Annual Report 2012

FEBS Letters Editorial Office

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INTRODUCTION

FEBS Letters is a world-renowned journal for rapid publication of short reports describing novel and specific effects with a biologically or biochemically significant function. Bringing together the most important developments in the molecular biosciences, FEBS Letters provides an international forum for Research Letters, Reviews and Hypotheses describing or discussing mechanistic insights at the molecular level, which would be interesting to a broad readership. FEBS Letters is the 11th largest journal in the fields of biology, biochemistry, cell biology, molecular biology and biophysics according to Journal Citation Reports®, Thomson Reuters, and is published by Elsevier on behalf of FEBS.

QUICK FACTS

Impact Factor: 3.538
Immediacy Index: 0.643
Cited Half-Life: >10.0 years

Submissions
published: 636

Special Issues: 5 (see Special Issues)

Editorial Office
Felix Wieland, Managing Editor
Aleksander Benjak, Editorial Manager
Daniela Ruffell, Editor
Wilhelm Just, Reviews Editor
Anne Rougeaux, Editorial Assistant

Academic Editors: 45 (see Appendix: Editorial Board)

Publishing Editor: Carl L. Schwarz, Elsevier
Journal Manager: Olaf Meesters, Elsevier
MANUSCRIPT NUMBERS

Submissions by region of origin
More than half of all handled manuscripts originated from Asia, with China being the primary country of origin overall (30%). Accordingly, the majority of all accepted manuscripts originate from Asia (41%). (Figure 1).

![Map showing continents and percentage of handled manuscripts](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Continent</th>
<th>handled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Figure 1. Continental breakdown of handled and accepted manuscripts in 2012. Circles and red numbers show the percentage of total handled manuscripts per continent.

Published
We published 636 manuscripts in 24 volumes in 2012, out of which 5 were Special Issues. Compared to 2011, this is an increase of 4% of all published manuscripts. Reviews amounted to a total of 21% of all published manuscripts (Figure 2).
Figure 2. Number of published manuscripts in the past five years. Columns show the overall number of published manuscripts, which is divided into Research Letters and Hypotheses (green) and Reviews (red), with percentage of total given in brackets.

HANDLING AND TURNAROUND TIMES

The handling time is calculated as the time from when a manuscript has been assigned to an editor until the time when the first decision has been reached. The overall handling time in 2012 was 16 days. On the other hand, the turnaround time is calculated as the time from when a manuscript has been submitted until the time when the first decision has been reached. The overall turnaround time in 2012 was 16 days (Figure 3).
Figure 3. Handling and turnaround times for Academic Editors and Editorial Office in the past five years. Columns show the average handling time (days) for Academic Editors (blue) and Editorial Office (green). The overall average handling time is shown in orange and the overall turnaround time in red.
ADDITIONAL EDITORIAL INITIATIVES

Special Issues
We published the following Special Issues in 2012:

Electron/proton coupling in biological energy transduction
Miguel Sepúlveda Teixeira and Ricardo O. Louro; FEBS Lett. 586(5) (20 Reviews)

Sorting the TGF-β Labyrinth
Joan Massagué and Wilhelm Just; FEBS Lett. 586(14) (19 Reviews)

Synthetic Biology
Thomas Reiss and Wilhelm Just; FEBS Lett. 586(15) (22 Reviews)

Modular Protein Domains
Marius Sudol, Gianni Cesareni, Giulio Superti-Furga and Wilhelm Just; FEBS Lett. 586(17) (29 Reviews)

Seville special issue: From Single Molecules to Systems Biology
Miguel De la Rosa, Felix Wieland and Wilhelm Just; FEBS Lett. 586(18) (24 Reviews)
Focus on...
We published the following Focus on... review series in 2012:
- Focus on... Ubiquitin-Related Tumor Suppressors (4 Reviews in FEBS Lett. 586(10) and 5 Reviews in FEBS Lett. 586(11))

Young Group Leader Award 2012
The FEBS Letters Young Group Leader Award is given to an independent scientist, aged 40 years or younger, who is the corresponding author of an outstanding research letter published in the previous calendar year. The prize is endowed with €10.000 prize money and is presented on the annual FEBS Congress. The award in 2012 was given to:

Dr. Megumi Funakoshi-Tago, Keio University, Japan


The prize-winning manuscript investigates the mechanisms by which cancer cells survive chemotherapeutic drugs. In particular, the authors address how JAK2, a non-receptor tyrosine kinase often deregulated in hematological malignancies, contributes to chemoresistance. It was previously reported that JAK2 upregulates several transcription factors, including Myc. The group led by Dr. Funakoshi-Tago now shows the critical requirement of Myc-induced Aurora kinase A for the resistance of cells expressing an oncogenic mutant of JAK2 to cisplatin, a commonly used anticancer drug. These results provide insight into the intricate ways tumor cells exploit signalling pathways and suggest that the combination of Aurora kinase inhibitors with chemotherapeutic drugs may be useful to treat myeloproliferative neoplasms.
**APPENDIX**

**Editorial Board**

Jesus Avila, Universidad Autónoma, Madrid, Spain  
Paul Bertone, EMBL European Bioinformatics Institute, Wellcome Trust Genome Campus; Cambridge, UK  
Peter Brzezinski, Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden  
Michael R. Bubb, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, USA  
Giovanni Cesareni, Università "Tor Vergata", Rome, Italy  
Zhijie Chang, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China  
Amitabha Chattopadhyay, Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology, Hyderabad, India  
Quan Chen, Nankai University, Tianjin, China & The State Key Laboratory of Biomembrane and Membrane Biotechnology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China  
Richard Cogdell, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, United Kingdom  
Tamas Dalmay, University of East Anglia, Norwich, England  
Miguel A. De la Rosa, Universidad de Sevilla y CSIC, Sevilla, Spain  
Stuart Ferguson, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom  
Ulf-Ingo Flügge, Universität zu Köln, Cologne, Germany  
Takashi Gojobori, National Institutes of Genetics, Mishima, Japan  
Christian Griesinger, Max-Planck-Institut für biophysikalische Chemie, Göttingen, Germany  
Barry Halliwell, National University of Singapore, Singapore  
Lukas A. Huber, Universität Innsbruck, Innsbruck, Austria  
Michael Ibba, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA  
Beat Imhof, Centre Medical Universitaire, Geneva, Switzerland  
Kazuhiro Iwai, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan  
Hans-Dieter Klenk, Philips-Universität Marburg, Marburg, Germany  
Jacomine Krijnse-Locker, BioQuant, Heidelberg, Germany  
Ulrike Kutay, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zurich, Switzerland  
Veli-Pekka Lehto, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland  
Kaspar Locher, Institute of Molecular Biology and Biophysics, Zürich, Switzerland  
Dietmar J. Manstein, Hannover Medical School (MHH), Institute for Biophysical Chemistry, Hannover, Germany  
Ned Mantei, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Zürich, Switzerland  
Masayuki Miyasaka, Osaka University, Suita, Japan  
Noboru Mizushima, Tokyo Medical and Dental University Graduate School, Tokyo, Japan  
Maurice Montal, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA, USA  
Laszló Nagy, University of Debrecen Nagyerdei krt. 98., Debrecen, Hungary  
Angel R. Nebreda, Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB Barcelona), Barcelona, Spain  
Judit Ovádi, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary  
Francesc Posas, Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF), Barcelona, Spain  
Varda Rotter, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel  
Robert B. Russell, BioQuant, Heidelberg, Germany  
Ivan Sadowski, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada  
Julian I. Schroeder, University of California San Diego, La Jolla, USA  
Irmgard Sinning, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany  
Vladimir P. Skulachev, Moscow State University, Moscow, Russia
Sandro Sonnino, Università degli Studi di Milano, Milan, Italy
Bing Sun, Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai, China
Michael R. Sussman, University of Wisconsin Biotechnology Center, Madison, WI, USA
Renee Tsolis, University of California, Davis, CA, USA
Felix Wieland, University of Heidelberg, Heidelberg, Germany
Berend Wieringa, NCMLS, UMC Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands

Impact factor

Figure 4. Impact factor in the past four years. The columns show the official Impact factor (blue line) and the calculated Impact factor for Research Letters and Hypotheses (red) and Reviews (green).