



APS Joins with Other Prestigious Scholarly Publishers to Launch the Scientific Society Publisher Alliance (SSPA)

Initiative Aims to Promote Awareness and Support of Society-sponsored Journals

Bethesda, Md. (November 6, 2017)—The American Physiological Society (APS), along with 10 other prestigious not-for-profit scientific membership societies, today announced the launch of the [Scientific Society Publisher Alliance \(SSPA\)](https://www.byscientistsforscience.org) ([byscientistsforscience.org](https://www.byscientistsforscience.org)), an initiative focused on building awareness of and support for publication of scientific research by scientist-run scientific societies.

The SSPA started as a collaboration of scientific societies that came together to reinforce and communicate the excellence, importance and uniqueness of their journals. The launch of the SSPA today formalizes this collaboration. The SSPA seeks to emphasize the value of publishing vital scientific research in scholarly journals managed by working scientists and edited and peer-reviewed in a fair and supportive manner by working scientists. Publishing in a society journal supports researchers and the scientific community, through reinvestment of revenues in the scientific community, in science advocacy and in the careers of scientists at all stages, as part of the not-for-profit society mission.

“APS is proud of its 120-year history of publishing in the physiological sciences and of the contributions of our editors, authors and reviewers over these many years. We also take pride in always placing the interests of our authors and readers first,” said APS Director of Publications and Executive Editor Rita Scheman. “APS joined the SSPA to promote the unique virtues and value of society publications to the author, reader and library. These attributes—such as the working scientist as editor and decision maker; robust and fair peer review; emphasis on research publication quality, not metrics, and reinvestment of surplus revenue in our journals—merit amplification.”

The SSPA wants to underscore the value of publishing in society-sponsored journals and encourage researchers to submit their best work for publication in society-sponsored journals. “Submission to a professional society journal helps me as a researcher. I know that highly knowledgeable peers will evaluate my papers and help me improve them. And I also know that publishing in society journals supports the important work they do,” said Martin Chalfie, university professor at Columbia University and 2008 Nobel laureate in chemistry. “I am a member of four professional societies and have benefited from publishing in journals of each one of them.”

The SSPA Founding members are:

- American Physiological Society (APS)
- American Society for Cell Biology (ASCB)
- American Society for Microbiology (ASM)
- American Society of Plant Biologists (ASPB)
- Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB)
- Genetics Society of America (GSA)
- Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution (SMBE)

- Society for Neuroscience (SfN)
- American Association of Immunologists (AAI)
- American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (ASBMB)
- American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET)

“In a world where new scholarly journals are continually being launched, we wanted to ensure that researchers are aware of the core values and strengths of our journals—peer-editing, transparent community governance, advocacy for science, and a rich history of investing in the scientific community—when making decisions about the best place to publish their findings,” said Mark Johnston, editor-in-chief, *Genetics* (published by the Genetics Society of America) and chair of the SSPA.

For more information about the Scientific Society Publisher Alliance (SSPA), including information on membership, visit byscientistsforscience.org.

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ABOUT APS

Physiology is the study of how molecules, cells, tissues and organs function in health and disease. Established in 1887, the American Physiological Society (APS) was the first U.S. society in the biomedical sciences field. The Society represents more than 10,500 members and publishes 15 peer-reviewed journals with a worldwide readership.

ABOUT SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY PUBLISHER ALLIANCE

The Scientific Society Publisher Alliance (SSPA) is dedicated to identifying and disseminating vital scientific research, by scientists for science. Our not-for-profit societies provide authors with the opportunity to have their work validated by peers in a fair manner for publication in a prestigious journal managed by working scientists. By reinvesting in the community, the members of the SSPA are committed to delivering important discoveries worldwide.

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