



Editorial

Dear Fellow Scientists,

Each year we look forward and plan new strategies for the journal. We also take the time to look at the changes that we have made over the last years and evaluate their impact on FEBS Letters.

Virtual Special Issues

FEBS Letters launched a new series of Virtual Special Issues which will highlight a collection of outstanding articles recently published in the journal, focusing on a selection of topics that we hope will be of general interest to our readers. Three virtual issues were published in 2009. These were on the topics of Molecular Medicine, the Biology of Danger and Defence and Signalling. The topics are deliberately broad, as we believe that this diversity is the strength of our journal, and will be appreciated by scientists from all fields.

Top Downloaded Articles in 2009

The breadth of our Scope is shown in the top 10 FEBS Letters' articles downloaded in 2009:

- Adipogenic differentiation of human induced pluripotent stem cells: Comparison with that of human embryonic stem cells
FEBS Letters 2009, Volume 583, pp. 1029–1036
Taura, D. et al.
- 'Green mice' as a source of ubiquitous green cells
FEBS Letters 1997, Volume 407, pp. 313–319
Okabe, M.; Ikawa, M.; Kominami, K.; Nakanishi, T.; Nishimune, Y.
- The Neurobiology of Love
FEBS Letters 2007, Volume 581, pp. 2575–2579
Zeki, S.
- Bioinformatics analysis of mass spectrometry-based proteomics data sets
FEBS Letters 2009, Volume 583, pp. 1703–1712
Kumas, C.; Mann, M.
- CpG Islands – 'A rough guide'
FEBS Letters 2009, Volume 583, pp. 1713–1720
Illingworth, R.S.; Bird, A.P.
- The mammalian nonsense-mediated mRNA decay pathway: To decay or not to decay! Which players make the decision?
FEBS Letters 2008, Volume 583, pp. 499–505
Silva, A.L.; Romao, L.
- Metabolic adaptations through the PGC-1 α and SIRT1 pathways
FEBS Letters 2007, Volume 582, pp. 45–53
Rodgers, J.T.; Lerin, C.; Gerhart-Hines, Z.; Puigserver, P.
- Structure of the multidrug ABC transporter Sav1866 from *Staphylococcus aureus* in complex with AMP-PNP
FEBS Letters 2007, Volume 581, pp. 935–938
Dawson, R.J.P.; Locher, K.P.
- The role of molecular chaperones in human misfolding diseases
FEBS Letters 2009, Volume 583, pp. 2647–2653
Broadley, S.A.; Hartl, F.U.
- Rho GTPases in cancer cell biology
FEBS Letters 2008, Volume 582, pp. 2093–2101
Vega, F.M.; Ridley, A.J.

Reviews Editor

In 2009 we appointed a new reviews editor. Prof. Wilhelm Just from the Biochemistry Department at the University of Heidelberg joined the FEBS Letters Editorial Board and has been inviting high-level scientists to submit reviews to FEBS Letters. To do this he has travelled to Prague and Copenhagen amongst others and has managed to convince many excellent scientists to contribute to our journal. So look out for some wonderful reviews later this year.

Prof. Just is also responsible for editing Special Issues, so if you have any good ideas for Special Issues or reviews you are welcome to contact him at: wilhelm.just@bzh.uni-heidelberg.de.

Special Issues

With his help we have an exciting line up of Special Issues for 2010. The first special issue, which was also our first issue of 2010, has just been published. The issue covers *transfer RNA* and is edited by Michael Ibba and Manuel Santos. Since its discovery by Hoagland and Zamecnik over 50 years ago, transfer RNA (tRNA) has held a special interest for biologists. Its central role in Crick's Adaptor Hypothesis placed tRNA at the forefront of molecular biology and it has remained there ever since. tRNAs many highlights over the decades include critical roles in the deciphering of the genetic code in the 1960s, RNA crystallography in the 1970s, the discovery of catalytic RNA in the 1980s and most recently the atomic resolution images of the ribosome. tRNAs myriad roles have fed a vibrant research community, and since 1969 the field have gathered every two years or so for the "International tRNA Workshop". This FEBS Letters Special Issue was produced in conjunction with the 23rd tRNA workshop that takes place in Aveiro, Portugal from 28th January to 2nd February 2010.

Don't forget that www.febsletters.org gives free access to all Minireviews, Special Issues and Editorials, as well as free access to all articles that are over 12 months old. This free access is also available via Pubmed and Scopus first by clicking the 'Elsevier

Science-Full Text Article' symbol and then choosing the 'Article via *FEBS Letters*' option.

Spotlight on ...

FEBS Letters is continuing its Spotlight on... column, and the first one of 2010 is a very special spotlight on an honorary member of *FEBS Letters*, who had a central role in contributing to the journal's success. Professor Giorgio Semenza was Managing Editor of *FEBS Letters* between 1985 and 1999. In the spotlight you can find out how Giorgio Semenza headed out toward a career in Biochemistry at a time when the discipline was still in its infancy, and how

Nobel Laureate Prof. Tiselius became his mentor and remained so throughout his life. You can also read about the hardship and satisfactions of being *FEBS Letters* Managing Editor, as well as about the profound changes that the journal underwent to keep pace with science.

Best wishes,

The *FEBS Letters* Editorial Office
Felix Wieland, Managing Editor
Patricia McCabe, Editorial Manager
Aleksander Benjak, Assistant Editor
Daniela Ruffell, Assistant Editor
Anne Mueller, Editorial Assistant