

Special Issue

Terra Incognita—Microbial Processes and Interactions in the Deep Biosphere

Message from the Guest Editors

For this special issue we invite research papers, short communications and reviews covering microbial metabolisms and/or microbial interactions and networks in deep subsurface environments. We hope to learn more about how e.g. carbon and nitrogen flow between different microbial groups and how one microbe's waste may be another microbe's food. Can ancient carbon or carbonate in fracture fillings in rocks be used as carbon source? How do viruses or fungi contribute to the nutrient cycling in the deep subsurface? Does the high microbial diversity seen in many oligotrophic deep subsurface environment also mean a high, albeit dormant, metabolic diversity that can be put to use when environmental parameters change, e.g. due to tectonic activities? How does the phosphorus, sulphur or iron cycles work in the deep subsurface? The deep biosphere still presents many open questions on issues, which ultimately may have influence on global concerns, such as climate change scenarios, and may also present new theories for the possibility of life on other planetary bodies.

Guest Editors

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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 coherent set 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.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. John C. Eichelberger

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