

Dear attendees of IMMS-9

We are pleased to inform you that an agreement has been made to publish papers from the 9th International Mesosstructured Material Symposium in Nature Publishing Group's multidisciplinary open-access journal [Scientific Reports](#).

Scientific Reports is an online-only journal publishing scientifically-sound research in the natural and clinical sciences. Hosted on [nature.com](#), *Scientific Reports* is committed to providing superior author service by facilitating rapid and rigorous peer-review—supported by an Editorial Board—and fast publication of quality research. All published papers are indexed in PubMed, ISI, Scopus and the SAO/NASA ADS.

Papers arising from IMMS-9 that are published in *Scientific Reports* after peer-review will be tagged to indicate that they originate from the conference. The papers will also be collected together on an IMMS-9-specific landing page on nature.com. Papers will be fully discoverable via nature.com search functionality and e-mail alerts to almost 50,000 recipients.

Information on manuscript preparation and submission to *Scientific Reports* can be found [here](#). When submitting your manuscript via the *Scientific Reports* [online system](#), please select the 'Conference Proceedings' option, then 'IMMS-9' from the 'Conference' drop-down menu in the 'Manuscript Information' section (see screen shots at the end of this letter). If you do not choose this option, your article will not be recognised as originating from IMMS-9 and will be processed as a regular submission to *Scientific Reports*.

When papers pass peer-review they will be published as open-access articles, freely available to all readers. Open-access publication requires payment of an article-processing charge of \$1,495/€1,165/¥170,000/£990/RMB9,900 (plus VAT/local taxes where applicable).

Please submit your manuscript no later than 15th September. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the *Scientific Reports* team at scientificreports@nature.com

We look forward to working with you.

Dr Richard White
Editorial Manager
Scientific Reports
scientificreports@nature.com

Professor Ajayan Vinu
Co-Chair, IMMS-9
Editorial Board Member, *Scientific Reports*

Submitting your manuscript to *Scientific Reports*

Step 1 Go to mts-srep.nature.com

Step 2 Login (if you already have a nature.com account) or register for a new account

The screenshot shows the login page of the Scientific Reports manuscript tracking system. The browser address bar shows the URL <http://mts-srep.nature.com/cgi-bin/main.plex>. The page header includes the NPG logo, 'manuscripttrackingsystem', and 'SCIENTIFIC REPORTS'. A navigation menu contains links for 'tracking system home', 'author instructions', 'reviewer instructions', 'help', 'tips', 'journal home', and 'terms of use'. The main content area features a welcome message, a note about cookies, and a login form with fields for 'Login Name' and 'Password'. A 'Login' button is positioned below the form. Links for 'Register for an account' and 'Forgot my login details' are also present. A note at the bottom states: 'Scientific Reports is an open access publication. To publish in Scientific Reports, all authors are required to pay an article-processing charge (APC). Open access articles will be published under a Creative Commons license and the published version may be archived in funders and institutional repositories upon publication. Authors may choose between the Attribution 3.0 Unported (CC-BY 3.0) license; the Attribution-NonCommercial-Share Alike 3.0 Unported (CC-BY-NC-SA 3.0) or the Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported (CC-BY-NC-ND 3.0)'.

Step 3 Click on 'Submit Manuscript' link in 'Author Tasks' section

The screenshot shows the 'Author Tasks' section of the Scientific Reports manuscript tracking system. The browser address bar shows the URL http://mts-srep.nature.com/cgi-bin/main.plex?form_type=home. The page header is identical to the previous screenshot. The navigation menu includes 'tracking system home', 'author instructions', 'reviewer instructions', 'help', 'tips', 'logout', and 'journal home'. The main content area displays 'Home Page for Dr. [redacted]'. Under the 'Author Tasks' section, there are two links: 'Author Instructions' and 'Submit Manuscript', with a red arrow pointing to the latter. The 'General Tasks' section includes links for 'Modify Unavailability Dates', 'Modify My NPG Account', 'Knowledge Base/Help', and 'Logout'.

Step 4 Select 'Conference Proceedings' button at bottom of page, then click 'Continue'

The screenshot shows the manuscript submission process. It contains two numbered instructions:

- The 'Validate' primary task gives you the opportunity to check and verify the manuscript files and manuscript information uploaded. If you are submitting manuscript files separately, we create a merged PDF containing your manuscript text, figures and tables to simplify the handling of your paper. You will need to approve the merged PDF file, and a PDF or any other file not included in the merge, to submit your manuscript. You may also update and/or change manuscript files and manuscript information by clicking on the 'Change' or 'Fix' links respectively.
- The 'Submit' primary task is the last step in the manuscript submission process. At this stage the Manuscript Tracking System will perform a final check to ensure that all mandatory fields have been completed. Any incomplete fields will be flagged by a red arrow and highlighted by a red box. Click on the 'Fix' link to return to relevant section for completion. Once your manuscript has been finalised, click on the 'Approve Submission' button to submit your manuscript for consideration. A 'Manuscript Approved' message will display on your author desktop to confirm the submission.

Please note that Scientific Reports only receives submissions of original research articles. If your submission is for a conference select 'Conference Proceedings'. During the submission process you will be able to select the appropriate conference name on the 'Manuscript Information' tab. For all other submissions please select 'Original Research'. Choose the appropriate manuscript type:

Original Research
 Conference Proceedings

A 'Continue' button is located below the radio buttons.

The footer of the page includes the 'eJournalPress' logo and the text 'Done'.

Step 5 Follow instructions on screen. At section '2. Manuscript Information', tab 'c. NPG Subject Category', select 'IMMS-9' from the 'Conference' dropdown menu. Click 'Save and Continue'.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <http://mts-srep.nature.com/cgi-bin/main.plex>. The page title is "Scientific Reports - Windows Internet Explorer provided by Macmillan Publishing". The browser's address bar shows the URL. The page content includes a navigation bar with tabs: "1. Files", "2. Manuscript Information", "3. Validate", and "4. Submit". Under "2. Manuscript Information", there are four sub-tabs: "a) Title, Abstract", "b) Authors", "c) NPG Subject Category", and "d) Detailed Information". The "c) NPG Subject Category" tab is active. The "Subject Terms" section has a dropdown menu for "Level 1" set to "Select level 1". Below it, the "Subjects selected" section is empty. The "Techniques" section has a "Show Techniques List" button and a table of techniques with "Clear" buttons. The "Conference" dropdown menu is open, showing "Select One", "Select One", and "ISFM 2014". A red arrow points to "ISFM 2014". At the bottom, there are "Back", "Save and Exit", and "Save and Continue" buttons.

Step 6 Follow instructions on screen until all manuscript submission steps are complete.