

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Biological Journal of the Linnean Society
Call for applications

THE LINNEAN SOCIETY

The Linnean Society of London is the world's oldest active society devoted to 'the cultivation of the science of natural history in all its branches'. Today, we publish a variety of journals relevant to our sector, and deliver a range of education, public engagement and heritage programmes.

Specifically, the journals are: *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*; *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society*; *Zoological Journal of the Linnean Society*; and the recently launched open access *Evolutionary Journal of the Linnean Society*. They are all published on the Society's behalf by Oxford University Press (OUP).

All of the activities of the Linnean Society support our vision of a world where nature is understood, valued and protected. We welcome a wide diversity of nature enthusiasts to become Fellows, Associate and Student members, as participants, advocates and supporters of the work we undertake.

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The Linnean Society welcomes applications for the role of Editor-in-Chief of the *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*, which publishes papers concerned with organismal biology, ecology, and evolution in the broadest sense. It especially encourages submissions that cut across traditional boundaries of taxonomy and topic. The journal succeeds the Proceedings of the Society, in which Darwin and Wallace published [their seminal papers in 1858](#).

Applications can be made directly, and nominations of others will also be considered. This appointment is for a fixed three-year period, with an expected start date of early September 2023. It will also be expected that the successful applicant will make themselves available to shadow the existing Editor-in-Chief, Professor John Allen, from March/April 2023 to the end of August 2023 to enable a smooth transition.

We are especially interested in finding a creative individual who will work with us to facilitate the future development of the journal, and who possesses the appropriate

networks and communication skills to ensure that the journal thrives at the international level. Mindful of EDI (equality, diversity and inclusion) principles, the new Editor-in-Chief will continue to ensure a diversity of authors and editorial board members, and will be committed to widening access to research to a broader community of all those interested in protecting nature.

Among the duties of the Editor-in-Chief will be to work with the Society to review the scope of the journal in line with the growing portfolio of Linnean Society journals.

The Editor-in-Chief will be supported by an Editorial Office, which will manage all the journal's online systems, processes and relationships to ensure that the journal is published in a timely manner and adheres to the highest editorial standards.

The Editor-in-Chief will receive an honorarium of £15,000 per year (plus up to £1,000 in travel expenses for the purpose of attending conferences to publicise the journal).

Responsibilities include:

- Leading on the development and delivery of an ambitious vision and strategic direction for the *Biological Journal*.
- Defining and maintaining high quality editorial standards and policies, in cooperation with the editorial board of the journal, the Publisher, and the Linnean Society Editorial Committee and Engagement Team.
- Reviewing the scope of the journal in consultation with the Society.
- Maintaining and developing a talented, diverse and international editorial board, including providing guidance to associate editors and advising on new associate editors as needed.
- Continuing to expand the author and reviewer pools to include a diversity of perspectives, both in terms of international scope and in the inclusion of underrepresented groups.
- Working with the Editors-in-Chief across the Society's four journals to produce imaginatively themed and multi-disciplinary special issues that attract new and wider interest in the journals.
- Overseeing the peer review process and delivering decisions to authors in a timely manner.
- Promoting the journal at conferences, through professional networks and on social media to increase its visibility and encourage submissions.
- Writing editorials, feature articles and other material to address topics of importance to readers and raise the visibility of the journal.
- Leading editorial board meetings and other journal-related meetings as needed.
- Reporting on the performance of the journal to the Linnean Society Editorial Committee and other leadership meetings convened by the Society.

The Linnean Society is seeking an individual who:

- Has the vision and dedication to develop and deliver an imaginative strategic journal development plan and to maintain the high standards of quality of the journal.
- Possesses a strong sense of integrity and adheres to professional and scientific ethical standards.
- Is committed to supporting open science, widening access to research and EDI principles.
- Is a biologist with a proven publication record and an extensive network of international contacts.
- Has the communication skills and diplomacy to lead and develop the Editorial board and liaise with authors, reviewers, the broader research community, publishers and the editorial office team.
- Has previous editorial experience as an editorial board member, guest editor, associate editor or Editor-in-Chief.
- Is willing to serve as an ambassador for the journal.

Application process

To submit an application, please send a CV and letter of support (no more than two pages) to HR@linnean.org. The letter of support should explain why your experience fits the role and describe your vision for the journal over the next three years.

Deadline: Tuesday 4 April 2023, Midday (GMT)

Interviews: Expected to be held in the week beginning 10 April 2023

If you would like to nominate someone for this opportunity, please contact us at least two weeks before the deadline to give us sufficient time to explore your recommendation and contact the individual.