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In celebration of MBoC’s first 20 years, the cover montage includes images of 20 different organisms to highlight the diversity of the cell biology featured in the journal’s pages:

1. Tetrahymena (July 1, 2011, cover; image by Tyson Vanderfecht)
2. Amoeba proteus (Joseph Leidy’s 1879 drawing from Fresh-water Rhizopods of North America; reproduced on the May 1993 cover)
3. Strongylocentrotus purpuratus embryo (image courtesy of Homayoun Vaziri; see Mol Biol Cell 20:464–480)
4. Arabidopsis thaliana (Aug. 1, 2010, cover; image by Ram Dixit)
5. Chlamydomonas reinhardtii (from Fan Z-C et al., Mol Biol Cell 15:2696–2706, Figure 2)
6. Aspergillus nidulans (Jan. 15, 2009, cover; image by Nadine Zekert)
7. Caenorhabditis elegans (Jan. 15, 2010, cover; image by Morwenna Y. Porter)
8. Dicyostelium discoideum (Feb. 1, 2012, cover; image by Shi Shu)
10. Escherichia coli (image obtained from The Cell: An Image Library\textsuperscript{TM} and used by permission of the Society for Cell Biology; image by KENPEI; image courtesy of Anthony Cormier)
11. Homo sapiens (HeLa cells; August 15, 2011, cover; image by Budi Utama and Shujuan Pan)
13. Drosophila melanogaster (from Neubueser and Hipfner, Mol Biol Cell 21:2869–2879, Figure 7)
15. Xenopus laevis (image by KENPEI; http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Xenopus_laevis_var_albino.jpg)
16. Schizosaccharomyces pombe (Feb. 15, 2009, cover; image by Chen Chun Pai)
18. Saccharomyces cerevisiae (image courtesy of Anthony Cormier)
19. Mouse (April 15, 2012, cover; image by Isabella Manni and Gabriele Toietta)

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The Philosophy of Molecular Biology of the Cell
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The Society and MBoC are committed to promoting the concept of open access to the scientific literature. MBoC seeks to facilitate communication among scientists by:

- publishing original papers that include full documentation of Methods and Results, with Introductions and Discussions that frame questions and interpret findings clearly (even for those outside an immediate circle of expertise);
- exploiting technical advances to enable rapid dissemination of articles prior to print publication and transmission and archiving of videos, large datasets, and other materials that enhance understanding; and
- making all content freely accessible via the Internet only 2 months after publication.

Statement of Scope
MBoC publishes studies presenting conceptual advances of broad interest and significance within all areas of cell biology, genetics, and developmental biology. Studies whose scope bridges several areas of cell and developmental biology are particularly encouraged. MBoC aims to publish papers describing substantial research progress in full: Papers should include all previously unpublished data and methods essential to support the conclusions drawn. MBoC will not, in general, publish papers that are narrow in scope and therefore better suited to more specialized journals, merely confirmatory, preliminary reports of partially completed or incompletely documented research, findings of as yet uncertain significance, or reports simply documenting well-known processes in organisms or cell types not previously studied. Methodological studies will be considered only when some new result of biological significance has been achieved or when introduction of the method will significantly accelerate progress within a field.

Note that MBoC places a premium on research articles that present conceptual advances of wide interest or deep mechanistic understanding of important cellular processes. As such, articles dealing principally with describing behavior or modification of specific transcription factors, or analysis of the promoter elements through which they interact, will not generally be considered unless accompanied by information supporting in vivo relevance or broad significance.