On the Cover: Ser/Arg-rich (SR) proteins constitute a family of RNA-binding proteins implicated in both constitutive and alternative splicing in plants and animals. Arabidopsis (Arabidopsis thaliana) SR proteins are involved in plant development and have been shown to be regulated by environmental cues. Kausin et al. (pp. 273–284) investigated the dynamic distribution of the Arabidopsis RSZp22 splicing factor, a homolog of the human 9G8 SR protein. This work provides a detailed analysis of the RSZp22 expression profile, and the cover shows fluorescent imaging of RSZp22:GUS activity throughout Arabidopsis floral organs. Comparison of transient ectopic- and stable tissue-specific expression highlights key advantages of both approaches for protein dynamic studies. RSZp22 is a nucleocytoplasmic shuttling protein, and the RNA-binding motifs are required for CRM1/XPO1-dependent nuclear export in vivo. Photography and cover design by Patrick Motte.

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Peter V. Minorsky

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