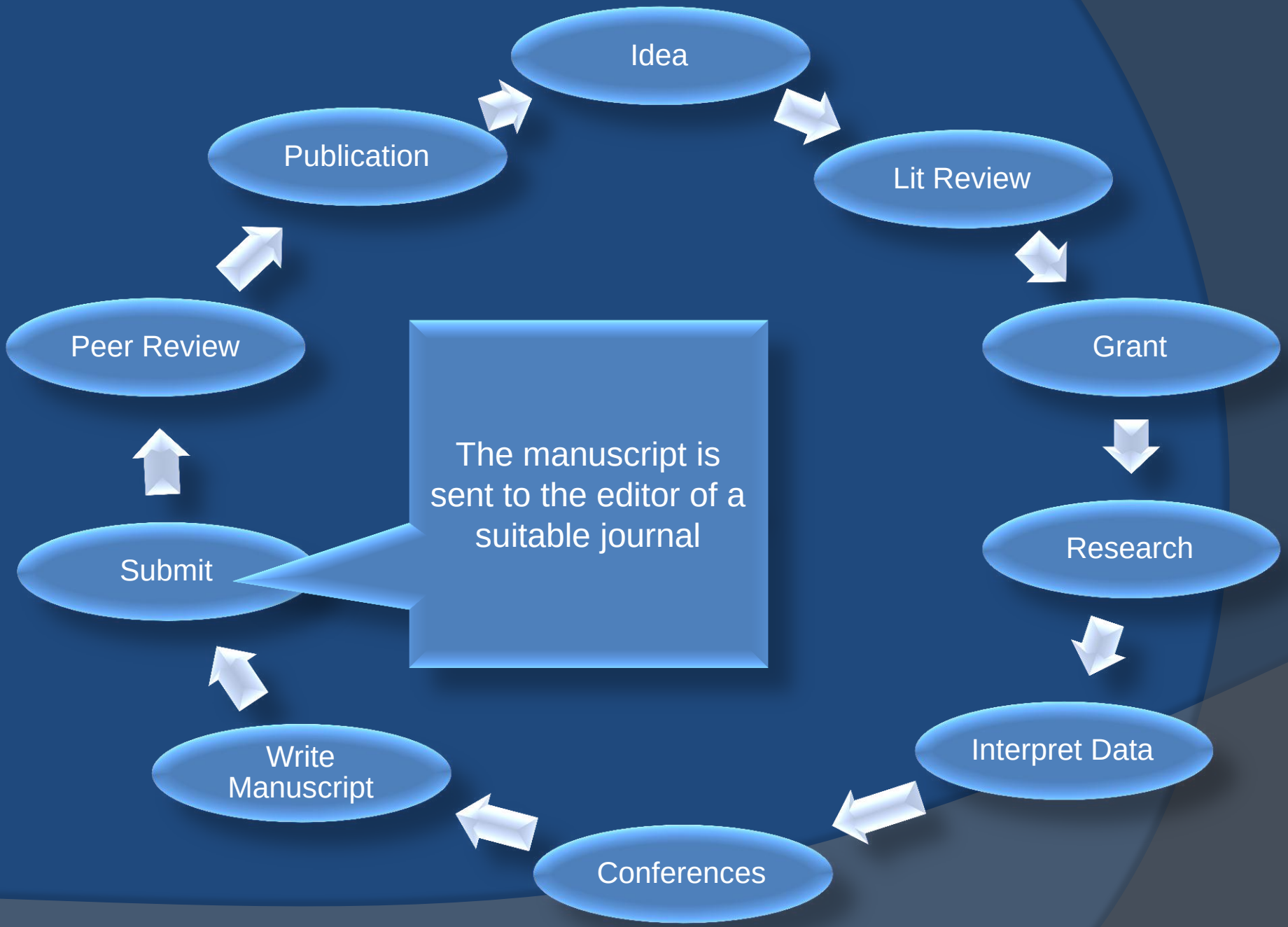
With the input from the conference, the researcher will prepare her/his findings for publication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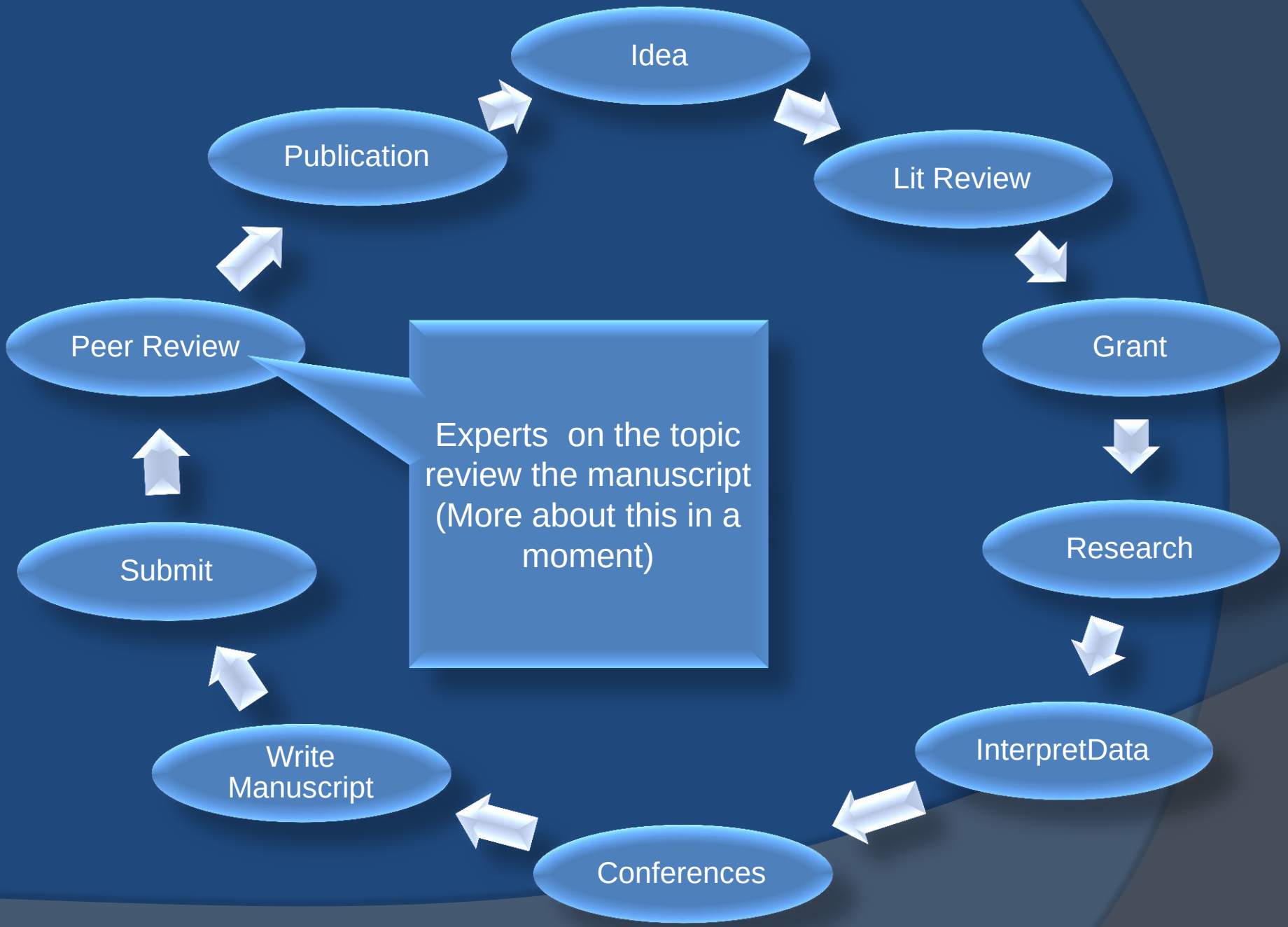
The manuscript is sent to the editor of a suitable journal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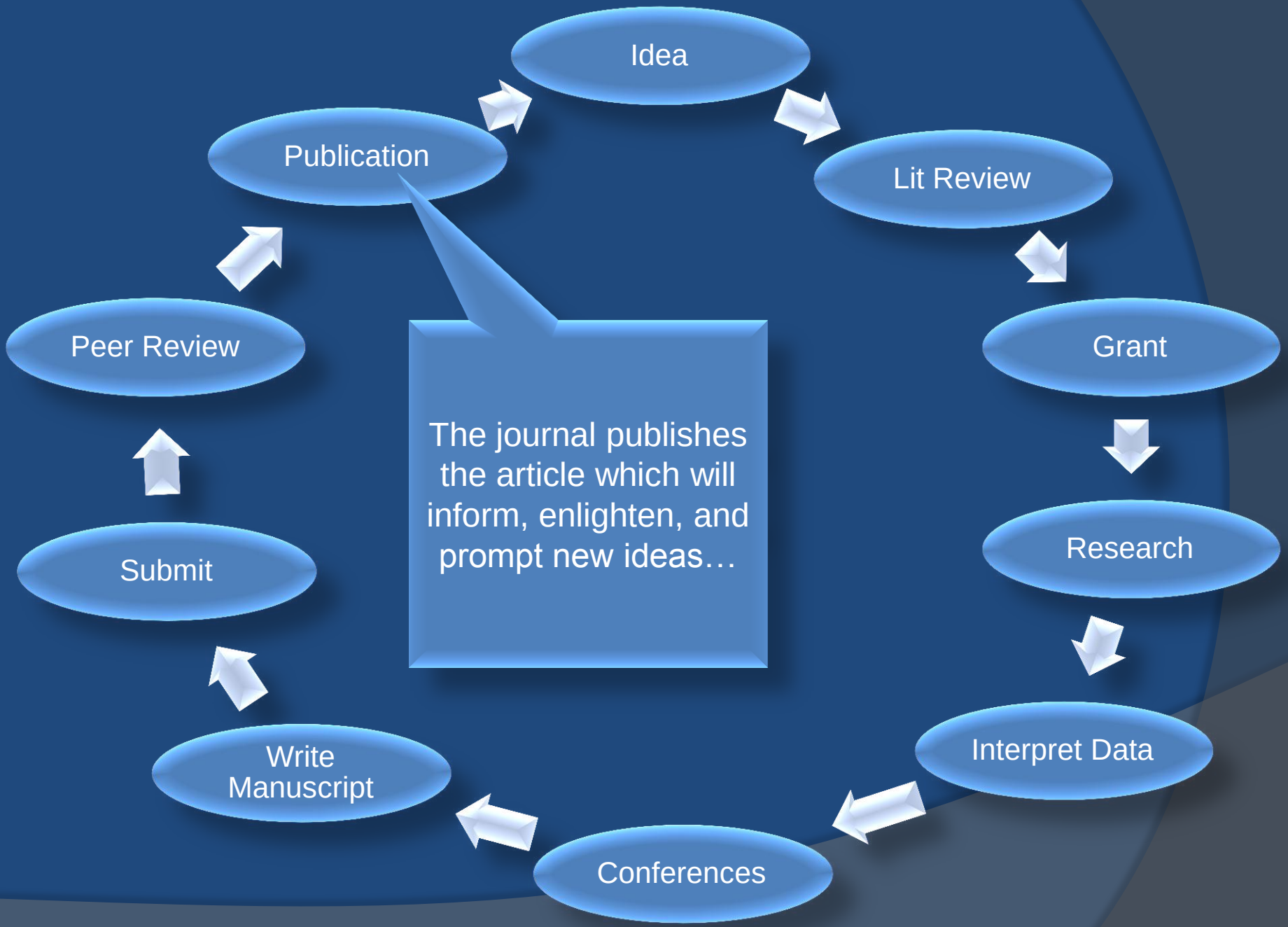
Experts on the topic review the manuscript (More about this in a moment)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The journal publishes the article which will inform, enlighten, and prompt new ideas…

The Researcher submits her/ his manuscript to a journal

- The editor reviews for:
  - Content
  - Creativity
  - Clarity
  - Contribution to the knowledge of the field
- If the editor likes it…

It gets sent to other experts to review

The Peer Reviewers

- Look to see what is new about the research
- Determine if the methodology is sound
- Decide if the conclusions are supported
- Verify that this is a contribution to the field

The Peer Reviewers

- Don’t know who wrote the manuscript
- Are not known to the author of the manuscript
- Hence, this is often called a “blind” review
- It is also called a refereed process

The Referees/Reviewers:

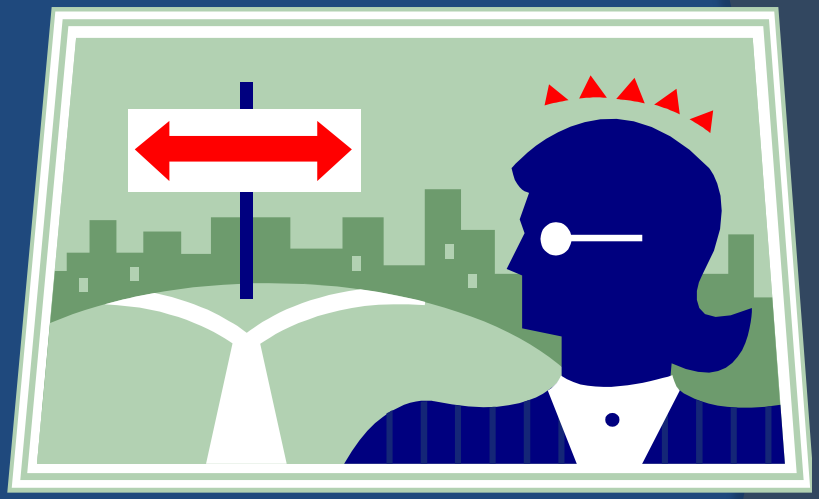
- May recommend it be published as is
- Often suggest rewriting and revising
- May not like it at all—

-Journals typically reject more articles than they accept

-Prestigious journals may have a 90% rejection rate or higher

The Editor:

- Ultimately decides what will and will not be published.
- Works with the author to see the work through to completion
- May be a full-time professional or professor taking on the responsibility



Criticisms of the Peer-Review Process:

- Time consuming
- Limited number of experts
- May suppress dissident points of view

The Peer Review Process

- Spots errors or weaknesses prior to publication
- Ensures articles are substantial and unique
- Is considered crucial in establishing the validity of research