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## Microbial Genome Engineering for Production of Natural Products and Biopolymers

Guest Editors:

**Dr. Cheng Li**

Department of Biology,  
Massachusetts Institute of  
Technology, Cambridge, MA  
02139 USA

**Dr. Yangong Lv**

College of Biological Engineering,  
Henan University of Technology,  
Zhengzhou 450001, China

**Dr. Yanrui Ye**

School of Biological Science and  
Engineering, South China  
University of Technology,  
Guangzhou 510640, China

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

In recent years, tremendous progress has been made in synthetic biology, enabling the production of biochemicals, therapeutics, and food ingredients using a variety of host organisms. Synthetic biologists have enabled us to engineer microbial cells for useful purposes by rewriting and editing their genomes. With the emergence of a variety of powerful genome engineering techniques, such as the CRISPR/Cas systems, our ability to engineer microbial genomes has substantially improved in recent years.

However, rationally designing and reshaping a genome to produce the desired phenotype remains enormously difficult, and more genome engineering strategies need to be explored. To explore this fast-growing field, this Special Issue will cover the latest genome engineering tools, other synthetic biology techniques, and their application to give rise to improved or novel phenotypes in microorganisms for the production of natural products and biopolymers. New tools, methods, and future perspectives are of particular interest.



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# Special Issue



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### **Prof. Dr. Selvarangan Ponnazhagan**

Department of Pathology, The  
University of Alabama at  
Birmingham, 1825 University  
Blvd, SHEL 814, Birmingham, AL  
35294-2182, USA

## Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes are central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fastmoving field. There is a need for good quality, open access journals in this area, and the *Genes* team aims to provide expert manuscript handling, serious peer review, and rapid publication across the whole discipline of genetics. Starting in 2010, the journal is now well established and recognised.

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*Genes* Editorial Office  
MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66  
4052 Basel, Switzerland

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