Special Issue

Mass Extinctions in Geological Time

Message from the Guest Editor

It is commonly considered that there are five major extinctions, but in recent times there is recognition of other extinctions that may lead to shift in thinking about only five. For example, the end-Devonian and middle Permian extinctions are becoming increasingly recognised as larger events than previously thought. Most work has focused on marine extinctions, but there is increasing interest in terrestrial extinctions and the correlation between marine and terrestrial changes, to aim at a holistic understanding of events. Some thinking focuses on modern environmental change and the Anthropocene concept in relation to a possible current extinction event driven by humans. This is often called the "Sixth Extinction", but this term may not be appropriate if there were really more than five in geological history. Therefore, our view of how mass extinction has affected geological history of life on Earth is subject to change as new work is published. Thus, we hope with this Special Issue to bring the understanding of mass extinctions into a more balanced perspective in a series of papers that span the occurrence of mass extinction in geological history.

Guest Editor

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Understanding the Earth's origin and its bio-geological evolution, the multiple implications of the geosciences (as a coherentset of interconnected disciplines), and the sociocultural and ethical interdisciplinary approaches, will be crucial for a better understanding of Nature, and also for undertaking scientifically based political decisions.
We are committed to drive *Geosciences* to a position in which it is recognized for its high-quality, cutting-edge research and scientific influence, and strongly encourage and invite your participation and manuscripts.

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