I am the editor for Trends in Plant Science, a monthly review journal covering a broad range of basic plant science. I am responsible for commissioning a diverse range of high quality, cutting edge articles (written by scientists for scientists), taking the articles through peer-review and ensuring they are accessible to a broad audience. I am originally from Germany and indulged my interest in science by obtaining a masters degree in Biology from the University Goettingen followed by a PhD in Botany at the University of Wuerzburg. I moved to the UK in 1995 with an EMBO Long Term Fellowship for a postdoctoral research position at the University of Warwick. In 1997 I joined the MRC Laboratory for Molecular Cell Biology at the University College London as senior research fellow for 3.5 years. During my time in London I become interested in science communication and in 1999 I tried my hands on freelance science writing. In 2000 I decided to leave the bench behind completely to accept the position as Editor at Trends in Plant Science. While working at the bench my main interest was in targeting signals and sorting mechanisms for nuclear-encoded proteins. I initially studied chloroplast and thylakoid proteins and then moved on to work on peroxisomal proteins in animal cells. My final project was to establish a cell culture model to examine the role of a peroxisomal enzyme in the metabolism of glyoxylate, with the aim of identifying targets for drug development to treat a potentially lethal hereditary calcium oxalate kidney stone disease.