

Title: A New Day for *Human Immunology*

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The journal *Human Immunology* has a long history, dating back to 1980, of publishing top quality research on the role of the MHC in diseases and transplantation. Reading the original aims and scope of the journal in the context of the past 36 years of advances shows just how much our field and our journal have grown:

*Human Immunology* provides communication about the regulation and control of immune responsiveness and how failures of these functions result in disease. Since the major histocompatibility complex (MHC) is central to many of these processes, principal emphasis will be on the role of components of this “supergene” in diseases. Full-length articles, critical reviews and commentaries, brief communications, and technical procedures will be considered for publication covering basic mechanisms, applications to disease processes, and technical developments, in the following categories:

Genetic regulation of immune responsiveness, especially those responses centered around the MHC.

Structure, distribution, differentiation, and function, including collaboration and interaction of the gene products of the MHC.

Factors leading to the maintenance of linkage disequilibrium in and around the supergene.

Applications of such studies to various clinical processes or to the pathogenesis of infectious metabolic, autoaggressive, and other disease states.

Technical and procedural advances in the fields of histocompatibility and cellular immunology.

Since *Human Immunology* began, our science has progressed immeasurably, with new methods leading to discoveries of genes and molecules we could barely have imagined back then. These advances necessitated an occasional broadening of the aims and scope to keep the journal relevant and current. The last revision occurred between 2006 and 2007 under the extraordinary leadership of Dr. Nicole Suci-Foca. A decade later and with a new editorial team in place, it seemed appropriate to revisit the aims and scope.

The section editors and I started by looking at the current *Human Immunology* aims and scope as well as those from similar journals. We were able to get a sense of the style we wanted and the topics we did and didn't want to cover. After numerous rounds of editing, we finally arrived at the new version, which can be found on the inside cover of your print copy or on the *Human Immunology* [home page](#).

We hope that we have sufficiently broadened the scope to include current interests such as bioinformatics, pharmacogenomics, vascularized composite allografts, epitope definition, etc., while at the same time focusing it on the genes and proteins involved in the immune response. We also tried to strike a balance between the clinical sciences and the basic sciences; i.e. to include both histocompatibility and immunogenetics. This is intended to encourage submissions of more of the types of articles desired by the editors and readers of *Human Immunology*.

On that subject, there is also this sentence at the end of the editorial written by the first editors-in-chief, D. Bernard Amos and Glenn Rodey:

The information contained will provide clinician, clinical investigator, laboratory investigator, student, and technician with the most up to date compendium of information about the HLA and related systems.

This serves as an important reminder that, as the flagship publication of the American Society for Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics (ASHI), it is important for *Human Immunology* to meet the needs of all members of the society and its sister societies around the world, as well as others who are interested in the immune system, particularly in the context of the MHC and related molecules.

I encourage all readers to submit their own research articles, brief communications and short population reports so that *Human Immunology* can continue to provide the highest quality literature and advance the sciences of immunology, histocompatibility and immunogenetics.