

# Cell Press: Life as a Reviews Editor

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Editor, *Trends in Endocrinology and Metabolism*

Cell Press, Cambridge, MA

## What I will cover

- Brief overview of Cell Press
- Typical day in the life of a reviews editor
- Career path



# Cell Press office

- Cancer Cell
- Cell
- Cell Host and Microbe
- Cell Metabolism
- Cell Stem Cell
- Chemistry & Biology
- Current Biology
- Developmental Cell
- Immunity
- Molecular Cell
- Neuron
- Structure

## Trends in:

- Biochemical Sciences
- Biotechnology
- Cell Biology
- Cognitive Sciences
- Ecology & Evolution
- Endocrinology & Metabolism
- Genetics
- Immunology
- Microbiology
- Molecular Medicine
- Neuroscience
- Parasitology
- Pharmacological Sciences
- Plant Sciences

Two society journals: AJHG,  
Biophysical Journal

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# Reviews editor

- Scope of the journal
- Commission articles
  - Meetings, lab visits, keeping up with current literature, editorial board suggestions
  - Unsolicited proposals
- Send out to reviewers
  - Bias, comprehensive, timely, relevant, structure
- Edit
  - Trends style (recent), language, flow, perspective (where is the field going?)
  - Figures – conceptual, easy to follow
  - Could a non-specialist understand this article?
- Manage production
  - Mark up figures
  - Check proofs
  - Solicit cover art

## Other Editorial Functions

### Relevant activities:

Scientific conferences

Organize meetings

Policy/business decisions

Content variety (new formats?)

Site visits

Seminars

Innovations

Editorial board

# Typical Day

- **Respond to emails**
  - Communicate with journal manager
- **New articles in?**
  - Read, select reviewers if appropriate to send out for review
  - Evaluate unsolicited proposals
- **Reviewers' comments back?**
  - What is the decision – Major? Minor? Re-review?
- **Editing**
  - Line by line edit
  - Write decision letter
- **Accepting**
  - Assign to issue
- **Commissioning/Reading**
  - Meeting reports
  - Editorial board
  - Meetings
  - Lab Visits
- **Journal analysis**
- **Wider Cell Press initiatives**



Cell, Volume 141, Issue 7, 1135-1145, 25 June 2010 | Copyright © 2010 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. | 10.1016/j.cell.2010.05.009

## Virus-Plus-Susceptibility Gene Interaction Determines Crohn's Disease Gene *Atg16L1* Phenotypes in Intestine

Ken Cadwell, Khushbu K. Patel, Nicole S. Maloney, Ta-Chiang Liu, Aylwin C.Y. Ng, Chad E. Storer, Richard D. Head, Ramnik Xavier, Thaddeus S. Stappenbeck , Herbert W. Virgin  [See Affiliations](#)

Summary

Introduction

Results

Discussion

Exp. Proc.

Data

References

Supp. Info.

Related Info.

Comments (0)

### Highlights

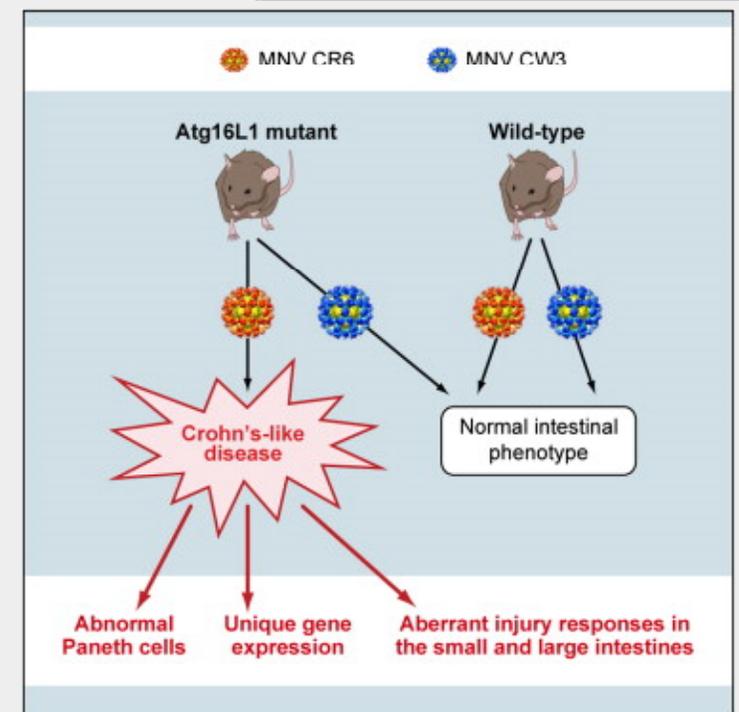
- Mice with mutations in the Crohn's disease gene *Atg16L1* display intestinal disease
- Disease requires murine norovirus (MNV) infection together with *Atg16L1* mutation
- Viral triggering of disease is dependent on virus strain and timing of infection
- Disease in response to mucosal injury involves cytokines and commensal bacteria

### Summary

It is unclear why disease occurs in only a small proportion of persons carrying common risk alleles of disease susceptibility genes. Here we demonstrate that an interaction between a specific virus infection and a mutation in the Crohn's disease susceptibility gene *Atg16L1* induces intestinal pathologies in mice. This virus-plus-susceptibility gene interaction generated abnormalities in granule packaging and unique patterns of gene expression in Paneth cells. Further, the response to injury induced by the toxic substance dextran sodium sulfate was fundamentally altered to include pathologies resembling aspects of Crohn's disease. These pathologies triggered by virus-plus-susceptibility gene interaction were dependent on  $\text{TNF}\alpha$  and  $\text{IFN}\gamma$  and were prevented by treatment with broad spectrum antibiotics. Thus, we provide a specific example of how a virus-plus-susceptibility gene interaction can, in combination with additional environmental factors and commensal bacteria, determine the phenotype of hosts carrying common risk alleles for inflammatory disease.

 Graphical Abstract

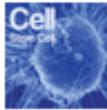
 PaperClip



## Social Media



- CellCellPress <http://twitter.com/CellCellPress>
- CellPressNews <http://twitter.com/CellPressNews>
- CellStemCell <http://twitter.com/CellStemCell>
- Trends\_Endo\_Met ([http://twitter.com/Trends\\_Endo\\_Met](http://twitter.com/Trends_Endo_Met))



**CellStemCell** Lively account of the race to publish on mouse and human iPSCs, from JSONline <http://bit.ly/9xvXbq>

3:35 PM Jul 22nd via web



**CellCellPress** Keep your finger on the pulse of p53 research! Check out Lahav et al.'s new paper on p53 waves during the cell cycle <http://bit.ly/awuPGJ>

5:47 PM Jul 16th via web from Kendall Square, Cambridge



**CellPressNews** New findings show that mice smell the scent of food on the breath of their fellow mice to decide what's safe to eat: <http://bit.ly/9cL2fx>

2:27 PM Jul 16th via web

Retweeted by you



**CellPressNews** This month in Neuron - free articles & reviews on Glia: Development, Plasticity, and Disease. <http://bit.ly/bV9c3r> (scroll down a bit!)

12:42 PM Jul 16th via web



**Trends\_Endo\_Met** What do you think? Endocrine Society statement on Avandia (rosiglitazone) <http://www.endo-society.org/>

12:24 PM Jul 15th via web



**CellCellPress** Cell research on NPR's Science Friday <http://bit.ly/98laoz> -McKnight describes chemicals that boost neuron survival <http://bit.ly/adIN9k>

6:25 PM Jul 13th via web from Kendall Square, Cambridge

Retweeted by you and 3 others



**CellPressNews** Lots going on w/ our Inflammation mtg Sept in Portugal! Program, Speaker Bios & Meet the Speakers event just announced <http://bit.ly/9cWOKd>

10:45 AM Jul 13th via web

Retweeted by you and 1 other

# Pros and cons of being an editor

## The good things:

- Exposure to a broad range of interesting science
- Remain close to research without actually doing it
- Job is intellectually rigorous and constantly challenging
- Varied interactions with the scientific community
- Producing a journal that I am proud of
- Great colleagues

## The not-so-good things:

- Workload is often high
- Can be quite stressful
- 'Jack of all trades, master of none'
- Rejecting articles



## How did I get here?



- MS, UNC-Charlotte, May 2002
  - *Preimplantation embryo development/role of NO*
- PhD, Vanderbilt University, October 2007
  - *FKBP52/PR signaling in early pregnancy*
- Post-doc, Vanderbilt University, May 2008
- Editor, TEM, June 2008 - present

## What we look for in an editor

- Broad interest in science
- Strong training in life science research
- Ability to think critically about papers
- Clear, reasoned opinions
- Ability to express opinions clearly in writing
- Diplomacy & people skills
- Ability to work to deadlines
- Team player

Language skills are obviously important for editors of review material and anyone involved in writing

## If you want to be an editor

- Get experience in different areas of science
- Attend seminars, journal clubs, conferences
- Think critically about papers you read
- Look at papers outside your field
- Get as much writing experience as you can
- Get involved in reviewing papers
- Go for an informational interview
- Look for job ads (e.g. [careers.cell.com](http://careers.cell.com))

## Different types of editorial work

- Scientific editor for research articles
- Editor for review/news material
- Managing editor: works with academic editors
- Book commissioning & editing
- Medical & technical writing
- Freelance writing & journalism



## Editorial work as a starting point

Promotion within the editorial team

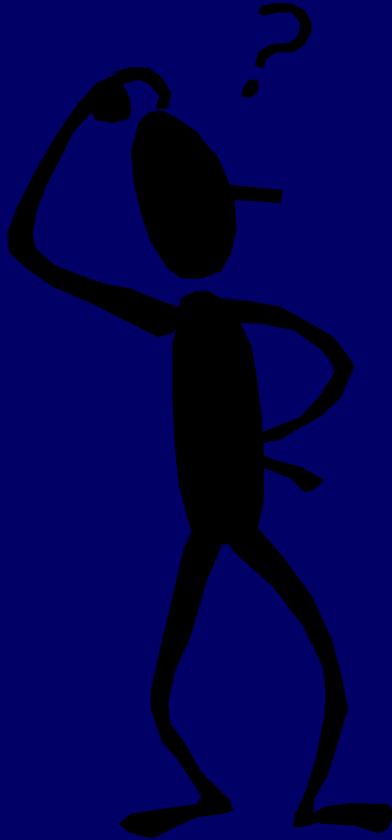
Moving into business/publishing roles

Administrative positions in academia or industry

Grants administration

Patent law, venture capital...

Freelancing



**Questions?**