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EDITORIAL

Traffic WILEY

Traffic: A new board, a new journey

As noted in a recent editorial published in November 2020,[1] Traffic has experienced a major change in its team of Editors and Editorial Board members. As a consequence, we, Eric Chevet, Antonella De Matteis, Eeva-Liisa Eskelinen and Hesso Farhan, have agreed to act as new Editors for Traffic. Some of us have had the pleasure of interacting with Dr. Lisa Hannan, the outgoing Managing Editor, and know very well the appreciation and recognition she earned among the past and outgoing Editors. Traffic was established in 2000 with the aim of providing a journal specializing in membrane trafficking.[2,3] The previous Editors (Frances Brodsky, Thomas Kreis, Mark Marsh, Sandra Schmid, Gillian M. Griffiths, Tom H. Stevens, Gerrit van Meer, Michael S. Marks, Robert G. Parton, Trina A. Schroer, Sharon A. Tooze) have done a phenomenal job and established Traffic as a leading journal in the field. As of today, the Web of Science lists 2246 articles published in Traffic that were cited 100 120 times. Under the leadership of the former Editors, Traffic was one of the first signatories of the San Francisco Declaration of Research Assessment (DORA), initiated to advance practical and robust approaches to research assessment.[4] Traffic is also one of a growing number of journals that endorse transparent peer review by publishing the reviewer's comments.

After such achievements, what are our aims as new co-editors? We wish to build upon what the former Editors have achieved and extend the journey of Traffic toward new areas while reinforcing a traffic-centric view of fundamental cell biological, physiological and pathological processes.

1 | MAJOR AIMS

The new team of Co-editors has *four main aims* that are clearly reflected by the composition of the newly appointed Associate Editors, as well as by the expertise of the new team of Co-editors.

1. Our first aim is to expand the scope of Traffic to areas less covered in the past. The new Co-editors have appointed a new team of Associate Editors and Editorial Board members. Such a transition is challenging for the journal and the new team of Editors alike. We will build upon the current strengths of Traffic (such as ER-Golgi trafficking and endo-lysosomal pathway), but our objective is also to cover areas less traditionally associated with Traffic. For instance, of the 2246 papers published in Traffic, only 38 are on exosomes. Traffic now intends to become a home for mechanistic papers from the exosome field. Other areas that were not covered extensively are organelle proteostasis and the unfolded protein response, with only 15 papers in total featuring either one of these keywords. The intention is to attract more papers from these areas. In addition, with a total of 81 papers on autophagy, this area of membrane trafficking was only moderately covered, but we aim to attract more papers from this field. Beyond those aspects, Traffic will also be open to trafficking in and out of other organelles (eg, mitochondria, peroxisomes), unconventional trafficking pathways and the new field of membraneless organelles.
2. Our second aim is to promote and highlight the central role of cellular compartmentalization (membrane-dependent or not) to confine key biochemical pathways or biological interactions in a time- and/or space-dependent manner. By doing so, we aim to bring deserved attention to areas that cover the topology and subcellular "geography" of fundamental signaling and metabolic events, as well as the complex cell responses guiding physiological and pathological mechanisms.
3. Our third aim is to provide an arena to foster communication and exchange between "trafficking" scientists and scientists from fields (such as signaling, glycobiology) and disciplines (such as systems biology, synthetic biology, physics) that traditionally seldom interact with the trafficking community.
4. Finally, with the fourth aim, the new editorial team wishes to bridge the existing gap between basic trafficking mechanisms and more translational disciplines. As such, we welcome articles that connect intracellular trafficking with diseases such as degenerative diseases, genetic or immune disorders and cancer.

2 | TRAFFIC AS AN ACTOR IN THE COMMUNITY

In addition to the scientific aims, we will maintain Traffic as a supporter of DORA, not endorsing the impact factors. We will continue the transparent review process and publish reviewer's comments alongside the published articles (unless a reviewer has specifically opted out). We also aim to move Traffic toward new peer-reviewing initiatives as opportunities arise. We will also initiate preprint scouting actions and do our utmost for Traffic to become a fully open-access journal. We will pay special attention to young colleagues (eg, postdoctoral fellows) by devoting a section of the journal to opinion/perspective articles whose authors do not include their supervisors. In addition, we will initiate the journal club series. Finally, thanks to support from Wiley, the publisher of Traffic, we will be able to contribute to many scientific meetings with travel fellowships and poster prizes.

We are very excited to set the pace in order for our vision to allow Traffic to take a new turn in its life and move forward in its new journey.

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