

Instructions to Authors of *Journal of Proteome Research*

(Revised May 2016)

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Scope

The *Journal of Proteome Research* (JPR) publishes content encompassing all aspects of global protein analysis and function, including the dynamic aspects of genomics, spatio-temporal proteomics, clinical and agricultural proteomics, metabolomics/metabonomics, advances in proteomics methodology, and informatics. The theme and emphasis is on a multifaceted approach to studying the life sciences through the synergy among the different types of “omics.”

Research manuscripts can be submitted as Articles, Letters, Perspectives, Technical Notes, Tutorials, Rapid Communications, and Reviews.

Research Manuscripts

Common to All

Correspondence to the Editor-in-Chief should be addressed to: John R. Yates, III, Editor-in-Chief, *Journal of Proteome Research*, Department of Chemical Physiology, The Scripps Research Institute, 10550 North Torrey Pines Road, La Jolla, CA 92037 (Telephone: 858-784-8862; Fax: 858-784-8883; E-mail: eic@jpr.acs.org).

Manuscripts must be submitted electronically via the ACS Paragon Plus Environment. Instructions and an overview of the submission process are available (<http://paragonplus.acs.org/login>), and optional electronic manuscript templates are available in several word processing versions (<http://pubs.acs.org/page/jprobs/submission/authors.html>). If the template is not used, manuscripts must be prepared with a word processor and be double-spaced. All pages must be numbered. Author(s) should consult *The ACS Style Guide*, available [online](#).

The *Journal of Proteome Research* publishes papers without page or color charges to authors.

A properly completed and signed Journal Publishing Agreement must be submitted for each manuscript. ACS Paragon Plus provides an electronic version of the Agreement that will be available on the My Authoring Activity tab of the Corresponding Author's home page once the manuscript has been assigned to an Editor. A PDF version of the Agreement is also available, but author(s) are strongly encouraged to use the electronic Journal Publishing Agreement. If the PDF version is used, all pages of the signed PDF Agreement must be submitted. If the Corresponding Author cannot or should not complete either the electronic or PDF version for any reason, another author should complete and sign the PDF version of the

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Author List. The submitting author must provide contact information (full name, e-mail address, institutional affiliation, and mailing address) for all of the co-authors. The author who submits the manuscript for publication accepts the responsibility of notifying all co-authors that the manuscript is being submitted. Because all of the author names are automatically imported into the electronic Journal Publishing Agreement, the names must be entered into ACS Paragon Plus in the same sequence as they appear on the first page of the manuscript. (Note that co-authors are not required to register in ACS Paragon Plus.) Deletion/Addition of an author after a manuscript has been submitted requires a confirming letter to the Editor-in-Chief from both the corresponding author and the author whose name is being deleted/added. For more information on ethical responsibilities of authors, see the [Ethical Guidelines to Publication of Chemical Research](#).

Research Content Requirement. For a manuscript to be considered for review, the author(s) must report on biologically-significant research findings or document novelty in methodology or software in the analysis of complex biological samples. In addition to full content review, manuscripts are subjected to screening for the inclusion of sufficient information about the procedures used for mass spectrometry and data analysis. Author(s) and reviewer(s) are encouraged to consider the guidelines governing the submission of mass spectrometric data including the analysis and documentation of peptide and protein identifications.

Manuscript Types

Articles may focus on any phase of proteome research, including sample preparation, separation, characterization, and analysis of proteins (including informatics), as well as the development of new methodologies. Articles that focus on computational methods and data processing (e.g., informatics) will be judged by the usual criteria of originality, technical content, and value to the field. Detailed mathematical derivations, computation procedures, and programs should be presented as Supporting Information or accessible via a reliable third-part site (i.e. SourceForge, BitBucket, and GitHub). If the research involves the use of human or animal samples, the author(s) must have appropriate approval from their institutions and must conform to commonly practiced ethical standards. The [Ethical Guidelines to Publication of Chemical Research](#) includes information required from authors submitting manuscripts that involve human or animal samples.

Letters are opinion pieces related to the field of proteomics. Letters can be supported by brief descriptions of scientific data and references.

Perspectives present the author(s)' view of a new direction in proteome research. They are not intended to be accounts or analyses of an individual's personal research. Author(s) are encouraged to suggest experts in the field who can review their Perspectives manuscript. Because only a limited number of Perspectives will be published, the Editor-in-Chief recommends author(s) to send a presubmission inquiry to eic@jpr.acs.org.

Rapid Communications are concise accounts of work that are especially time-sensitive. To expedite the handling of these manuscripts, author(s) should contact the EIC office with a presubmission inquiry providing an explanation why their manuscript should be considered as a Rapid Communication.

Reviews are to be comprehensive, critical accounts of work in selected areas of the proteome research literature; they will be peer-reviewed. Reviews should increase the readers' knowledge through discriminating comparisons and insightful organization of the material. A mere listing of literature citations with descriptive comments is inadequate. Criteria for acceptability include current importance of the field under review, thoroughness of the literature coverage, and clarity of text. Reviews on proteomics or metabolomics studies of uncharacterized natural products will not be accepted. Author(s) should send a presubmission inquiry to the EIC office.

Technical Notes are brief descriptions of novel instrumentation methodologies or software advances. The advantage(s) of the new instrumentation methodologies or software advancement over those already available must be clearly demonstrated.

Tutorials are articles that provide basic instructions on proteomics techniques, with the aim of teaching the reader how to accomplish a specific application. Tutorials are narrower in scope than Reviews but must still cover the relevant background of the topic. Tutorials cover timely topics but do not necessarily present new data. Although many Tutorials are invited, unsolicited submissions will be considered.

*For informatics manuscripts, please refer to a [2015 Perspective](#) outlining proposed recommendations for organizing manuscripts to set appropriate expectations for readers and reviewers.

Manuscript Format

Word-Processing Details

Manuscripts prepared with accepted software packages will be used for production. For a list of currently acceptable word-processing packages, please refer to the guidelines presented at <http://paragonplus.acs.org>.

Research Article Format

Title. Titles should clearly and concisely reflect the emphasis and content of the paper. Titles are of great importance for current awareness and information retrieval and should be carefully constructed for these purposes.

Authorship. Be consistent in author designation; supply first name, middle initial, and last name for complete identification. At least one author must be designated with an asterisk as the author to whom correspondence should be addressed; telephone number and e-mail must be listed for the Corresponding Author. Contact information must be included for all others listed on the manuscript during submission.

Note: The author names listed in (1) the manuscript, (2) ACS Paragon Plus, and (3) the Journal Publishing Agreement must be identical to each other. With very few exceptions, requests for changes or additions of authors will not be approved after acceptance of a manuscript by the Editor-in-Chief.

Abstract. All manuscripts must contain an Abstract (200 words maximum) that should briefly state the purpose of the research, principal results, and major conclusions.

Keywords. Please provide keywords to help categorize the manuscript. Author(s) should supply no more than 10 keywords per manuscript.

General Organization. All sections of the manuscript must be presented in a clear and concise manner. Indicate the breakdown among and within sections with appropriate headers. Results and Discussion follows the Experimental Section. Examples of formats for each manuscript type: [Articles](#), [Letters](#), [Perspectives](#), [Rapid Communications](#), [Reviews](#), [Technical Notes](#), and [Tutorials](#).

Introduction. The Introduction should state the purpose of the investigation and should include appropriate citations of relevant, precedent work but should not include an extensive review of marginally related literature. If the manuscript describes a new or improved method, a clear comparison with existing methods must be provided (including appropriate literature citations).

Experimental Section. Use complete sentences (i.e., do not use outline or bullet-point format). Be consistent in voice and tense. For instrumentation, list only devices of a specialized nature. List and describe preparation of special materials only. Do not list materials normally found in the laboratory or

preparations described in standard handbooks and texts. A subsection may be added listing the sources for specialized chemicals/reagents. Because methods are intended as instructions to permit work to be repeated by others, give adequate details of critical steps. Very detailed procedures should be presented in a Supporting Information section and author(s) should consider the guidelines for mass spectrometric data. Describe in detail all safety considerations, including procedures that are hazardous or require special precautions and reagents that are toxic so that laboratory workers who repeat the experiments can take appropriate safety measures.

Results and Discussion. The results may be presented in tables or figures; however, many simple findings can be described directly in the text with no need for tables or figures. The discussion should be concise and present an interpretation of the results. In most cases, combining results and discussion in a single section will give a clearer, more compact presentation.

Conclusions. Use the Conclusions section only for interpretation and not to summarize information already presented in the text.

References. References to notes/comments and to the permanent literature should be numbered in one consecutive series at the end of the manuscript by order of mention in the text; use superscript numbers without parentheses. Use *Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index* abbreviations for journal names and use *The ACS Style Guide, 3rd ed.* (ACS: Washington, DC, 2006) for the appropriate style to use in citations of journal papers, books, and other publications. For literature references, authors should include full titles of journal articles and book chapters. In the Web edition of the paper, references will be linked to various electronic sources (the corresponding abstract from Chemical Abstracts Service, full text from other ACS journals, etc.); therefore, the accuracy of the references is critical. Author(s) are responsible for the accuracy of the references.

List submitted articles as “in press” *only* if formally accepted for publication and give the volume number and year, if known. Otherwise, use “unpublished work” with the name of the institution where the work was completed and the date. Include name, affiliation, and date for “personal communications.” For work published online (e.g., ASAP, Just Accepted, in press), the DOI should be furnished in addition to the standard bibliographic information.

Examples of the reference format:

For journals:

- (1) Maher, A. D.; Hayes, B.; Cocks, B.; Marett, L.; Wales, W. J.; Rochfort, S. J. Latent biochemical relationships in the blood-milk metabolic axis of dairy cows revealed by statistical integration of ¹H NMR spectroscopic data. *J. Proteome Res.* **2013**, 12, 1428–1435.

For books:

- (2) Morris, R. *The Last Sorcerers: The Path from Alchemy to the Periodic Table*; Joseph Henry Press: Washington, DC, 2003; pp 145–158.

For book chapters:

- (3) Fierke, C. A.; Hammes, G. G. Transient Kinetic Approaches to Enzyme Mechanisms. In *Contemporary Enzyme Kinetics and Mechanism*, 2nd ed.; Purich, D., Ed.; Academic Press: New York, 1996; pp 1–35.

For journal articles published online ahead of issue placement, the DOI should be used:

- (4) Mata, M. M.; da Silva, W. P.; Wilson, R.; Lowe, E. K.; Bowman, J. P. Attached and planktonic *Listeria monocytogenes* global proteomic responses and associated influence of strain genetics and temperature. *J. Proteome Res.* **2015**, DOI: 10.1021/pr501114e.

Acknowledgments. Author(s) may acknowledge technical assistance, gifts, the source of special materials, financial support, meeting presentation information, and the auspices under which work was done, including permission to publish. During manuscript submission, the submitting author is asked to select funding sources from the list of agencies included in the FundRef Registry <http://www.crossref.org/fundref/>.

If the article is dedicated to another scholar, a brief statement, such as “This article is dedicated to [name]” can be included.

Statements about author contributions to the work or equal contributions of work should be included as a separate statement.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure. A statement describing any financial conflicts of interest or lack thereof is published with each manuscript. During the submission process, the corresponding author must indicate the status of conflicts if they exist on behalf of all authors of the manuscript. The statement should describe all potential sources of bias, including affiliations, funding sources, and financial or management relationships, that may constitute conflicts of interest (please see the [ACS Ethical Guidelines](#)). The statement will be published in the final article. If no conflict of interest is declared, the following statement will be published in the article: “The authors declare no competing financial interest.”

Figures and Tables

To facilitate the publication process, please submit manuscript graphics using the following guidelines:

Embed figures at publishable resolution and tables within the manuscript text, near their first mention. It is not required to include copies at the end of the manuscript. When inserting illustrations in the manuscript, author(s) should follow the web instructions for manuscript preparation. For additional guidelines, see “[Working with Graphics in Document Templates](#).” For best results, graphics should be submitted in the actual size at which they should appear in the PDF version of the paper (must fit a one- or two-column format on the Journal page). Original graphics that do not need to be reduced to fit a single or double column will yield the best quality. Please note that the quality of the final illustrations depends on the quality of the original artwork provided. Figures cannot be modified or enhanced by the journal production staff.

Figures should be sequentially numbered; schemes and charts may have titles and footnotes; figures should have legends. A list of figure legends should precede the figures at the end of the document.

Artwork should be constructed in keeping with the journal column widths - one column (preferred): maximum of 8.3 cm (3.3 in); two columns: minimum of 10.5 cm (4.1 in) and maximum of 17.8 cm (7 in); total height for one or two columns: 22.9 cm (9.0 in). [Examples](#). Digital graphics pasted into manuscripts should have the following minimum resolutions: Black and white line art 1200 dpi; Grayscale art 600 dpi; Color art 300 dpi.

In preparing artwork, ensure that

- the lettering is 4.5 pt or larger and is in Helvetica or Arial font
- the lines are no thinner than 0.5 pt
- the lettering and the lines are of uniform density

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Tables should be numbered consecutively and should be grouped at the end of the document. Each table should include a descriptive title and a detailed legend. When formatting a table, author(s) are requested to keep in mind the type area of the journal page (17.8 × 25.0 cm; 7.0 × 9.8 in) and the column width (8.5 cm; 3.3 in) and to make tables conform to the limitations of these dimensions.

Table of Contents (TOC)/Abstract (ABS) Graphic

The *Journal of Proteome Research* features a graphical representation for all manuscript types except Additions/Corrections. The TOC and ABS graphic are the same image and sized the same. Read [guidelines](#) for specific details. The graphic file will be reproduced at 100% of the submission size and should be saved as a TIFF file at 300 dpi for color and at 1200 dpi for black and white. This graphic is used for multiple purposes, including the document abstract graphic and other situations where a representative graphic is required. This graphic should give the reader a quick visual representation of the essence of the paper without providing specific details. The best images for these uses are simple, relatively free of text and technical characters, and make use of color for visual impact. Provide the TOC graphic as the last page of the submitted manuscript, labeled as “for TOC only” or as separate file.

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File name. Brief description of contents.

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Nomenclature should conform to current American usage. Insofar as possible, authors should use systematic names similar to those used by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and the Chemical Abstracts Service. Chemical Abstracts nomenclature rules are described in the *Chemical Abstracts Index Guide*. For Chemical Abstracts nomenclature questions, contact CAS Client Services, 2540 Olentangy River Rd., P.O. Box 3343, Columbus, OH 43210-0334; Telephone: 614-447-3870; Fax: 614-447-3747; E-mail: answers@cas.org.

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General information about ACS publications is given in *The ACS Style Guide* (2006), available from Oxford University Press, Order Department, 201 Evans Rd., Cary, NC 27513. Updated instructions are available at the Author & Reviewer Resource Center homepage at <http://pubs.acs.org/4authors>.

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Submission

Author(s) must submit the following material as separate files: Manuscript File (as a single file with figures, tables, and captions); cover letter; Supporting Information for Publication, if applicable; and additional materials for review, if needed (submit as Supporting Information for Review Only). A manuscript PDF File is required. Authors may upload their own PDF version of the manuscript or the submission system will generate one. This file will be used during the peer review process and as the Just Accepted version. Author(s) must view and approve the PDF version of their manuscript prior to formal submission to the Editor. Author(s) should review the journal's instructions for preparing manuscripts before submission. Close attention to all of the required details will expedite the review process and reduce the time to publication.

Cover Letter. A letter must accompany the submission, and it should contain the following elements: the name of the Corresponding Author and that person's complete contact information (mailing address, phone, and email); the name(s) of any other author(s); the full manuscript title; a statement of why the paper is appropriate for *Journal of Proteome Research*; and a description of any Supporting Information for Publication and/or for Review Only Material. Additionally, author(s) should note any length issues, whether the manuscript was discussed with an Editor before submission, and other issues important for the review process.

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Publication

Just Accepted Manuscripts (JAMs)

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