

## European Biophysics Journal: YOUR Journal

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The European Biophysical Societies Association, EBSA, is supported by subscriptions from member societies together with a good income stream from the European Biophysical Journal, EBJ, published by Springer and for which EBSA holds the copyright. The Journal is therefore integral to the health of EBSA and the support of all its activities.

In the Summer of 2010, the EBJ Editorial Board (EBSA President, Mike Ferenczi, Treasurer Tony Wilkinson and Managing Editor) celebrated in Oxford with several editors and the executive committee of EBSA, a 10-year anniversary of when I took over from Peter Bayley as Editor of EBJ. It was Peter who laid the foundation of the subsequent success of EBJ, and as a consequence, of EBSA developing so successfully as it has from those early days. We were sad that Dieter Czeschlik from Springer who supported us so actively

for so many years has reached retirement and is leaving Springer, but we were happy also to celebrate his contribution to EBJ on this occasion.



Dieter Czeschlik and Sabine Schwarz in Oxford, July 2010  
(photo courtesy of Mike Ferenczi)



Some members of the EBJ Editorial Board, EBSA Executive Committee and spouses in Oxford, July 2010 at the combined EBSA Executive Committee EBJ Editorial Board Meetings. (photo courtesy of Mike Ferenczi)

EBJ has been growing significantly in recent years, now receiving 3 times more submissions than just 6 years ago—it is also now a monthly publication. Submissions are truly international in origin, and the developments in science in Asia are certainly reflected in our global visibility. Additionally, the impact factor (in 2009, IF 2.409; 2393 citations; 110 papers published—>1200 downloads per month in 2011), is still increasing, and in the face of competition from many new journals competing in this area, is holding its own position very well.



Walter Stühmer

Thomas Pomorski

We have editors in Europe (Thomas Pomorski, Copenhagen, DK—Function and regulation of lipid pumps, and Walter Stühmer, Göttingen, DE—Molecular Biology of Neuronal Signals), and Australia/Singapore (Philip Kuchel, Sydney and Singapore—cellular function at the molecular level using NMR) and the USA (Paul Janmey, Philadelphia—cell adhesion and mechanics), all of whom are a great help in maintaining the Journal's international profile so effectively and efficiently. We are also ably assisted by over 20 Advisory Editors from around the world, each with their own areas of expertise.



Paul Janmey

Philip Kuchel

The journal publishes papers in the field of biophysics, which is defined as the study of biological phenomena by using physical methods and concepts. Original papers, reviews and Biophysics letters are published. The primary goal of this journal is to advance the understanding of biological structure and function by application of the principles of physical science, and by presenting the work in a biophysical context.

Original papers, reviews and Biophysics letters reporting a distinctively biophysical approach at all levels of biological organisation will be considered, as will both experimental and theoretical studies. The criteria for acceptance are scientific content, originality and relevance to biological systems of current interest and importance. Principal areas of interest include:

- Structure and dynamics of biological macromolecules
- Membrane biophysics and ion channels
- Cell biophysics and organisation
- Macromolecular assemblies
- Biophysical methods and instrumentation
- Advanced microscopies and single molecule studies
- System dynamics

Your abstracts in this issue of EBJ are fully citable, and for future submissions, please see the link from (<http://www.ebsa.org/>). Springer kindly host a portal for EBSA, and EBJ is freely available to all members of all adhering biophysical societies to EBSA.

Finally Springer continues to be a very strong supporter of EBJ, EBSA and our congresses. We are indebted to the company, Sabine Schwarz and her staff for all their advice, input and highly efficient way in which they produce the Journal for us—please do visit Sabine and her colleagues on the Springer stand at the congress.

EBJ is YOUR journal, please do consider it first for your next and best publications.

**Anthony Watts (Oxford, UK), Managing Editor**

## Some useful EBJ information

### **Handling times for papers**

The Oxford office is now averaging a time of 4–8 weeks between receipt of a paper and the first decision to an author about their paper for >85% of all submitted papers (as a matter of course, every paper is acknowledged immediately upon receipt in the office).

In addition, on receipt of corrected proofs by the publisher, the paper is published on the web (in On-Line First) within 10–21 days with a citable DOI (document identifier) number. Any further delays in publication are usually associated with seeking and receiving suitable reviewer comments, as well as authors' delays in revising papers in response to reviewers' comments.

### **Electronic submission**

Since 15 May 2003, all material (papers, letters, reviews, techniques) have been submitted electronically, by logging on to <http://www.springer.com/>. Reviewing and editorial work is performed from the website, and authors can track their papers directly. In addition, the Journal is pleased to support the Congress by the publication of this volume of Abstracts, each section of which has been reviewed by the conference organisers.

### **Journal development and submission numbers**

The Editorial Board aims to increase the size of the Journal and its publishing frequency, by encouraging colleagues to submit their best work to the Journal in the form of EBJ Invited Reviews, original Research Articles, and as Biophysics Letters. The purpose of Biophysics Letters is to provide a means for the rapid publication of significant new findings and concepts in Biophysics, with accelerated publication available for

work which is basically acceptable in the submitted form, and which meets the Journal's normal high standards of rigour and originality.

Over the last 3 years, we have seen a major growth in the number of submissions, more than doubling since October 2002 until now, with very significant numbers from the Pacific Rim and the Australian Biophysics Society, in particular. This upturn has resulted from, it is assumed, in the new interest in biophysics and the recent decisions to fund "interface" science at the boundaries of physics, biology and chemistry. In particular, we have seen a major influx of papers describing single molecule detection and bionanotechnology, areas we are pleased to support.

### **Reviews**

EBJ is currently soliciting short, well-balanced contemporary reviews covering any area of biophysics. The reviews editor is Gordon Roberts, who should be approached initially (through [ebj@bioch.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ebj@bioch.ox.ac.uk)) with suggestions and ideas for review topics and authors.

### **Special Issues**

On occasion, EBJ publishes Special issues, usually of about 10 papers or more each. These can either be themed in specific areas, or cover a major national biophysics conference or event. Potential special issue editors should contact the managing editor with a proposal well before the conference or event takes place. All articles are reviewed in the same way as for regular papers, and editors should be aware that papers are treated this way in order to maintain the quality of the Journal, and some papers may be rejected for publication after the review process.

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