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Editor-in-Chief for *FEMS Microbiology Reviews*

The Federation of European Microbiological Societies (FEMS) is looking for an Editor-in-Chief to join its prestigious journal *FEMS Microbiology Reviews*, for an initial period of three years, starting in January 2026, with the possibility of extending the term.

About FEMS and the Journal

The Federation of European Microbiological Societies (FEMS) is a global network of over 50 Member Microbiology Societies from 38 countries, connecting with 30,000 individual microbiologists. FEMS is a not-for-profit organization consisting of passionate volunteers from across Europe and a dedicated staff based in the Netherlands, and it publishes seven journals across the full scope of microbiology, in partnership with Oxford University Press.

FEMS Microbiology Reviews publishes in depth reviews dealing with all aspects of microbiology. *FEMS Microbiology Reviews* provides comprehensive, critical and authoritative coverage, and the journal is seeking to grow its role further into thought leadership within microbiology, and support FEMS more broadly in its mission to achieve positive impact through disseminating important science.

Role and Responsibilities of the Editor-in-Chief

Summary

The Editor-in-Chief will be part of the senior editorial team, and will work with the wider editorial team, the FEMS publications team, and the FEMS publisher, Oxford University Press, to strengthen the journal's place as a venue for publishing thought leadership.

Role Details and Responsibilities

The primary responsibilities of the Editor-in-Chief are to provide editorial leadership and strategic stewardship of the journal and to guide the journal's editorial direction.

In fulfilling these responsibilities, the Editor-in-Chief ensures the journal's content fulfils the journal vision, provides value to its readership, and reflects the highest standards of scientific value and integrity. The Editor-in-Chief also has shared responsibility to ensure journal operations are conducted in accordance with industry standards and best ethical and publishing practices.

The initial tenure for this position is a three-year term. This is a volunteer role, although the successful candidate will be awarded an honorarium in recognition of their contribution.

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In overseeing the journal's content and operations, the Editor-in-Chief's specific shared responsibilities are as follows:

- Work closely with FEMS on journal vision, setting priorities, and working to leverage the journal to further FEMS's mission
- Develop a refreshed plan for the journal to maximise its position as an important venue for microbiology
- Ensure that all reviews accepted for publication have undergone rigorous, objective, and timely peer review
- Enrol and maintain an active, well respected, and technically competent Editorial Board whose members reflect geographical, demographic and cultural diversity and multidisciplinary expertise across the range of disciplines.
- Support the Editors in their roles as required
- Maintain recognized standards of high quality and ethical practice for scholarly publications in line with the COPE guidelines
- Work with Editors to enrol and maintain qualified reviewers with diverse areas of expertise to consistently contribute to the peer review process
- Communicate clearly, effectively, promptly, and courteously with authors, reviewers, editors, editorial advisors, and journal staff.
- Handle disputes, conflicts of interest, and allegations of misconduct promptly, courteously, confidentially, and in accordance with recognized guidelines and best practices, seeking counsel on serious matters from FEMS and the journal's Publisher.
- Ensure active engagement of the journal's Editorial Board through regular communication and routine review of board members' performance.

Application Process

Applications should be addressed to Sam Burrell, FEMS Interim Executive Publisher (sam.burrell@fems-microbiology.org), with your CV and a letter of motivation.

If you have any questions and / or would like to talk to the publications team at FEMS before applying, please get in touch at the same email address.

Ideally the Editor-in-Chief will be in post before the end of December. Candidates will be interviewed on a rolling basis so early submissions of interest and applications are encouraged. Candidates will be interviewed via Zoom.