Special Issue

Microbial Communities in Marine Environments

Message from the Guest Editor

Marine microbial ecology is among the most dynamic scientific fields, because it integrates many disciplines, such as oceanography, biogeochemistry, microbiology (including protistology and virology), physiology, evolution, and genomics. In the last three decades, numerous culture-independent techniques, which bypass the need for the isolation and laboratory cultivation of individual microbial species, have been developed. These innovations have fundamentally changed the field of marine microbiology, as they have rendered it possible to investigate microorganisms and their interactions with the environment and other organisms in situ. Examples of such culture-independent approaches include the cataloguing and phylogenetic analysis or rRNAs and other housekeeping or pathway-specific genes; the analysis of whole-community DNA; RNA or protein composition in meta-omic approaches; and the identification of in situ active microbial populations through stable- and radio-isotope labeling techniques. HTS technologies have contributed to improving our knowledge of the ecological relevance and evolutionary context of microdiversity.

Guest Editor

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

"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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