Essential Tips For Publishing in High-impact Journals

Rose Zhu
Associate Scientific Editor
Joule, Cell Press

18th March 2020
Overview

• My journey to become an editor

• Introduction to Cell Press portfolio
  - Expansion into physical sciences
  - Upcoming launches
  - Research output in China

• Editors’ Advise
  - Manuscript preparation
  - Selecting Journal
  - The editorial process

• Innovation and community building
My journey to become an editor
Learning: 2008 ~ 2012

- National awards, English speech award
- Scientific training: Metal alloy Hydrogen storage, MH/Ni battery, Li-air battery
- Co-authored: 2 Publications, 1 Patent
- Served SCU CO, won national prices
- GPA: 3.87/4.0; Rank 1/108
- Straight offer to NTU: 2 out of 14 NO. 1s
- Volunteer work
Self-branched MnO$_2$

TongChai Charity Walkathon

6 million for Cancer research

NTU: 2012 - 2016:
- Publication: 10/14
- GPA: 4.75/5.0
- Awards: 4 Best poster; 1 Grand poster award, and Best student
- Collaborations: USA, Germany, Japan, Israel and China

Research 2012-2016:
- Research and publishing
- Presenting skills
- Stay healthy

Singapore

Ph.D.

TongChai Charity Walkathon

NTU-CO concert

Equestrian

Taekwondo

B.D.

Ph.D.

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Research 2012-2016:
- Research and publishing
- Presenting skills
- Stay healthy
Freiburg U: 2014
- Lithography: Interdigital substrate

UCSD: 2015~2016
- Thesis
- Best student

Collaborations:
- *Advanced science*, 2016, 3, 1500299
- *Nano Energy, 2015*, 13, 658
- *ChemNanoMater, 2015* 1, 458
- *Incuba INC.: Advanced G & G+CNT*
- *Adv Mater, 2015*

Working 2016-2017:
- Varied angle of view
- Wide collaboration
- Stay updated
As Joule Editor

- Core Editorial role
- Travel: 100+ talks
- Promotion with Media
As Joule Editor

- Core Editorial role
- Travel: 100+ talks
- Promotion with Media

Greater China Award

With experienced editors

Organize Conferences
Cell Press portfolio of high-impact journals
Cell Press family of journals

- Primary Research Journals
  - *Chem* and *Joule* were the first introduced in physical sciences
  - *Matter* and *One Earth* in 2019
- OA journals, including *Cell Reports* and *iScience*, first interdisciplinary journal
- Trends Review journals
  - Newest: *Trends in Chemistry* in 2019
Primary journals

21 Primary research journals

- Recent launches in the **physical sciences**, including *Chem*, *Joule*, *Matter*, *Cell Reports Physical Science*

- **Upcoming** launches: *Med*, *Cell Reports Medicine*, *Patterns*, *STAR Protocols*
Trends Reviews journals
Partner journals

American Society of Human Genetics

International Journal for Stem Cell Research (IJSCR)

The Biophysical Society

Institute of Plant Physiology and Ecology, Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences, and the Chinese Society of Plant Biology

American Society of Gene & Cell Therapy
OA and hybrid journals

Open access titles

Hybrid titles
Cell Press physical sciences expansion
Joule

- Joule spans scales & disciplines of energy research
- Joule publishes breakthrough results and ideas
- Joule connects fundamental research to real-world impact
- Joule shows very high impact:
  - A sister journal to Cell
  - Joule is fully SCI-indexed
  - First IF (June 2020) will be ~30

Launched September 2017  www.cell.com/joule
Latest China Research in *Joule*

**Perspective**

**Powering the Future with Liquid Sunshine**

Choon Fong Shih, Tao Zhang, Jinghai Li, and Chunli Bai

![Diagram showing the process of converting CO₂ to liquid fuels using solar energy.](image)

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**Article**

**The Potential of Photovoltaics to Power the Belt and Road Initiative**

Shi Chen, Xi Lu, Yufei Miao, Yu Deng, Chris P. Nielsen, Noah Elbot, Yuanchen Wang, Kathryn G. Logan, Michael B. McElroy, and Jiming Hao

![Diagram showing the potential of photovoltaics in the Belt and Road Initiative.](image)

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**Single-Junction Organic Solar Cell with over 15% Efficiency Using Fused-Ring Acceptor with Electron-Deficient Core**

Jun Yuan, Yunqiang Zhang, Liuyang Zhou, Guichuan Zhang, Hin-Lap Yip, Ts-Zi Lau, Xinhuai Lu, Can Zhu, Hongian Peng, Paul A. Johnson, Mario Leclerc, Yong Cao, Jacek Ulanski, Yongfeng Li, and Yingping Zou

![Diagram showing the structure and performance of the organic solar cell.](image)

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*400 citations in 6 months!*
**Chem**, a sister journal to *Cell*, provides a home for seminal and insightful research and showcases how fundamental studies in chemistry and its sub-disciplines may help in finding potential solutions to the global challenges of tomorrow.

Content is categorized following 10 [Sustainable Development Goals](https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/) identified by the UN:

- Good health and well-being
- Affordable and clean energy
- Clean water and sanitation
- Climate action
- Zero hunger
- Responsible consumption and production
- Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure
- Life on land
- Sustainable cities and communities
- Life below water

Launched July 2016

[www.cell.com/chem](http://www.cell.com/chem)
Stabilizing Cathode Materials of Lithium-Ion Batteries by Controlling Interstitial Sites on the Surface
Jun-Yu Piao, Yong-Gang Sun, An-Min Cao, Xue-Long Wang, Rui-Juan Xiao, Xi-Qian Yu, Yue Gong, Lin Gu, Yutao Li, Zhen-Jie Liu, Zhang-Quan Peng, Rui-Min Qiao, Wan-Li Yang, Xiao-Qing Yang, John B. Goodenough, Li-Jun Wan
Chem, Vol. 4, Issue 7

Inhibiting Polysulfide Shuttl ing with a Graphene Composite Separator for Highly Robust Lithium-Sulfur Batteries
Tianyu Lei, Wei Chen, Weiqiang Lv, Jianwen Huang, Jian Zhu, Junwei Gu, Chaoji Yan, Chunyang Wu, Yichao Yan, Weidong He, Jie Xiong, Yanrong Li, Chenglin Yan, John B. Goodenough, Xiangfeng Duan
Joule, Vol. 3, Issue 1

Stabilizing a High-Energy-Density Rechargeable Sodium Battery with a Solid Electrolyte
Hongcai Gao, Sen Xin, Leigang Xue, John B. Goodenough
Chem, Vol. 4, Issue 4

Nitrogen-Doped Carbon for Sodium-Ion Battery Anode by Self-etching and Graphitization of Bimetallic MOF-Based Composite
Yuming Chen, Xiaoyan Li, Kyusung Park, Wei Lu, Qiao Wang, Weijiang Xue, Fei Yang, Jiaojie Zhou, Lumin Suo, Tianquan Lin, Haitao Huang, Ju Li, John B. Goodenough
Chem, Vol. 3, Issue 1

The Origin of Superior Performance of Co(OH)2 in Hybrid Supercapacitors
Hongcai Gao, Sen Xin, John B. Goodenough
Chem, Vol. 3, Issue 1

Critical Parameters for Evaluating Coin Cells and Pouch Cells of Rechargeable Li-Metal Batteries
Shuru Chen, Chaoyang Niu, Hongkyung Lee, Quian Li, Lu Yu, Wu Xu, Ji-Guang Zhang, Eric J. Dufek, M. Stanley Whittingham, Shirley Meng, Jie Xiao, Jun Liu
Joule, Vol. 3, Issue 4
Matter: It’s material.

The home for multi-disciplinary, transformative material science research – from fundamentals to application, from nano to macro.

MULTI-DISCIPLINARY
Build bridges within and across disciplines

We publish high-quality, transformative research across disciplines related to:

• Fundamental synthesis, structure, and properties
• Performance of emerging material systems
• Novel characterization methods

Articles on materials of any state, scale, composition, or material will be considered.

Launched July 2019
www.cell.com/matter

Steven W. Cranford, PhD
Editor-in-Chief

Matter provides full-length research articles, reviews, topical perspectives, paper previews, opinions, personnel stories, and other editorial content of general interest to the global materials community. The journal aims to be the premier resource for researchers in both academia and industry, providing a platform of inspiration for the next generation of materials scientists.
One Earth is publishing significant original research that seeks to understand and address today’s environmental grand challenges. The journal publishes across the full spectrum of global environmental change and sustainability science, providing a single platform to unite research from the natural, social, and applied sciences.
Trends in Chemistry represents a new global platform for discussion of significant and transformative concepts in all phases of chemistry. Undoubtedly, uncovering new frontiers in chemistry will have significant impact on many of the imposing challenges facing our world today. The journal offers readable, multidisciplinary Review, Opinion, and short articles that are thoughtfully designed to keep students and leading scientists alike updated on the most pressing issues in the field.

Launched April 2019
www.cell.com/trends/chemistry
Open Access Multi-Disciplinary

**iScience**

- *iScience* publishes basic and applied research that advances a specific field across life, physical, and earth sciences.
- Its no-nonsense approach to submissions is simple, fast, and fair, and its commitment to integrity means that it publishes transparent methods with high editorial standards.

Launched May 2018
www.cell.com/iscience

**Cell Reports Physical Science**

Publishes cutting-edge research across the spectrum of the physical sciences, including:
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Materials science
- Energy science
- Engineering
- Related work

Launched January 2020
www.cell.com/cell-reports-physical-science
Cell Press upcoming launches
Research output in China for Cell Press
Research Output in Cell Press: China

Within: Cell Press-2020 | Year range used for metrics: 2014 to 2019

Performance

- **2,696** Scholarly Output
- **4.21** Field-Weighted Citation Impact
- **1,924** International Collaboration

*View list of publications*

- **78,821** Views Count
- **95,550** Citation Count

International Collaboration
Publications co-authored with Institutions in other countries/regions

- **71.4%**

China:
Visualization of Research Output in Cell Press: APAC

Within: Cell Press-2020 | Year range used for metrics: 2014-2019

Scholarly Output

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total value</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,629</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,696</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Research Output in Cell Press: Top 20 Institutions in China

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Scholarly Output</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Academy of Sciences</td>
<td>769</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Education China</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Chinese Academy of Sciences</td>
<td>276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peking University</td>
<td>253</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tsinghua University</td>
<td>236</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fudan University</td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanghai Jiao Tong University</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhejiang University</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAS - Shanghai Institute for Biological Science</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Science and Technology of China</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAS - Institute of Biophysics</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAS - Shanghai Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun Yat-Sen University</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huazhong University of Science and Technology</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wuhan University</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ShanghaiTech University</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sichuan University</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tongji University</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xiamen University</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Research Output in Cell Press: China, authors 10+ papers

**Within: Cell Press-2020 | Year range used for metrics: 2014-2019**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chen, She</td>
<td>National Institute of Biological Sciences, Beijing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Li, Lin</td>
<td>Tsinghua University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tang, FuChou</td>
<td>Ministry of Education China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yang, Li</td>
<td>Chinese Academy of Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cao, Xue Tao</td>
<td>Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chen, Lingling</td>
<td>University of Chinese Academy of Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhou, Qi</td>
<td>University of Chinese Academy of Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deng, Hongkui</td>
<td>Peking University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Li, Wei</td>
<td>University of Chinese Academy of Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pei, Duanqing Qing</td>
<td>CAS - Guangzhou Institute of Biomedicine and Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deng, Haiteng</td>
<td>Ministry of Education China</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dong, Chen</td>
<td>Tsinghua University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Growth direct result of New Launches in Physical Sciences e.g. Chem and Joule
New Launches in Physical Sciences: Chem and Joule

Annual research output in 2018 for Chem and Joule surpassed that of previous Cell Press leaders Cell and Molecular Cell.
Usage of Cell Press Journals (available title-by-title)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cell Press Journal (available title-by-title)</th>
<th>Full text downloads in 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cell</td>
<td>2,513,982</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular Cell</td>
<td>705,467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neuron</td>
<td>578,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immunity</td>
<td>525,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell Metabolism</td>
<td>461,033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Biology</td>
<td>438,657</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancer Cell</td>
<td>434,878</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell Stem Cell</td>
<td>330,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental Cell</td>
<td>277,352</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chem</td>
<td>275,945 NEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biophysical Journal</td>
<td>218,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell Host &amp; Microbe</td>
<td>203,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joule</td>
<td>175,199 NEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell Chemical Biology</td>
<td>139,547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molecular Therapy</td>
<td>108,214 NEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The American Journal of Human Genetics</td>
<td>102,940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Structure</td>
<td>96,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matter has</td>
<td>84,335 NEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cell Systems</td>
<td>45,279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trends in Chemistry</td>
<td>20,487 NEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trends in Cancer</td>
<td>18,720 NEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Earth</td>
<td>2,715 NEW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL Downloads 2019</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,757,731</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

China in 2019

- 7.8 million downloads in 2019 from 22 journals
- Average of 355,000 downloads per journal in 2019
- A Cell Press journal article is downloaded in China every 4.1 seconds
### Usage of Cell Press Journals (available title-by-title)

#### Top 20 by Usage, alpha order

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institutions with Highest Full-text Downloads Usage</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Academy of Forestry</td>
<td>Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fourth Military Medical University</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Huazhong Normal University</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ocean University of China</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peking University</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanghai Institute of Technology</td>
<td>Academic</td>
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<td>Academic</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shanghai International Studies University</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sichuan Normal University</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast University</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Intellectual Property Office</td>
<td>Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun Yat-Sen University</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tongji University</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tsinghua University</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Science and Technology Liaoning</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Science and Technology of China</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wuhan Textile University</td>
<td>Academic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhejiang Shuren University</td>
<td>Academic</td>
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Editors’ Advice

❖ Manuscript preparation
❖ Selecting Journal
❖ The editorial process
Questions to answer before you write

Think about WHY you want to publish your work.

• Have you done something new?
• Is there anything challenging in your work?
• Is the work related directly to a current topic of high interest?
• Have you provided solutions to some difficult problems?

If you can answer “yes” to some or all of these questions, then start preparations for your manuscript.
What makes a good manuscript?

- Contains a scientific message that is clear, useful, and exciting
- Conveys the authors’ thoughts in a logical manner such that the reader arrives at the same conclusions as the author
- Is constructed in the format that best showcases the authors’ material
- Is written in a style that transmits the message clearly
General points about paper writing

▪ Importance of title and abstract
▪ What’s the story? Tell it as simply and concisely as possible
▪ Ensure logical layout of arguments/flow of experiments (the chronology of the experiments is not important)
▪ Make use of summary statements
▪ Get feedback before submission
  • Recruit colleagues outside of your area to review it, and ask for an honest appraisal
    • Is the flow of logic clear?
    • Is all the jargon defined?
    • Do the experiments support the conclusions?
  • If English is your second language ask a native speaker to check for grammar and clarity. Or seek for proof-reading service. Elsevier offered free language service till end of March.
Manuscript preparation

- Important so Editors and Reviewers can understand the work
- Refer to the journal’s Guide for Authors for specifications
- Work has short sentences, correct tenses, and proper grammar
- Have a native English speaker check your manuscript or use a language editing service

Am I using proper manuscript language?
Use an effective title

- Succinct
- Describes key content
- Main point is clear
- Avoids obscure abbreviations

An effective manuscript title
Write a clear abstract

- Interesting and understandable
- Accurate and specific
- Brief and to the point
Introduction

Where does the field stand?

What problem are you addressing?

Identify the solutions & limitations
An effective Results section

- Be clear and easy to understand
- Use paragraph headings that describe concrete findings
- Use similar headings for figure legend titles as for paragraphs
- Feature unexpected findings
- Provide statistical analysis
- High quality illustrations & figures
Data preparation

• Make use of color/shapes etc. in figures to highlight appropriate data
• Graphs:
  • should not appear crowded, try to present at most 3-4 datasets per graph
  • use well-selected scales and label the axes clearly
• Use different symbols to discriminate between data sets
• Figure legend:
  • should be brief
  • yet should contain sufficient explanatory details to explain the figure without the need to refer to the main text
• Always guide readers to specific parts of figures in the main text
Tie it together in the Discussion towards a conclusion

- What do the results mean?
- Make the discussion correspond to the results
- Compare published results with your own
Acknowledgments

Ensures those who helped in the research are recognised

- Advisors and Undergrad. Support
- Financial Supporters and Funding Bodies
- Proofreaders
- Suppliers who may have donated materials
**Cite the main scientific publications on which your work is based**

- Do not use too many references
- Always ensure you have fully absorbed material you are referencing
- Avoid excessive self-citations
- Avoid excessive citations of publications from the same region
- Conform strictly to the style given in the guide for authors
Write a good cover letter

**What to include:**
1. Why you think the paper is a good fit for this journal
2. Additional background that does not fit in the abstract
3. Why you think the question you set out to address is important and/or why is what you found so exciting
4. Is there a controversy we should know about?
5. Is there competition we should know about?
6. Reviewer suggestions/exclusions

**What not to include:**
1. The abstract
2. A list of past accomplishments from your lab
3. The meetings you’ve presented this work at and the nice feedback you got
Pick the right journal

Identify the sector of readership/community for which a paper is meant
Identify the interest of your audience
  • Match this interest to your choice of journal
Read the Aims and Scope page
Does the journal publish on the topic?
  • Look at the papers that you cite
  • Do a literature search
The right journal will have editors who:
  • know the field and the important questions being asked
  • know reviewers
  • can guide the process and resolve disputes
Why publish at Cell Press?

• Full-time in-house professional editors
• Impartial surrogates for the broad readership
• Actively engage the authors and reviewers
• Timely decisions
• Responsive and hospitable
• Maintaining high scientific standards during review process
• Team-based editorial decision making
• Listen to the communities we serve
• Experiment and innovate
• Reputation for rigor
• Post-publication promotion: Previews, author audio or video interviews, press releases, social media
The editorial process
The Editor’s role

- Once handling editor assigned – reads paper and discusses with editorial colleagues
- Assesses importance of question, advance over published literature
- Decides whether or not to review paper for journal
- Manages review process
- Promotion of work at publication
Outcome of initial editorial evaluation

Return the manuscript to the authors
• with an explanation of why the editors feel it is not likely to be a strong candidate for publication

Send the paper out for review
• the editors identify appropriate reviewers, taking into consideration authors’ suggestions and exclusions
What we ask reviewers to evaluate

• Technical quality of the data
• Degree to which data support conclusions
• Feedback on level of interest
  • To those working in the field
  • To those working outside the field
• Each reviewer assesses the paper from a different standpoint
• We honor reviewer exclusions
An aside – responsibilities of a reviewer

- When to recuse yourself – how close is too close?
  - Have you published papers together?
  - Are/were you at the same institution?
  - Do you have a grant together?
  - Is a trainee on the paper now in your lab?
- Confidentiality
- Training and sharing in the lab
- Inviting a colleague to help? – ask editor first
- Be constructive – including tone
- Be timely – if you can't do it fast, say no or notify editor
- Commit to re-review of revised paper
The editorial decision

- Editor integrates all aspects of the paper
  - Reviewers’ comments
  - Editor’s own assessment of paper
  - Nature of anticipated revisions
  - Editorial team feedback
  - Can go back to reviewers or additional expert for further feedback
- Balance technical issues with conceptual interest
- Consider whether additional experiments are feasible/reasonable
- Not simple yes/no tally
Rendering a decision

How close is the present state of the manuscript to the standard of the journal?

- Accept the manuscript or accept pending minor revisions
- Encourage authors to respond to concerns, and carefully outline what would be needed from a revised version
- Do not encourage authors to respond to concerns, providing reasons why revision would likely not be productive
Upon receiving an invitation to revise

- Read letter carefully and decide whether any suggested experiments can be completed within the timeframe indicated.

- If not, consider whether there are different experiments or analyses that could be completed and are aimed at the same question.

- Discuss with the editor any concerns on the revision prior to resubmission.
Revisions, resubmissions and transfers

Revisions
Make your revision count!
Contact editors with questions

Resubmission
Include detailed point-by-point letter addressing reviewers’ critiques; may be subject to re-review by all/subset of reviewers

Transfers
Requested by authors: contact editors of second journal to transfer file, including reviews
Upon receiving a negative decision

- Read letter carefully and assess the basis for the decision
- If decision is unclear, contact editor for clarifications/guidance: dialogue is encouraged
- Consider transferring to another Cell Press journal
- If you appeal the decision:
  - Provide point-by-point response to reviewers’ concerns
  - Stick to the scientific issues
  - Indicate how issues could be addressed experimentally
  - Be reasonable in assessing the situation
  - Editors may return to reviewers for guidance
  - Editors may enlist new experts for advice
Transfer process

**Goal**: to help you find a place to publish your paper within Cell Press as quickly and smoothly as possible

- Entirely author-driven process
- Can take place whether or not paper was sent out for peer review at the initial journal
- If the paper is transferred after peer review at the original journal, the reviews and reviewer identities are transferred with the paper
- Authors can revise the paper before transfer to next journal
- Contact editors at next journal with any queries
After acceptance

Authors and editors celebrate!!!
But the work isn’t quite finished…

• Organize final files according to instructions and final resubmission checklist
• Copy-editing and page layout
• Online and issue publication
• Article promotion through Preview articles, author audio or video interviews, press releases, website, and social media
Innovation and community building
Innovating in content delivery

What are STAR Methods?

- **STRUCTURED**: "STAR Methods are organized logically."
- **TRANSPARENT**: "STAR Methods have all the information I need."
- **ACCESSIBLE**: "STAR Methods are easy to access & comprehend."
- **REPORTING**: "STAR Methods are key to good science."

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- insights from working scientists in our network
- tips from career experts
- video tutorials on experimental procedures, protocols, and methods
Encouraging dialog and connections
Thank you for attending

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