

How to prepare a manuscript for *BioScience*

THE *BIOSCIENCE* STAFF

The editors of *BioScience* welcome original manuscripts written for a broad audience of professional biologists, biology teachers, advanced students, and policymakers. Overview articles summarize recent advances in important areas of biological research. Roundtable articles bring together the views of different authors on issues important to biologists. The Education department contains essays on the teaching of biology to students and to the general public. Professional Biologist discusses issues in the practice of biological professions. Thinking of Biology consists of essays on the philosophy of biology, and Biology in History articles address the history of biological thought. Biologist's Toolbox articles discuss technology's contribution to the practice of biology. Forum essays address topical issues.

Articles in the preceding categories, whether invited or independently submitted, undergo peer review of content and writing style. *BioScience* also publishes some nontechnical material that is generally not subject to peer review. In this category are letters pertaining to previously published material; Features, which are stories of general interest to scientists; Editorials, which are short opinion pieces; Viewpoints, which are longer opinion pieces; book reviews and special book articles; and occasional Special Reports.

The editors reserve the right to edit all manuscripts for style and clarity. Contributions are accepted for review and publication on the condition that they are submitted solely to *BioScience* and will not be reprinted or translated without the publisher's permission.

Authors must transfer certain copyrights to the publisher.

Overview articles

Overview articles review significant scientific findings in an area of interest to a broad range of biologists. Twenty-first Century Directions in Biology articles are overviews that discuss molecular methods. Overview articles should include background information for biologists in a variety of fields, and they should be free of jargon. Articles must be no longer than 20 double-spaced pages (6500 words, excluding figures, tables, and references). No more than 60 references should be cited. Please include an abstract of up to 150 words and list up to five keywords.

BioScience occasionally publishes special sections, which are compilations of overview articles on particular topics. Like other *BioScience* overview articles, they undergo peer review. Special sections are organized by a coordinator who helps maintain a timely production schedule and ensures the pertinence and coherence of the whole. If you wish to coordinate a special section, write the editor in chief at bioscience@aibs.org.

Department articles

Editorials may cover any topic of interest to biologists, from science policy to technical controversy. Editorials should not exceed 500 words and may not have references or footnotes. The word

Manuscripts submitted must follow the format specified here.

limit for Viewpoint manuscripts is 1400; please keep references cited to a minimum. Viewpoints generally have a single author.

Manuscripts for Roundtable, Forum, Education, Professional Biologist, Thinking of Biology, Biology in History, Biologist's Toolbox, and special book articles should not exceed 15 double-spaced pages (4500 words, excluding figures, tables, and references) and should cite no more than 40 references. Please submit an abstract of up to 150 words and list up to five keywords. Department articles may include a few photographs, drawings, figures, or tables. Roundtables may be multiauthored or may comprise two or more articles espousing different points of view on a subject.

Teaching Biology articles are solicited and are aimed at educators. Book reviews and Features are generally solicited. Send queries regarding ideas for feature stories to the features editor (features@aibs.org).

Manuscript preparation

Submission. Submit all manuscripts that are subject to peer review through Cadmus Rapid Review. To submit a manuscript through Rapid Review, authors should go to www.rapidreview.com/AIBS2/CALogon.jsp and create an account. Authors must obtain written permission to use in their articles any personal communication and any material—text, data, art, tables, or figures—copyrighted by another author or publisher; be sure that credit to the source is complete. Send these letters of permission electronically when you submit your manuscript; mail them to the publications assistant, *BioScience*, 1444 I Street, NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20005; or send them by fax (202-628-1509). Provide with your submission the names of colleagues who have reviewed your paper, plus the names, addresses (postal and e-mail), and telephone numbers of four potential referees from outside your institution. Viewpoints, Editorials, letters to the editor, and book reviews may be submitted by e-mail to bioscience@aibs.org.

Authorship. Everyone listed as an author of an article must have made a substantial contribution to the manuscript; specific requirements are listed under the heading "Policy on Authorship" at www.aibs.org/bioscience/authors_and_reviewers.html. In the case of multiple-author contributions, please include a brief statement detailing the contribution of each author.

Before we can publish an article, all the authors must print, sign, and return to *BioScience* a copy of our publication agreement, which can be found at www.aibs.org/bioscience/resources/Publication_Agreement.pdf.

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