

Publishing the most important work in the life sciences

Academia Sinica

August 15, 2013

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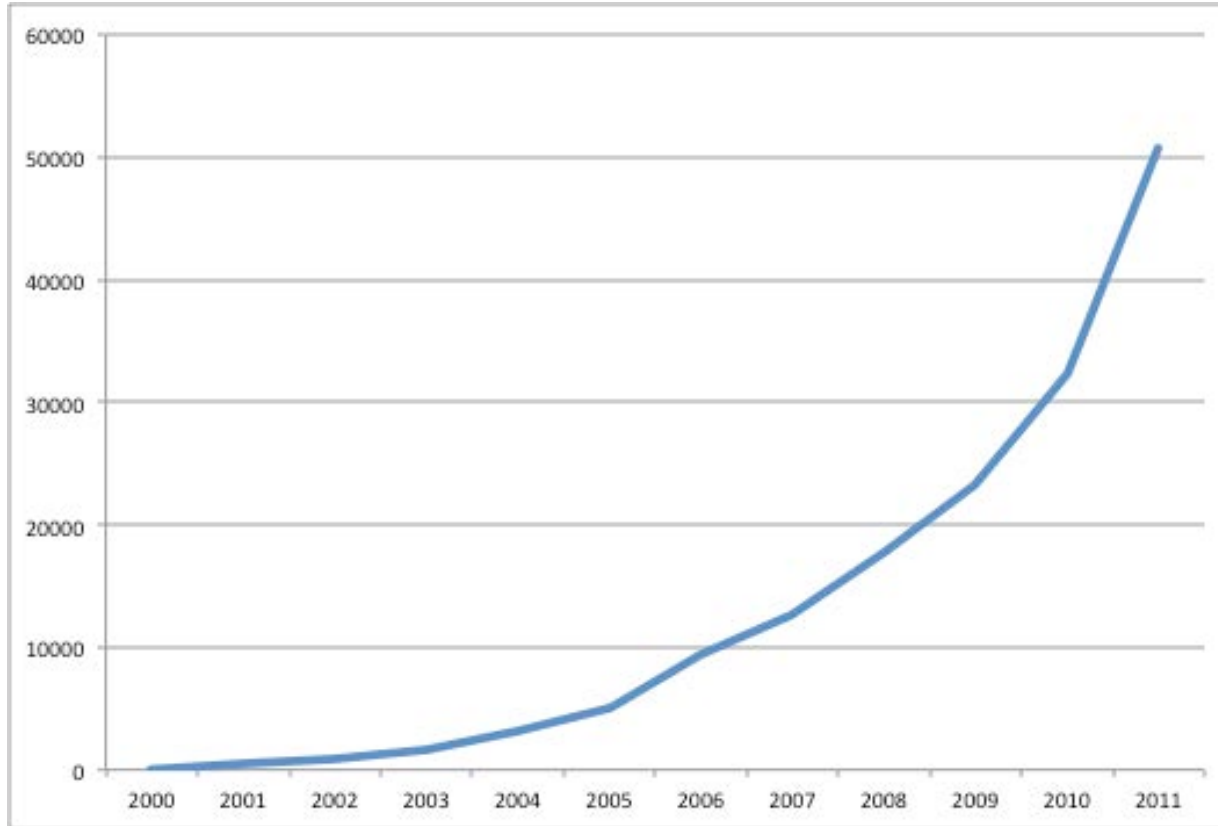
Journal categories

- Subscription, open access or hybrid
- Print format with online access or online only
- Private commercial, public profit-generating or not-for-profit
- Professional editors, academic editors or both

Open Access in Europe and US

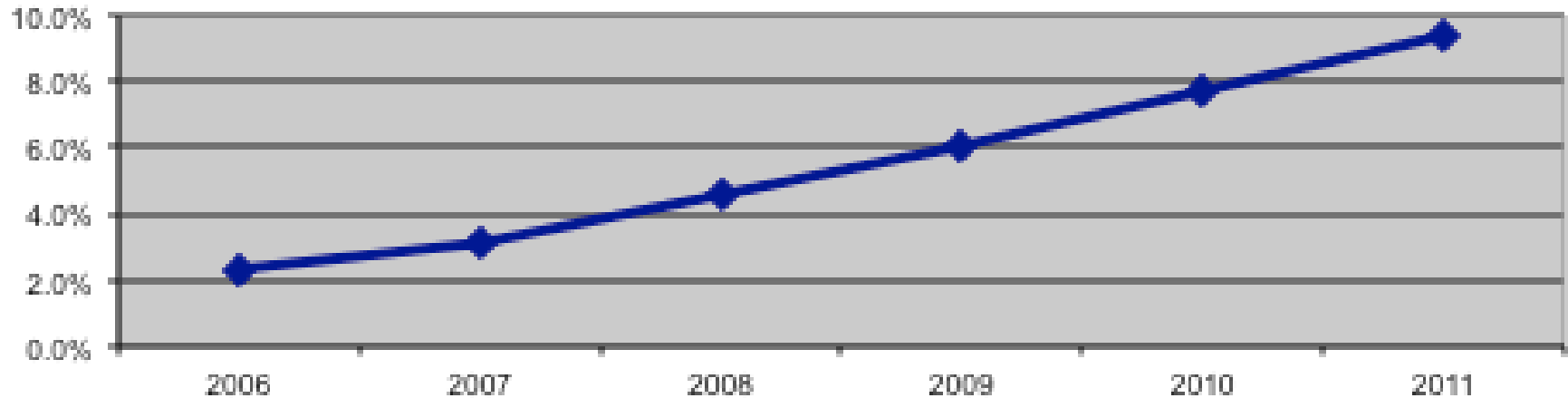
- Support in Europe
 - European Commission makes OA a “general principle” of Horizon 2020 - €80billion programme in research and innovation.
 - “We need Open Access to scientific information” (Neelie Kroes, Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for the Digital Agenda”
- Support in the US
 - Research Works Act - withdrawn
 - Petition calling for OA received over 29k signatures
 - Federal Research Public Access Act reintroduced

Growth of OA



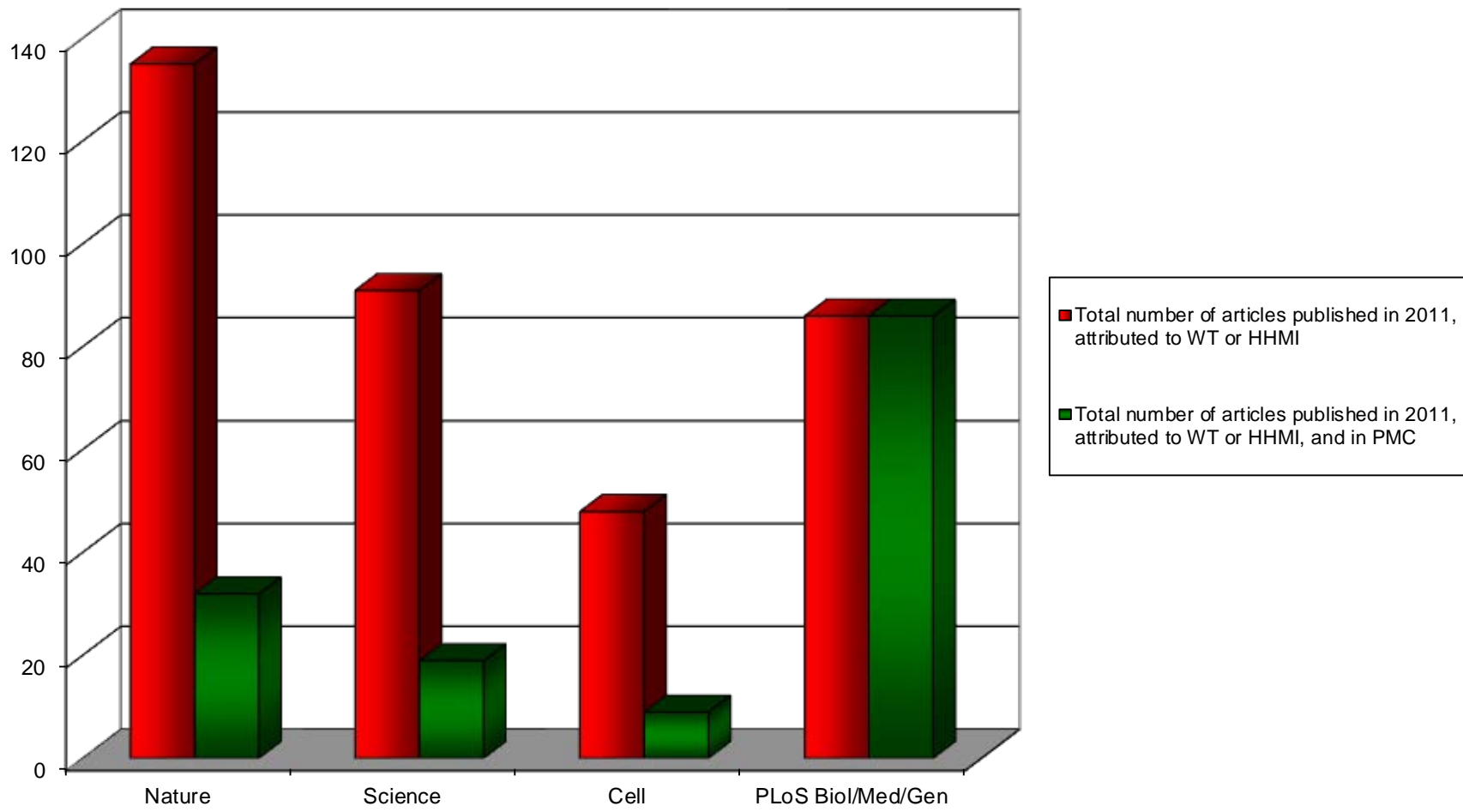
Publications
BMC
PLoS
Hindawi

% OA in the life science literature

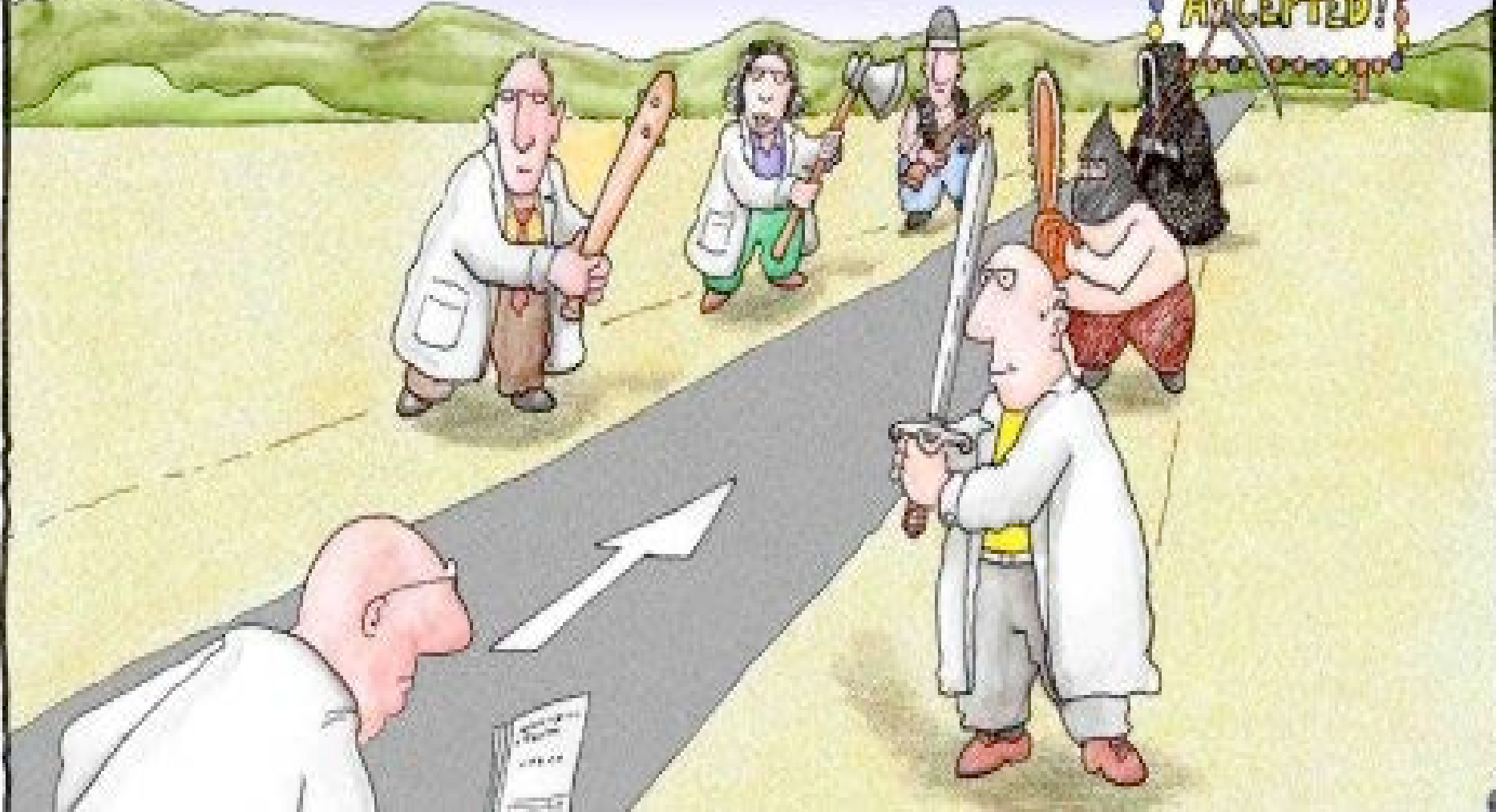


%PubMed available as open access in PMC

Number of WT, and HHMI papers published in *Nature*, *Science*, *Cell* and *PLoS Bio/Med/Gen* in 2011 and available through PubMed Central [Data collected: Nov 2011]



How does peer review work?



Is peer
review
broken?



Reform peer review!

End the wasteful tyranny of reviewer experiments



Peer review of scientific papers in top journals is bogged down by unnecessary demands for extra lab work, argues Hidde Ploegh.

nature

Martin Raff, Alexander Johnson
and Peter Walter

Science

"The stress associated with publishing experimental results... can drain much of the joy from practicing science."

The evil referee #3



<http://youtu.be/-VRBWLpYCPY>

Limitations of the print model



- Presentation of new research often limited by the print edition
- Time to put digital first

http://www.fybridphotos.com/objects_stock_photo_1130183.html

中国科学院生物物理研究所

关于调整研究所科技绩效奖励方案的通知

所属研究组：

经所学术委员会研究，第九届所长第 15 次所务会讨论通过，决定对我所“科技绩效奖励”方案进行如下调整：

1、研究论文奖励等级分为：一等奖、二等奖和鼓励奖。奖励范围和金额如下：

奖励等级	奖励范围	单篇奖金
一等奖	《Cell》，《Nature》，《Science》	20 万元
二等奖	《PNAS》以上及相当	5 万元
鼓励奖	《生物化学与生物物理进展》、《生物物理学报》、《Protein Cell》	500 元

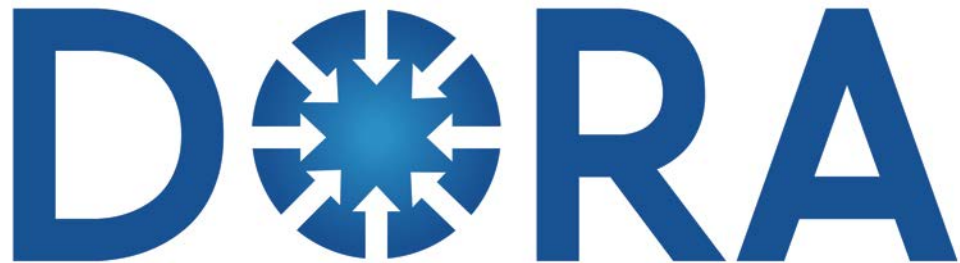
“PNAS 以上及相当”：原则上为当年 $IF \geq PNAS$ 的期刊。特殊情况需重点实验室提交所学术委员会审议。

2、增加对联合培养学生发表论文的奖励。对于联合培养的研究生，科研工作在我所完成，以我所为共同的第一作者单位和通讯作者单位的研究成果（其中学生资格以单位签订的联合培养学生协议为依据）。

3、此方案从 2013 年起实施，2011 年发布的《研究所科技绩效奖励办法》（科生发科字[2011]46 号）中与此不一致部分同时废止，不再另行发文，科学与技术处负责解释。



San Francisco



Declaration on Research Assessment

- General recommendations
 - Move away from impact factors
 - Assess outputs on their own merits
 - Exploit new tools and approaches
- And specific recommendations for publishers, funders, institutions, metrics suppliers, and **researchers**
- >6000 signatories

San Francisco



Declaration on Research Assessment

Step 1 – sign the declaration!

<http://am.ascb.org/dora/>

Google San Francisco DORA



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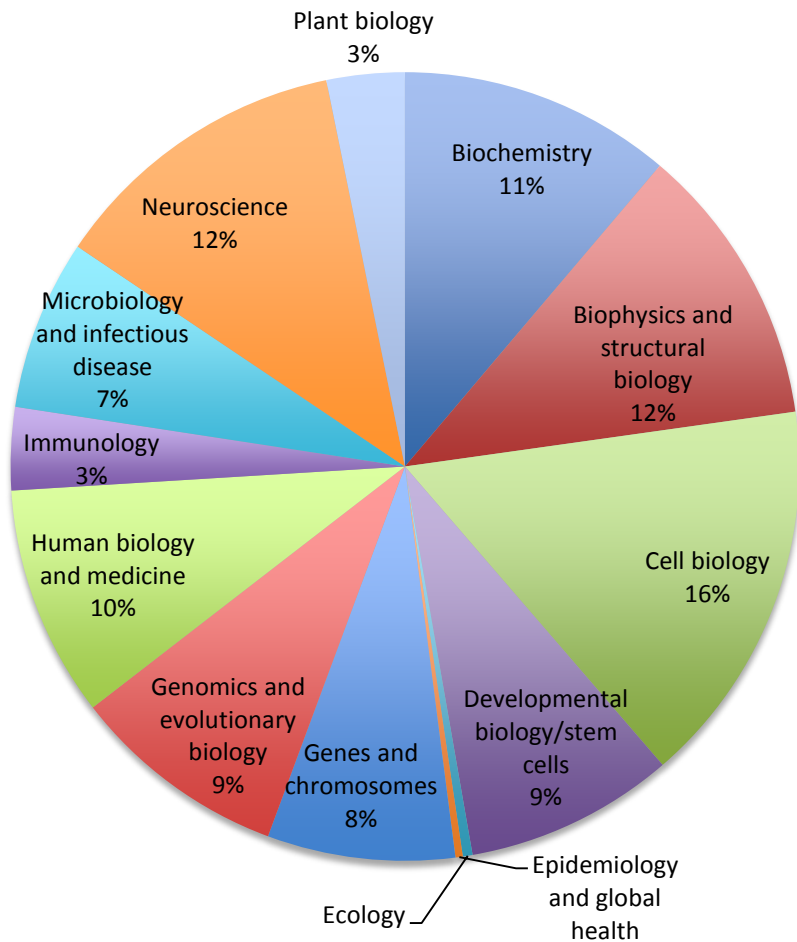
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Huda Zoghbi - Baylor College of Medicine, USA

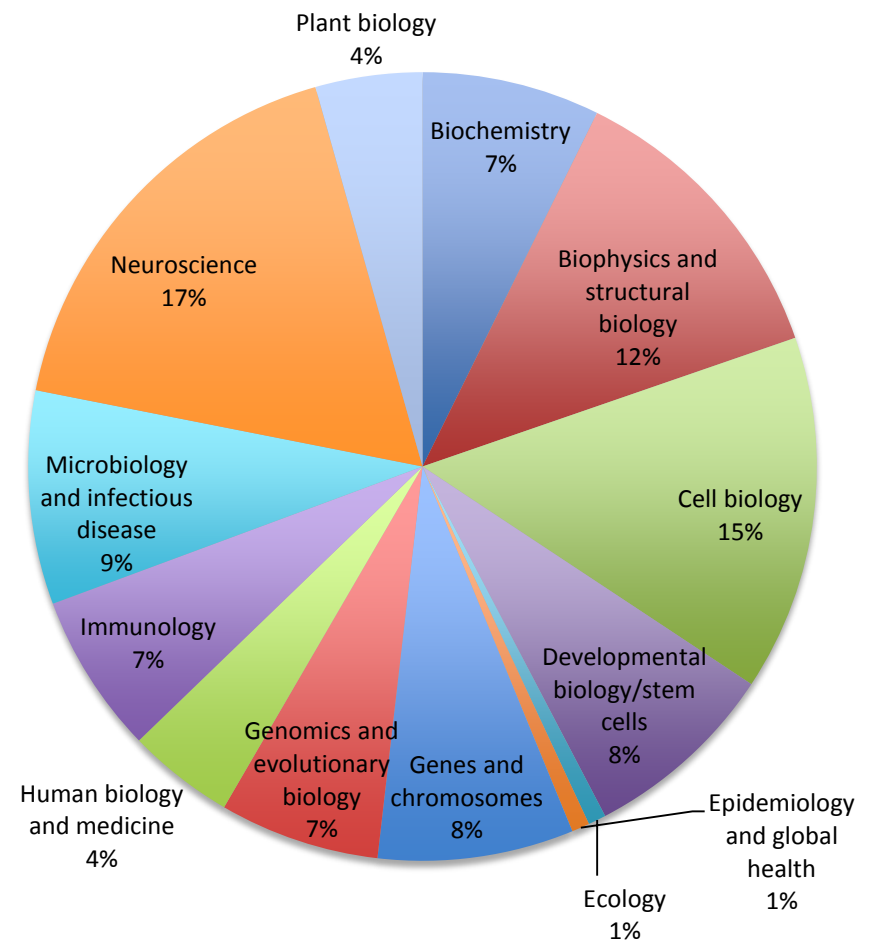
A 150-200-member

Board of Reviewing Editors

Proportion of initial submissions in each major subject area (up to May 29, 2013; authors select 1 or 2)



Proportion of published research articles in each major subject area (up to May 29, 2013; authors select 1 or 2)

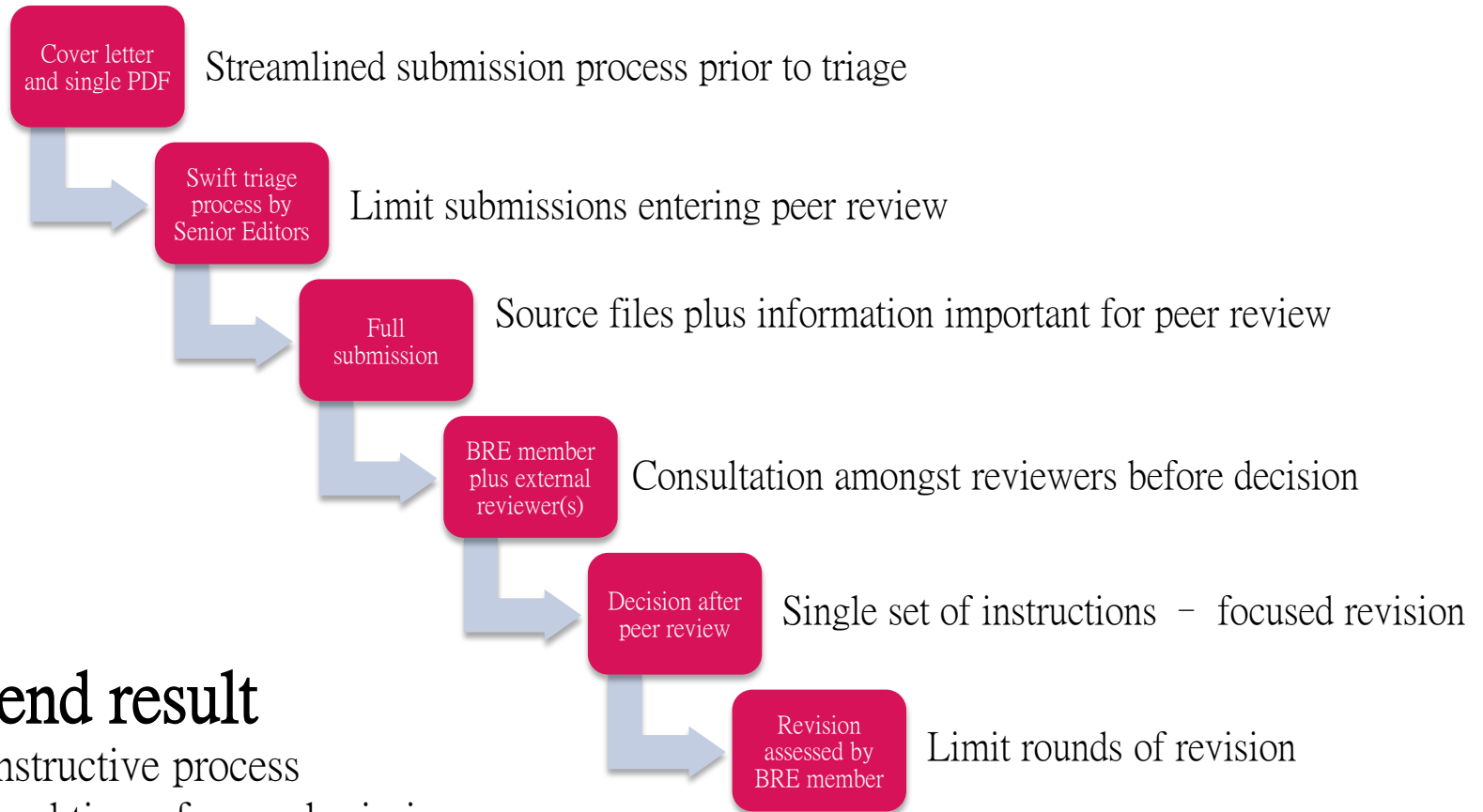


Born free

- **Results will be available for free** immediately on publication
- Users will have the right to **use results freely**, providing full author attribution (Creative Commons-Attribution license)
- All content will also be deposited in PubMed Central

Initially - also free of publication fees

Consultative review process



The end result

- > A constructive process
- > Reduced times from submission to acceptance

[BRE; Reviewer 1]	eLife does indeed wish to encourage short format notes. Let me look into this and then get back to you about what we can do. Just to be clear: if we could ask for a short format, would you be, in principle, in favor of proceeding with a revision rather than a rejection?
[Reviewer 2]	My sense is that nearly all structure-based manuscripts benefit from some interrogation of structure by, for example, mutagenesis and functional analysis. My position is that we should not publish this work as it is and that what is required, at a minimum, are one or more tests of the mechanism that arise from the structural studies.
[BRE; Reviewer 1]	I'll go ahead and draft a decision letter for discussion. I'll indicate that if experimental support can be made available in a couple of months then we will consider a revised paper.
[BRE; Reviewer 1]	I have drafted and saved a decision letter on the website. Please take a look at it if you can. I'll send it off tomorrow if I don't hear from you, since we seem to have reached a consensus.
[Reviewer 2]	A very reasonable letter indeed. Please go ahead.

[Display Review Summary](#)

Add consultation comments to session

Add Comment

Cancel

[BRE; Reviewer 1]	I don't think the incremental part was a uniform view. I was not in a position to judge, but I am not sure that [Reviewer 2] would agree. Maybe he would. [Reviewer 2] if you concur, I will reject. I would like your input on my difficulties following the paper. You both have interests that overlap the contents of the paper.
[Reviewer 3]	[BRE/Reviewer 1], I suggest that you re-read [a previously published] paper before making any decisions on this paper.
[BRE; Reviewer 1]	Actually, I will have to read it for the first time, not re-read it. I have not taken any position on the derivative nature of the paper yet. I had other problems with the manuscript – problems of the naive reader. I am waiting to see if [Reviewer 2] wants to defend the paper from either of our (yours or my) concerns.
[Reviewer 2]	I thought the paper was well written and was able to follow it. As I mentioned in my review, I do think it mirrors much of [previously published] work, but in my opinion, the work presented here is cleaner and even more compelling. However, one thing that was not clearly articulated in this paper is how this work advances (and distinguishes itself from) [previously published] work. My instinct would be to accept it: the movies themselves are absolutely wonderful and the paper will be highly cited. One idea is to let the authors respond to the reviews, with the understanding that there were some concerns about the novelty of the work.
[BRE; Reviewer 1]	I was just about to commence with rejecting the manuscript. And then I paused. I want to raise the issue of the “synapses”, which I think might carry the manuscript over the hump. Showing these connections is very important for a couple of reasons. It provides mechanism for cell-cell transfer. Is this a new finding and is it of general interest?
[Reviewer 2]	I favor acceptance after looking at the paper again last night. I do think the “bells and whistles” make this a significant contribution. In addition, providing the images to support the model is important and challenging. Again, the movies are simply fantastic.
[Reviewer 3]	I have no objection to accepting the paper as I feel that the quality is high. I think this is more of an editorial decision rather than a scientific one.
[BRE; Reviewer 1]	It is a close call. My thinking now is that if they can be more clear about their advances that this can be accepted. I will try to make it clear to them that contributions vs confirmations and speculations should be clear.
[Reviewer 2]	Thanks [all]. [This] is a great review process.

[Display Review Summary](#)

[Add consultation comments to session](#)

Add Comment

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A new approach to the editorial process

- **Swift triage** process by Senior Editors
- **BRE member** assigned as a reviewer
- **A single review decision**, reflecting a consensus of reviewers' comments
- Identify only **essential** revision requirements
- Most revisions assessed by the handling editor, **without further review**

The end result

A constructive process

Reduced times from submission to acceptance

**I hate the editors of these journals more than
I hate Republicans.**

—James Watson, of double-helix fame, speaking
about recent rejections from several journals