

Special Issue

Craniofacial Development and Evolution

Message from the Guest Editor

The skull is a vertebrate novelty, the origin and diversification of which is associated with major evolutionary transitions, including the shift to a predatory lifestyle, the colonization of land, and the ability to masticate while breathing. The developmental, genetic, and epigenetic mechanisms contributing to or constraining craniofacial variation are not fully understood. Furthermore, the environmental and ecological context of development can impact both the form and function of the craniofacial structures, although much remains to be elucidated in this regard. This Special Issue will provide a broad overview of craniofacial development and evolution. We invite perspectives on the development, evolution, and/or morphological variation of any tissue or structure in the vertebrate head. Investigations of the mechanisms facilitating the evolvability and plasticity of the craniofacial structures are encouraged. Submissions may include both original research projects and reviews.

Guest Editor

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