



**Editor-in-Chief, *Function*
The American Physiological Society**

[The American Physiological Society](#) (APS) invites nominations and applications for the position of founding Editor-in-Chief (EIC) of a new journal, *Function*.

THE JOURNAL CONCEPT

This new open access journal will provide a forum for the publication of papers with highest significance and quality in the broad area of biological function. As an interdisciplinary journal, *Function* will include major advances in basic, translational, and clinical science that extend the physiological understanding of biological function and changes associated with disease states. *Function* will embrace researchers studying systems biology, biochemistry, pharmacology, microbiology, immunology, and biomedical and tissue engineering. This novel high-tier journal will innovate in four key areas: professional society involvement, high caliber working scientists as editors, open access, and a multidisciplinary focus rooted in a physiological basis.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE JOURNAL CONCEPT

The concept of a high profile journal as a flagship part of the APS journal program was developed organically from the scientific editorial leadership of the Society. Following more than a year of concept development, extensive market research was carried out in summer of 2018, including a survey sent to over 27,000 society members and non-members. In the fall of 2018, the APS governing body unanimously approved the launch of *Function*. The Society is committed to fostering a broader community investigating biological function in health and disease. *Function* is a central piece in these efforts and the Society has made a major commitment to launching the journal.

EDITORIAL MODEL

Function will employ the highest standards of scientific rigor, time to decision and publication, and publishing innovations, the latter chosen to be of practical use to authors and readers. *Function* will be an open access, electronic journal that publishes original research and solicited perspectives and reviews, all based on the quality of the science.

THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ROLE

The Society seeks for this position a highly regarded, internationally recognized scientist, who is an active researcher in biomedical science and who will be passionate about *Function*. The EIC will be motivated to be the primary ambassador for *Function* and solicit the best science from leading colleagues to be published in the journal. The EIC will be a bold and gifted leader with proven editorial experience. The EIC will have high standards, a broad scientific perspective, and a deep passion for biomedical research and biomedical research literature.

This is a four-year term appointment with the potential for reappointment for an additional two-year term, with the appointment time starting at journal launch.

Editor-in-Chief Responsibilities

The EIC's responsibilities will include:

Pre-journal launch

- Appoint an editorial team that may include a deputy editor-in-chief and associate editors
- With the advice of the deputy editor-in-chief and associate editors, appoint an editorial board of research scientists and clinicians across the broad discipline base of the journal
- Review, refine, and establish the key editorial processes of the journal
- Actively solicit manuscripts for the journal
- Write an editorial for the first issue, introducing the journal

Pre- and post-journal launch

- Serve as an ambassador for the journal, including:
 - actively solicit manuscripts
 - travel on behalf of the journal
 - other promotional efforts on behalf of the journal, such as press interviews
- Evaluate peer review process to establish and achieve highest standards of scientific quality and editorial decisions
- Manage associate editors to define and maintain standards for selecting manuscripts for publication and providing a positive author experience
- Set editorial policy and procedures for the journal in consultation with the deputy editor, associate editors, and the APS Publications Committee and Chief Publishing Officer
- Participate in assessment of publication ethics matters of serious concern, as these arise in the journal, as part of a team with the APS Publications Chair, Chief Publishing Officer, and Publications Director). *Note: The Society has a robust and efficient process to*

address publications ethics violations, managed by the Ethics Publications Director. The process is guided by the principles established by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), of which the Society is a member.

- Attend and chair in-person meetings for *Function* deputy and associate editors
- Attend annual meeting of the APS Publications Committee with the other society journal editors-in-chief
- Report journal progress, requests, and concerns to the APS Publications Committee
- Work with the APS Publications Chair, Chief Publishing Officer, and the publishing partner as a resource for policy and procedure

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF SUPPORT

The Society and its publishing partner will actively support the EIC and team with highly experienced staff throughout the publishing process: from solicitation of manuscripts, through peer review and ongoing publication. The EIC and team will have a travel budget and robust honoraria in addition to substantial support for new initiatives to help establish and maintain a uniquely author-responsive high impact journal. The Society and publisher will support the journal with a significant level of marketing and promotion campaigns carried out via all channels, both pre- and post-launch of the journal. APS recognizes the significant role that carefully planned and timed promotion will play, with carefully crafted and nuanced messaging.

KEY OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

Set the strategy and build *Function*

The EIC will be empowered to refine the editorial course for *Function*. Building upon APS's foundational concept, the EIC will design and execute a visionary plan for the journal, recruiting an internationally recognized editorial board, supporting a massive marketing effort driven by the Society and the publisher prior to and following the launch of the journal, and developing and managing the editorial team's review process with the highest standards of professionalism, rigor, and ethics. The EIC has complete editorial freedom, while adhering to a high standard of ethics and abiding by legal parameters.

Attract the best science to compete with other prestigious journals

The EIC will successfully inspire others with similar stature as acclaimed scientists to publish their work in *Function*. The EIC will endeavor to attract the attention of a diverse group of authors who have many options as to where to publish their highest quality papers.

Create awareness of *Function*

The EIC will serve as the primary public face of the new journal in a wide array of settings. The EIC will be enthusiastic about the journal and the important new niche it will provide for high-

profile publication in biological sciences with a physiological basis. The EIC will actively seek opportunities to build awareness of and drive interest towards *Function*.

Projected Launch Timing

All things associated with *Function* are ambitious and bold: the Society plans to launch the journal ideally in the first quarter of 2020. This timing is best suited to attract the most attention and earliest citations.

QUALIFICATIONS AND CHARACTERISTICS

The successful candidate will embody the following qualifications and attributes:

- MD, PhD, or MD/PhD (or equivalent)
- Distinguished record of academic achievement, research, and scholarship in biomedical sciences
- An excellent international reputation that extends beyond physiology
- Abundant enthusiasm and energy to take on the EIC role and build the journal
- Editorial experience with a rigorously peer reviewed journal
- Outstanding oral and written communication skills
- Exceptional interpersonal skills, including collegiality and collaboration
- High, demonstrated standard of professional integrity and strong sense of professional ethics; an understanding of scientific research and publication ethics
- Strong time management skills
- Effective manager who can delegate responsibility

APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS

The American Physiological Society has engaged Isaacson, Miller, a national executive search firm, to assist in the search. Nominations, inquiries, and applications (including a CV and cover letter) should be sent in confidence to Amy Segal and Robin Dougherty via <http://www.imsearch.com/6949>. In the letter please describe your interest in the position, your vision for the long and short term impact of *Function* – including the value it may add to biomedical research literature, the amount of time you would be able to commit to the role, and why you believe your professional experiences (as a scientist and an editor) prepares you for the role.

ABOUT APS

The American Physiological Society (APS) is a nonprofit devoted to fostering education, scientific research, and dissemination of information in the physiological sciences. Established in 1887, APS was the first US society established in the biomedical sciences field. The Society represents more than 10,500 members and publishes [15 peer-reviewed journals](#) with a worldwide

readership. APS is governed by an elected Council consisting of a President, President-Elect, Past President, and nine Councilors. The headquarters of the Society is based in Rockville, Maryland.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EEO) STATEMENT

APS does not discriminate in hiring or employment on the basis of race, color, age, religion, sex, national origin, mental and/or physical disability, sexual orientation, veteran status or any other category protected by applicable law. APS promotes equal opportunity for all qualified individuals in all categories of employment at the organization. APS ensures non-discriminatory practices in all matters relating to recruiting, hiring, training, compensation, benefits, promotions, demotions, transfers, and all other terms and conditions of employment. Prohibited conduct includes harassment, retaliation, coercion, interference, or intimidation of any employee due to his or her protected characteristic.