

Editorial

***Diversity* – An International and Interdisciplinary Journal**

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Received: 6 June 2009 / Published: 8 June 2009

After many years of careful planning, we are pleased to launch *Diversity* (ISSN 1424-2818), a new international and interdisciplinary Open Access journal. Among diversity topics, biodiversity has always been a key topic. In 1996, when I was establishing Molecular Diversity Preservation International (MDPI), an organization dedicated to the collection and distribution of rare molecular samples, I read several books on biodiversity. To promote the MDPI project, in 1996 the journal *Molecules* was launched, where authors are encouraged to deposit authentic samples of chemicals reported in the published articles. One of the topics covered by the journal *Molecules* was molecular diversity, and my own paper on diversity assessment published in volume 1 of *Molecules* cited some of the biodiversity books I had read [1] and *Molecules* still has a section called “Molecular Diversity” [2]. Our founding Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Dr. Michael Wink [3], also cites biological diversity as one of his main research interests.

In 1999, MDPI launched another journal, *Entropy*. The title of the editorial on the first page of *Entropy* was “Diversity and Entropy” [4]. Our intention to launch the journal *Diversity* goes back to 2000, when to this end a first editorial board was set up and the journal ISSN was obtained: *Diversity* (Basel, online version ISSN 1424-2818). Three “prodiversity” domain names [5] were also registered for the project, with the publication of the journal as its main feature.

From 2002 until 2007, when I resigned to focus exclusively on MDPI’s own journals, I also served as Editor-in-Chief of the Springer journal *Molecular Diversity* [6,7], so I consider myself fully qualified to publish the journal *Diversity*.

My vision of a great “prodiversity” [5] project was the preservation of both two kinds of diversities: data (or information or knowledge) and materials (samples, seeds, stem cells, specimen or prototype devices, etc.). Both are related to the sustainability of human civilization: For human beings, our cultural, racial, genetic, lingual diversities, etc, can be recorded as text, graphics, videos and stored in hard disks. Someday in future we may want to abandon Earth to become settlers in other galaxies and

we will probably want to bring with us, in addition to some eggs or stem cells and seeds and some prototype machines, the compressed data containing the record of this diversity. We will need to load to our spaceship with the data and items with correct diversity so that we can restore our civilization elsewhere or when we return the Earth. Therefore, reports on all kinds of diversity preservation projects will also be published in this journal. In addition to the deposit of authentic chemical samples by *Molecules*' authors, we plan to request the authors of the journal *Sensors* [8] to submit prototype sensing devices for permanent storage in a sensors collection. Another related MDPI journal is *Sustainability* [9] which was also launched very recently.

References and Notes

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9. *Sustainability* journal homepage: <http://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability>.

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