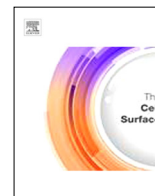


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The Cell Surface

journal homepage: <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/the-cell-surface>

The cell surface – A new journal for transkingdom cell wall research



The majority of cells and cell types on the Earth are encased in a cell wall. For these organisms their walls are normally absolutely essential for life and viability, and not surprisingly therefore, a lot of evolutionary attention has been focused on building resilient protective cell walls. Cell walls define and encode physical, structural, biochemical, physiological, ecological and immunological information and therefore a lot of biological research emerges through studies of cell walls. The cell wall, as the natural interface between the cell and its immediate environment, is the theatre of a great deal of biological interactions. Cell walls are also the sink of a large percentage of the organic carbon in the biosphere and the recycling of cell wall materials drives the major nutrient cycles of the planet. Translational research scientists in this area are engaged in the search for cell wall inhibitors and in methods to exploit natural biosynthetic and bioconversion processes of cell wall materials in pharmaceutical, agrochemical and biotechnology industries.

There are a myriad of new journals being launched around the world and it is not unreasonable to ask why we need yet another one. In April 2016, we surveyed cell wall scientists as to the feasibility of a dedicated journal in this field. Out of the over 200 that responded to our query, 76% agreed the field of cell surface biology would benefit from such a journal. The papers generated in the cell surface field are currently being published in journals which are often organism-specific. Our vision is to provide a forum for researchers to come together and discuss the commonalities of cell surface biology across species barriers and to learn from the best insights and approaches within disparate disciplines of biology. We wish to actively promote and stimulate research and review articles at the interfaces between communities of cell wall biologists who have not previously worked together. We will endeavour to share the insights emerging within disciplines and between biologists of different traditions, for example by engineering and encouraging cross-disciplinary reviews.

We are therefore delighted to bring to your attention *The Cell Surface* – a journal that deals with cell walls and other extracellular matrices, their biosynthesis, properties and their interactions with other cells. This is a high quality journal with a carefully selected international editorial board consisting of highly experienced, cell wall experts. We encourage articles from those of you who are interested in the cell walls of bacteria, fungi, algae, oomycetes, plants and unicellular apicomplexan parasites from almost any

perspective. It is not our specific intention to deal with all extra-membranous glycocalyx and extracellular matrices of higher animals since there are specialised journals that cater for these areas of research. However, we do keep an open mind to any innovative study that addresses the general remit of this journal.

The format of the journal has been tailored carefully to deliver the most engaging and exciting online platform for our science, allowing authors to present their research in a dynamic way to the readers. There are numerous innovative content enrichment facilities available within the publication template, supporting various digital formats and objects, including virtual microscopy, 3-D image viewers for genomes, proteins and models, interactive phylogenetic trees, audio and video data, and much more. As an online quality journal we promise to deliver a timely and high quality product that will enhance your research and simultaneously stimulate new insights in our field. This is a journal with a vision and with ambition and we are now delighted to invite you to submit your articles and offers for reviews.

Neil A.R. Gow

Institute of Medical Sciences, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK

E-mail address: n.gow@abdn.ac.uk

Gurdyal Besra

School of Biosciences, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, UK

E-mail address: g.besra@bham.ac.uk

Vincent Bulone

School of Agriculture, Food and Wine, The University of Adelaide, Urrbrae, South Australia, Australia

E-mail address: vincent.bulone@adelaide.edu.au

Mark Carrington

Department of Biochemistry, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK

E-mail address: mc115@cam.ac.uk

Herman Höfte

INRA Centre de Versailles-Grignon, Institut Jean-Pierre Bourgin, Versailles Cedex, France

E-mail address: hermanus.hofte@inra.fr

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