Cross publisher manuscript and peer review transfer

*Life Science Alliance* – RUP, EMBO Press & CSHL Press


Transfers to RUP journals
Life Science Alliance

Cross publisher collaboration in action

- A new “gold OA” online only journal publishing across the life and biomedical sciences launched in 2018
- Jointly owned by EMBO, RU & CSH
- Jointly managed by EMBO Press, RUP & CSH Press – through a stand alone LLC
- Welcomes direct submissions and author-initiated transfers from 9 journals published by Life Science Alliance partners

The EMBO Journal, EMBO reports, EMBO Molecular Medicine, Molecular Systems Biology

Journal of Cell Biology, Journal of Experimental Medicine, Journal of General Physiology

Genes & Development, Genome Research
Life Science Alliance
Powered by Editors & Technology

- Leverages talented staff professional scientific editors at RUP, EMBO, CSH & LSA
- Builds off MECA technology to link eJP and BenchPress peer-review environments
- Editors consult on suitability of manuscripts for LSA
  - Only for authors who have opted for possible consultation
  - ~70% authors submitting to JCB/JEM opt for consultation with LSA
- Authors receive firm editorial commitments from LSA
  - to send editorially rejected manuscripts to peer review
  - to publish manuscripts that have already undergone peer review at partner journals with revisions. (max. one round of experimental revision)
Life Science Alliance

- Commitment to peer review
  - \(~300\) m/s declined by JCB
  - \(~375\) m/s declined by JEM

- Commitment to publish
  - \(~50\) m/s declined by JCB
  - \(~27\) m/s declined by JEM

- 50 m/s transferred by authors who submitted first to JCB/JEM

- Steady growth in online usage

- LSA on track to break even in 2020

Indexed in PubMed, Scopus, & Web of Science (Emerging Sources Citation Index, Core Collection). Accepted by Directory of Open Access Journals

Life Science Alliance (2018)
- 248 m/s transferred/submitted
- 83 m/s accepted
- 39 m/s in revision
- 27 m/s in review
- 79 m/s rejected; 12 m/s withdrawn
- Time to editorial rejection = 3 days
- Avg. time in peer review = 24 days
Transfer beyond LSA & RUP

Transfer from RUP journals

For authors who wish to transfer their manuscript to a journal outside of RUP, we will confidentially send reviewer reports and identities to any journal upon author request (confidential comments to our editors will not be sent). Reviewers can opt out of allowing their identities to be transferred. External recipient journals should contact the editorial office at RUP to request reviewer reports and identities. http://jcb.rupress.org/editorial-policies#transfer

Provide a link in the decision letter (for either editorial rejections or peer-reviewed manuscripts) that takes authors to a page where they can initiate transfer to the journal of their choice

Also builds off MECA technology to link eJP and BenchPress peer-review environments

NO cross journal consultation among journals

NO commitment extended to authors

JCB, JCS, and MBoC will offer manuscript transfer beginning early in 2019
Transfers to RUP journals

Committed to limiting time spent in peer review and reducing the burden placed on reviewers

Transfer to Rockefeller University Press journals

- Authors can submit previous reviewer comments when uploading a new manuscript to an RUP journal
- Full comments of all reviewers, name of the journal, and a detailed point by point response is required
- Author can, but are not required to, revise their manuscript to address the reviewers' comments prior to submission to an RUP journal
- RUP editors assess manuscript and reviewer comments, may seek additional expert advice
- Authors receive a detailed letter that explains either the revisions that would be required for acceptance or the editors’ decision to decline publication
- “Transfer Manuscript” is a designated manuscript type in eJP, for tracking purposes
- % of published articles that were transfers grew to 5 – 10% in 2018