Special Issue

The Current View on Apicomplexan Parasites: Structure, Function, Evolution

Message from the Guest Editor

Apicomplexan parasites cause serious illnesses, including malaria, in humans and domestic animals. The namesake of this phylum is the apical complex, a structure composed of specific organelles and cytoskeletal elements. How parasitism depends on the specific structure of these protists is still a poorly understood area. The host-parasite interaction is influenced by a number of apicomplexan-specific macromolecules. Apicomplexans contain also the apicoplast, a relict chloroplast. Studying this organelle helps understanding how apicomplexan parasites evolved from their free-living ancestors. Thus, this phylum is an extremely interesting one from evolutionary point of view as well. The aim of this volume is to provide a broad overview of the current state of apicomplexan research. Therefore, on the one hand, we expect review papers, and on the other hand, articles presenting current results, from all areas of the field. Articles about less popular species are especially welcome (e.g. gregarines) as well as phylogenetic works and structural studies.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

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"Microorganism" merges the idea of the very small with the idea of the evolving reproducing organism is a unifying principle for the discipline of microbiology. Our journal recognizes the broadly diverse yet connected nature of microorganisms and provides an advanced publishing forum for original articles from scientists involved in high-quality basic and applied research on any prokaryotic or eukaryotic microorganism, and for research on the ecology, genomics and evolution of microbial communities as well as that exploring cultured microorganisms in the laboratory.

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