

Special Issue

Natural Product: A Continuing Source of Novel Drug Leads

Message from the Guest Editor

Natural products are still a major source of drug candidates, potential candidates, and chemical skeletons upon which to perform chemistry. What has become obvious over the last few years is that, in all Kingdoms, the major source of the compound(s) is / are not the host (be it plant, vertebrate, invertebrate or a lower eukaryote), but the microbe(s) that live on, in, or around the "host". With the advent of very fast genomic analyses coupled to state-of-the-art computational systems, the number of BGCs (biosynthetic genomic clusters) is immense, and the number that are involved in the "as yet uncultured microbe" is much larger. Thus, this Special Issue is designed to demonstrate the potential of novel sources as "resources for novel chemistries" with the aim of unlocking more of the novel chemical skeletons in "Mother Nature's Closet".

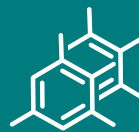
Guest Editor

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

As the premier open access journal dedicated to molecular chemistry, now in its 29th year of publication, the papers published in *Molecules* span from classical synthetic methodology to natural product isolation and characterization, as well as physicochemical studies and the applications of these molecules as pharmaceuticals, catalysts, and novel materials. Pushing the boundaries of the discipline, we invite papers on all major fields of molecular chemistry and multidisciplinary topics bridging chemistry with biology, physics, and materials science, as well as timely reviews and topical issues on cutting-edge fields in all of these areas.

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