

EDITORIAL

## *MAF Journal and Conference Build Together*

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Dear Readers

Bridges across the fluorescence community continue to be built with the *MAF* journal very much at the heart of not only the publication of fluorescence research but also the resonance, collegiality and benefits of teams pulling together from different directions to share new ideas and information. During the year the *MAF* journal set up the new [MAF conference website](#) featuring past and future *MAF* conferences, a link to the conference site being found on the journal homepage.

The 2024 *MAF* Conference was held in Valencia on September 8 - 11, 2024 and was very successful due to the hard work of the organizing team led by Julia Perez-Prieto and Miguel Ángel Miranda Alonso. Included in an excellent scientific programme were a number of special presentations for the Otto Wolfbeis Awards presented by Yves Mely to Jennifer Dionne and Prashant Kamat and a Symposium in honour of Otto chaired by David Birch [1]. A special issue of the journal arising from the conference is open for submissions on the journal homepage and another special issue in honour of Otto Wolfbeis, guest edited by Thomas Hirsch and Axel Dürkop, is in progress.

The [19<sup>th</sup> conference in the MAF series](#) will be organised by Paul Wiseman and Nathan Luedtke in Montreal on the 24-27 August 2025.

Among the many quality papers published during the year several topical reviews are already starting to make significant impact. These include *A new twist on PIFE: photoisomerisation-related fluorescence enhancement* by Evelyn Ploetz et. al. [2] with over 2000 downloads and 14 citations to date and *Applications of machine learning in time-domain fluorescence lifetime imaging: a review* [3] by Dorian Gouzou et. al. with over 1500 downloads and 3 citations to date.

The 2025 Volume 13 has already kicked off with an insightful paper by Tereza Dolejšová and co-workers on monitoring the effect of antibiotics on membrane structure [4]. Looking further ahead future topical reviews include *Advancing Aldehyde Detection: Click Chemistry Imaging Probes for Biological Systems* by Ozlem Dilek, and Part 2 of the tutorial *Fiber-optics based fluorescence detection* [5] from Board member Karol Gryczynski's Group.

Please note also that along with the usual portfolio of research papers, topical reviews, tutorials and technical notes *MAF* is now welcoming perspectives as commentaries on the impact of previously published work, or authoritative discussions on the future direction of a field, that are of notable interest to the community. So please consider perspective articles as you continue to keep *MAF* in mind as the natural home for publishing your fluorescence research.

Many thanks for your continued submissions and reading of the *MAF* journal and we look forward to meeting you at the *MAF* conference in Montreal and at other fluorescence meetings in the year ahead as we work together to continue to build the far-reaching benefits of fluorescence.

Until then all good wishes for a very happy and successful 2025.

## References

1. *Otto Wolfbeis 1947–2023.*  
DOI 10.1088/2050-6120/ad12f8
2. *A new twist on PIFE: photoisomerisation-related fluorescence enhancement.*  
DOI 10.1088/2050-6120/acfb58
3. *Applications of machine learning in time-domain fluorescence lifetime imaging: a review.*  
DOI 10.1088/2050-6120/ad12f7
4. *Naphthylated LEGO-lipophosphonoxin antibiotics used as a fluorescent tool for the observation of target membrane perturbations preceding its disruption.*  
DOI 10.1088/2050-6120/ad8abf
5. *Fiber-optics based fluorescence detection. Part I: Basic concepts*  
DOI 10.1088/2050-6120/ad5e5b