

TheScientist

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F1000'S MAGAZINE OF THE LIFE SCIENCES

**PEER REVIEW:
REJECTED?**

IT'S FAILING SCIENCE.
SEE HOW SOME
ARE TRYING TO FIX IT.

W/ CHANGES

ACCEPTED

REJECTED

TOO SLOW

MISSES FRAUD

REJECTS TRUE INNOVATION

REVIEWERS ACT ON BIASES

**PLUS:
CORALS IN CRISIS**

**FIVE PAPERS
THAT DEFIED
IMPACT FACTOR**

**MEET THE
JOURNALS
CHANGING PEER
REVIEW**

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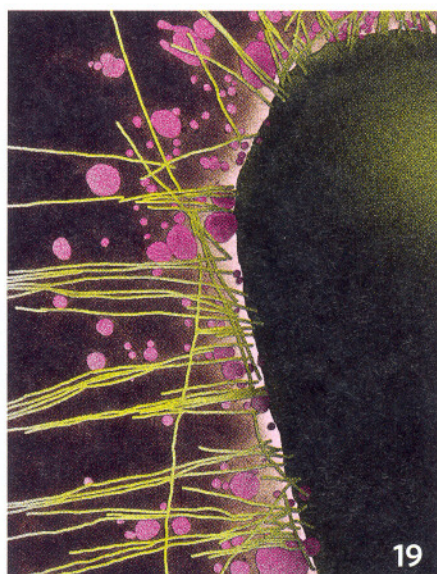
- 30** **Breakthroughs from the Second Tier**
COVER STORY » Think traditional peer review discourages truly innovative ideas, and cannot determine a paper's potential impact on its field? We present five papers that suggest these two criticisms are, at least in part, correct. They were all published in lower profile journals (current impact factors of 6 or below), but eventually accumulated at least 1,000 citations. Many were originally rejected from higher-tier journals. All changed their fields forever.

ON THE COVER

Illustration by Joelle Bolt



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COVER STORY » JEF AKST presents ways some journals are trying to fix the ongoing problems of peer review—tackling issues such as its long timeline, the tendency of reviewers to unfairly reject an idea, and the burdens of review (too many papers to evaluate, no credit for doing it).
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Corals are under constant attack from catastrophic events such as the oil spill in the Gulf Coast and long-term assaults such as overfishing and global warming. MARK HAY and DOUGLAS RASHER from the Georgia Institute of Technology discuss new research that could save the remaining coral reefs worldwide.



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