Special Issue

Advances in Quaternary Studies: The Contribution of Mammalian Fossil Record II

Message from the Guest Editor

This Special Issue, “Advances in Quaternary Studies: The Contribution of Mammalian Fossil Record II” aims to present the state-of-the-art advances and the diversity within the field, the most advanced research on fauna dynamics, with the purpose of evaluating the significance of the species responses to Quaternary climatic changes, and comparing evolutionary scenarios during time and across space. The Quaternary period is of particular interest when scrutinizing the causal factors leading to the progressive reconstruction of mammalian communities, and changes in biogeography and biodiversity. Deciphering the network of mechanisms driving fauna evolution is crucially relevant for understanding the actual meaning of the Anthropocene sixth mass extinction and to plan appropriate actions for biodiversity conservation in a human-modified world. The Special Issue allows for stretching our imagination beyond the present, and collects insights into the Earth’s future ecosystem scenarios through lessons from the past.

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

We live in a Quaternary world, that is, a world shaped by the interplay of the different compartments of the earth system—lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, cryosphere—during the last ~2.6 million years. It is not possible to understand the current world—and, hence, to anticipate its possible future developments—without knowing the Quaternary history of drivers, processes, and mechanisms that have generated it. Our own species is an evolutionary outcome of the Quaternary performance. Therefore, the journal *Quaternary* is born with the aim of being an integrative journal to encompass all aspects of Quaternary science focused on understanding the complex world in which we live and to provide a sound scientific basis to anticipate possible future trends and inform environmental policies.

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