

# Be one of the first

On 3 July 1880, “a weekly journal of scientific progress” published its first research articles under the banner *Science*. From that original print medium, the inaugural set of papers has been reprinted, photocopied, posted online, converted to PDF, and even etched in glass blocks to serve as special gifts. Being part of the vanguard is indeed a privilege, and opportunities to be one of the first are rare. For that reason, I proudly announce that *Science Advances*, a new open-access journal for all of the sciences, officially joins the *Science* family of journals (*Science*, *Science Translational Medicine*, and *Science Signaling*) and is now accepting submissions (go to [www.scienceadvances.org](http://www.scienceadvances.org)). In February 2015, the inaugural papers will be released, heralding the start of something big in scope, reach, and influence.

The publishing landscape has been changing rapidly, with many new options for disseminating research. In defining the scope of *Science Advances*, our vision is to provide a venue for publication that will allow authors across the entire range of scholarly pursuits—computer, engineering, environmental, life, mathematical, physical, and social sciences—to communicate to others beyond their disciplinary boundaries, and globally without limits, through open access. As the readers' time is valuable, the editors and reviewers will apply policies for peer review that are similar to those of *Science* to select the most important, noteworthy manuscripts for publication.

The complaint I hear most often from authors is that “*Science* doesn't publish enough” of their particular field of research. Indeed, *Science* is forced to turn away excellent research in all fields because of its limited space. At *Science Advances*, we can publish more of everything,

subject only to the quality of what is submitted. That makes *Science Advances* an excellent option for a manuscript for which you desire the selectivity and visibility of a top-tier journal and to reach the broadest possible audience, including readers outside of the academic community, through open access. Alternatively, *Science Advances* could be your choice if your paper involves a particularly broad multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary study, including, for example, engineering or social sciences,

which puts it beyond the scope of some other research journals. Finally, you might select *Science Advances* because you seek the reputation of the *Science* family, but your research is best represented in a longer format, integrating material that would otherwise be in a separate supplement.

The launch of *Science Advances* will see every article prominently highlighted on the journal's website and advanced to the public through press releases and social media. And we are pleased to offer a special publication rate to authors who submit their papers early.

The mission of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the nonprofit publisher of *Science Advances*, is to promote science for the benefit of all humankind. We challenge the scientific community to submit research that addresses the most important problems facing society, reaches across diverse fields to create successful partnerships, and provides

exciting and significant science advancement in any relevant discipline. I cannot begin to speculate about the many ways, 140 years from now, in which those inaugural papers will have been reproduced and spurred discovery and progress. We all believe that this is the start of something big.

– Marcia McNutt



Marcia McNutt  
Editor-in-Chief  
Science journals



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# Science

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Marcia McNutt

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