Special Issue

Epigenetics and Adaptation

Message from the Guest Editors

It has become clear that epigenetic mechanisms are often involved in organismal responses to the environment, and, at the same time, that part of the epigenetic code can be transgenerationally stable. However, the extent to which these two phenomena are linked and contribute to the adaptive capacity of natural populations remains unclear. So far, most insights about the determinants of epigenetic variation comes from studies of a few model species. However, high-resolution analysis methods are increasingly being adopted to investigate epigenetic variation also in non-model species and in natural populations. This rapidly broadens our knowledge of the patterns, causes and consequences of epigenetic variation in natural systems. In this special issue, we will provide an update of this research field, in the goal to better understand the stability of inherited epigenetic marks, the type of sequences affected in the genome, the effects of epigenetic variants on phenotypic variation, and the epigenetic mechanisms underlying phenotypic plasticity and adaptation in plants and animals.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

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Genes is central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fast-moving 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. Why not consider *Genes* for your next genetics paper?

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