

22 August 2012

Dr. Leslie B Vosshall  
Laboratory of Neurogenetics and Behavior  
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1230 York Avenue, #63  
New York NY 10065  
USA

Dear Dr. Vosshall:

Manuscript number: 1228662

Thank you for submitting your manuscript "Neurons encoding time and motivation during copulation in *Drosophila*" to *Science*. Competition for space at *Science* is becoming increasingly fierce; we currently receive close to 13,000 papers a year, but are only able to publish roughly 800. Your topic is certainly of appropriate scope for *Science* and your analysis is interesting, however, following discussion among the editors and members of our board of reviewing advisors, it was given a lower priority ranking than others. Unfortunately, this means that we will not be able to send it out for in-depth review. Our decisions are made on the basis of discipline, novelty, broad interest and significance, and the advice of our advisors regarding the potential impact of your work within your field. Due to our space limitations, we must reject excellent, exciting, and potentially important papers every day. Thus, our inability to send your work for further review should not be taken as a direct comment on its quality or importance.

Please be assured that your paper has been given thorough consideration by the group of editors that cover ecology, evolution, behavior and Organismal biology, and the members of our board of advisors who are active researchers in these fields. We are sorry to have to disappoint you in this instance and we wish you all the best of luck in publishing your work elsewhere.

All the very best,

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Assistant to ---, Ph.D.  
Associate Editor