Special Issue

Polarization in Cell

Message from the Guest Editor

Almost all cells are spatially asymmetric, i.e., they are polarized. The focus of this Special Issue is on eukaryotes, even though most prokaryote and archaea cells also have polarity. We have learned a great deal about cell polarity from studying single cell eukaryotes, especially the yeast S. cerevisiae. Many of the molecular mechanisms of polarity that are reviewed in this Special Issue, such as the exocyst, were first discovered in S. cerevisiae.

Cell polarity plays an especially important role in metazoa, i.e., multicellular animals. Cells in metazoa are organized into tissues. The most basic type of tissue in animals is epithelial tissue, in which epithelial cells are arranged in a monolayer of cells that forms a barrier separating two compartments. An outer layer of epithelium covers the outside of the organism, such as the epidermis in mammals. In almost all cases, these epithelial cells are highly polarized, and much of this volume is focused on epithelial cells, both because their polarity has been very well examined and because of their relevance to human medicine.

For further reading, please visit the Special Issue website.

Guest Editor

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Cells has become a solid international scientific journal that is now indexed on SCIE and in other databases. We have successfully introduced a special issues format so that these issues serve as mini-forums in specific areas of cell science. *Cells* encourages researchers to suggest new special issues, serve as special issues editors, and volunteer to be reviewers. Our main focus will remain on cell anatomy and physiology, the structure and function of organelles, cell adhesion and motility, and the regulation of intracellular signaling, growth, differentiation, and aging. We are open to both original research papers and reviews.

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