Messages from the Scientific Community

Jiri Lukas, University of Copenhagen

This is absolutely sad and shocking news – it left me completely speechless; don't know what to do, what can I possibly write... I had such a nice relationship with Gabe – we indeed worked together on two Cell papers and I met him in person last year on our newly launched Copenhagen Bioscience Conference. He was such a fantastic person and a true professional; I considered him as a rising star among scientific editors in our field and had big plans to continue working with him... Like you, I feel privileged to have known him and I will miss him sorely. Our latest paper, which he handled, is now on its way to the Cell Press production; if at all possible, I would like to include in the acknowledgment a note that we dedicate this paper to Gabe for his unrestrained support and professional guidance.

'We dedicate this paper to the memory of Gabe Hayes, our handling editor at Cell, who tragically passed away. Gabe's unrestrained support of science and scientists, his insight and guidance of authors and reviewers will be sorely missed.'

Howard Chang, Stanford University

This is really sad news about Gabe--I was shocked and saddened to see it on the Cell website. I was fortunate to have met and worked with Gabe. In fact, he was the editor who handled a paper from my lab that came out today (Wapinski et al.). He was so thoughtful and helpful, and he gently guided the paper to be better and better. I also had the chance to talk with him in depth several times at meetings, and I can tell that he really cared about the science and the scientists. I was going to ping him to say thanks and then I saw the sad news.

Here is a random thought: I am sure that the many people he and his work touched have similar warm feelings and fond remembrances of Gabe, and may be it would help his family and friends if we could share and post them somewhere. Anyway, life can take such unexpected turns--we should all treasure our opportunities, families, and friends. Please give my regards to all the colleagues at Cell Press; my thoughts are with you all.

Hans Clevers, Hubrecht

... after our first conversation with Gabe, three of us all exclaimed that we "loved" this editor......and that he seemed exceptional. Given how many manuscripts editors must handle, we were amazed that Gabe had the background and time to understand the science so well and to actively guide revisions to be most constructive. It is now all the more striking that he offered to try to handle our manuscript revision after he became ill. A very kind soul.

Kevan Shokat, UCSF

Oh this is so sad, I can't believe it. He was fantastic to work with, so thoughtful and caring. I'm very sad. If there is any memorial or organization to donate to in his memory, or way to express my thoughts to his family please let me know.

Matthias Mann, Max Planck Institute, Martinsried

That is indeed sad and shocking. He seemed completely o.k. at the signaling conference last December in Denmark. My heartfelt condolences to all you on the staff that worked with him.

Brad Bernstein, Harvard Medical School

I just saw the news about Gabe on the Cell website. How incredibly sad! He was so kind and thoughtful in all of the interactions I had with him. What a loss for your journal and our community.

My condolences to you and your colleagues.

Benjamin F. Cravatt, Scripps

This is terrible news. I am very sorry to hear about Gabe's sudden passing. he will be greatly missed and my heart goes out to his family and friends.

Jonathan Weissman, UCSF

We heard about Gabe's passing from Tom Misteli. This is shocking and sad news indeed. He worked tirelessly with us on a manuscript this April- despite the fact that we chose not to send a revision in, I was impressed by his friendly and forthright manner, and the amount of time he took to speak with me on the phone.

Please do convey our condolences to his family.

Ruslan Medzhitov, Yale

I am so sorry to hear this very sad news. This is just horrible. Please accept my deepest condolences. I know your entire team must be in shock right now.

And as always please let me know if there is anything at all that I can do to help at this sad time.

Beth Levine, UT Southwestern Medical Center

I am so sorry to hear this tragic news. I never met Gabe in person but had the pleasure to interact with him during the submission of our recent paper in Cell. Please let me know if there is somewhere that contributions can be made in his honor.

Azim Surani, University of Cambridge

I am indeed very sorry to hear this sad news. I remember working with Gabe and admired his professionalism and courteous approach to all the matters that he asked me to look at. Please accept my sincere condolences to you and his family.

With kind regards

Len Zon, Harvard Medical School

Oh, that is so sad. He was so full of life, and I enjoyed hanging out with him in Switzerland at the last Gordon Conference. I knew he was sick, but did not realize how sick. He did a great job on managing our paper.

Marc Dionne, University College London

I just saw the news about Gabe on the Cell website. Although I only worked with him on one paper, I really appreciated our interactions. I am sure those who knew him better will miss him even more.

David Allis, Rockefeller University

I am very sorry to read this email from you, but you are kind to write. How tragic.

The older I get the more I have come to realize how precious every day is

Marian Walhout, UMass Worcester

I just read about the passing of Gabe Hayes and wanted to let you and the Cell team know that I am so sad to hear this.

I talked to Gabe a few months ago as a reviewer of a paper; we had a very pleasant and productive interaction.

Cell must be so sad, and I wish to convey my sympathy for and through you.

Musa Mhlanga, Stephanie Fanucchi, Youtaro Shibayama, Shaun Burd, Marco Weinberg CSIR Biosciences, South Africa

It was with shock and great tristesse that we learnt of the death of Gabe Hayes. We had worked with him on our manuscript "Chromosomal contact permits transcription between coregulated genes" which was published in Cell just a few days after his death.

We can all say that our interaction with Gabe was highly unique among all editors we have interacted with at any journal. His facility in working with authors to make their manuscripts better was one we have never experienced before.

We would like to express our deepest condolences to his colleagues and his family upon his untimely death. The brief time we have known him and interacted with him has left an indelible mark upon us.

With our deepest sympathies

Rich Carthew, Northwestern University

I am very sad to hear this news. My last correspondence from Gabe was via smartphone from his hospital bed, when he told me about his illness. Imagine the dedication to work under such circumstances! Gabe was an extraordinary editor. He had interacted with me in a way that I have never experienced with any editor, professional or academic. It was incredibly professional and yet open at the same time. Amazing. It was a sincere pleasure to work with him. I am sorry that Cell has lost such a gifted individual, and sorry that someone so young and bright was taken.

Natasza Kurpios, Cornell University

I just learned of Gabe's passing. I still can't really grasp it, I just saw him in June here at Cornell and had just the loveliest time with Gabe chatting about science and plants. This is heartbreaking and sounds like very sudden and unexpected. Please accept my most deepest sadness and sympathy and also to your team at Cell press. I can't imagine how devastated you all must feel

Tarun Kapoor, Rockefeller University

Thank you for letting me know about Gabe. I am shocked and saddened to hear this terrible news. I remember working with Gabe and recall him being very sincere, knowledgeable and thoughtful. What a big loss for all of us!

Nahum Sonenberg, McGill University

I was deeply saddened to hear that Gabe Hayes passed away suddenly at a young age. I interacted with Gabe on several occasions and found him to be an exceptionally knowledgeable, brilliant, gentle and warm person. My deepest sympathies to his family, to you and his many friends.

Zhirong Bao, Memorial Sloane Kettering Cancer Center

I just learned the sad news about Gabe. I came to know what a great person he was from the interactions about our manuscript. I wish I could have the chance to thank him again for his generous efforts to guide us through the revision. Please forward my condolences to his family

Genevieve Almouzni, Curie Institute, Paris

I am really shocked ...i cannot believe this.

I am very sad to see this sudden loss of someone so young and who was just taking off in your place.

I have had the opportunity to interactions with him and indeed you are so right in describing his sweet personality and smart mind. I also realize myself that it has been a privilege to interact with him.

With all my regrets and my support to you all who have been close to him.