

Welcome to the microPublication Newsletter. If you are receiving this, you've previously voiced interest in the microPublication project. If you do not wish to receive the newsletter, you can unsubscribe at the announcement <u>mailing list</u>. Feel free to forward this newsletter to your friends and colleagues!



Our Community continues to grow! New partnerships, new editorial teams

If you've been to our <u>homepage</u> recently, you will have noticed that we have more collaborators and articles from more communities. In particular, researchers from the Arabidopsis, Saccharomyces, and Zebrafish communities are now submitting articles! With every new community, we liaise with their community knowledgebase, so we are delighted to be working with TAIR, SGD and ZFIN to oversee these articles and their reported data.

Further, we are delighted to expand our editorial staff to include Scientific Officers (SO), Managing Editors (ME), and Curators from those communities. The Scientific Officer oversees the quality of the article and recommends reviewers. Managing Editors oversee all communications with the authors concerning the review and revision of the article through the submission process. Finally, curators ensure that all reported bioentities and reagents mentioned adhere to community standards and all relevant data are collected for their community database.

We thank the following people for overseeing articles from their respective communities:

- Worm Tim Schedl (SO), Andy Golden (SO)
- Fly Thomas Kaufman (SO), Brian Oliver (SO), Steven Marygold (Curator)
- Xenopus Christina Zorn (ME, Curator), Jing Yang (SO)
- Arabidopsis Lenore Reiser (ME, Curator), Iain Searle (SO)
- Saccharomyces Stacia Engel (SO)
- Zebrafish Doug Howe (ME), Monte Westerfield (SO)

Indexing Update

You can now find microPublication Biology articles through EuropePMC, Google Scholar,



and university library catalogs. In addition, we have started our application for **PubMed Central** indexing. Our chances of getting into PubMed Central are very good as we've already gone through the requirements for being indexed in EuropePMC and we have been recognized as a legitimate high-quality, peer-reviewed, open access journal by the Directory of Open Access Journals (**DOAJ**). The application process for PubMed is

long but we've already cleared major hurdles. We will keep you posted.

Open Publishing Fest

microPublication will participate in the **Open Publishing Fest** organized by the Collaborative Knowledge Foundation. We will host four events or 'tents' which will focus on different aspects of microPublication and its role in scholarly communication. Mark your calendar for the following events and keep an eye on the festival website for conference channels details!

Tent 1: microPublication: A Welcome Alternative in Scholarly Communication - May 20th, 10am Pacific

Join us for an hour packed of fun to learn how microPublication is shaping the future of scholarly communication! microPublication is a deliberately brief, peer-reviewed and indexed publication. We publish brief, novel findings, negative and/or reproduced results, and results which may lack a broader scientific narrative. We will hear from Editor in Chief Paul Sternberg, Editorial board members, Authors, and Reviewers to learn how microPublication is changing how they think about publishing.

Tent 2: Knowledgebases, Repositories, Archives: Curation, Curation, Curation - May 26th, 10am Pacific

Where should your data go? What are the roles of Repositories, Knowledgebases, and Library Archives in Scholarly Communication? How are published data preserved for long term access and how are they made available to the scientific community? We will highlight similarities and differences in a panel discussion with representatives from Dryad, University Libraries, and Knowledgebase curators.

Tent 3: The microPublication Open Access platform - May 27th, 10am Pacific

microPublication.org offered new software development and workflow challenges in the publishing landscape. Join us to learn how our submission platform was designed and to savor the final product! Developers Yannis Barlas from Coko and Nick Stiffler from microPublication will guide you through the submission portal and will be there to answer all your questions.

Tent 4: microPublication Inspires New Communities and Promotes Undergraduate Research - May 27th, 12pm Pacific

Started by serving the C. elegans research community, microPublication Biology has expanded to many model organism communities and beyond. Besides being beneficial to researchers at all career levels, microPublication has proven to be a wonderful tool to showcase undergraduate research and foster education. We will hear from different groups that have been inspired by microPublication and learn how they are using it to make a difference.

Development updates - a new publication platform!



microPublication BIOLOGY



We have been working with the Collaborative Knowledge Foundation (COKO) since our first launch to idealize and build a novel publishing platform that suits the needs of our communities and staff. Much of the platform was built by Yannis Barlas of Coko. *microPublication* team members Todd Harris and Nick Stiffler (see below) brought the *microPublication Biology* submission portal live in late November. For those of you who've submitted articles or reviewed for us since then, we thank you for your patience as we work out bugs. We are continuing to enhance the platform as we haven't reached our ideal yet. We have a lot more functions to add to increase the utility of this tool for scholarly communication. In particular, we hope to be adding more interactive authoring tools to make proofreading and editing submissions easier as well as making it possible for authors to curate their work during the submission process. We thank you all in advance for using our new system and for any feedback you might have. We were told that our system is unlike any other publishing platform out there, so it is truly groundbreaking!

microPublication Core Team Update - a new developer

Last September we welcomed aboard a new developer, Nicholas Stiffler from Eugene, Oregon. Nick has been instrumental in helping to get our article submission platform live and getting our files in shape for indexing by EuropePMC -and now PubMed Central. Thank you Nick!

We would also like to make a call-out to our Publisher, the <u>Caltech Library</u>. They have been critical in helping us dot our i's and cross our t's through our application processes to the Library of Congress (for our ISSN) and various indexers. They are also in charge of archiving our articles for access in perpetuity!



microPublication Biology - our MISSION

microPublication Biology is a new paradigm in scholarly communication. Our mission is to make all results from publicly funded research available to the public. With *microPublication* Biology, researchers can directly submit, have peer reviewed, and publish individual experimental results. While we seek all data, we have a particular interest in those data that are high quality but remain traditionally unpublished. We feel that unpublished data, for whatever reason it has languished, is equal in importance with data that is published and should be included in the corpus of publicly funded research findings. In addition to new findings or methods, findings in *microPublication* Biology can also be negative results, reproduced results, or results that are not perceived as being sufficiently novel and are cut from manuscripts to save space.

Importantly, unlike other journal platforms, information from each *microPublication* is directly incorporated into community databases (e.g., WormBase.org) through the use of author populated user-friendly web forms that rely on controlled vocabularies, when available – thus advancing the goal of making the content of each *microPublication* computable.

The many ways you can get involved

Submit an article. Be a <u>reviewer</u>. Send us your <u>feedback</u>. Follow us on Twitter <u>@micropub7n</u>. Subscribe (or unsubscribe) to our low traffic <u>announcement mailing list</u>. Participate in whiteboard sessions and online webinars. <u>Contact us!</u>