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Recognition of the importance of RNA in many biological processes has increased dramatically in recent years. The discoveries of catalytic RNA, non-coding regulatory RNAs, and RNA interference involve a broad range of disciplines. There is growing appreciation that mRNA molecules act not only as intermediates between DNA and protein, but as important agents of gene regulation, localization and quality control. Large-scale genomic analyses have identified numerous genes encoding RNA-binding proteins whose biological functions are yet unknown, and have revealed previously undiscovered, functional non-coding RNA. In addition, RNAs, RNA-binding proteins, and their interactions are increasingly recognized as important in health and disease. Progress in understanding the biological functions of RNA requires that investigators are up to date in the advances of many fields. The journal *RNA Biology* brings together research in diverse disciplines and focus attention on biological processes having RNA or RNA-binding proteins in a central role. In addition, *RNA Biology* will be an important forum for the emerging fields of RNA genomics and the cell biology of RNA.

Original papers in *RNA Biology* represent a wide range of experimental systems, both prokaryotic and eukaryotic, and experimental approaches, including molecular and cell biology, biochemistry, genetics, genomics, and molecular medicine. Reviews highlight progress and discuss current thinking on RNA biology in a format accessible to a wide academic audience.

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