

Special Issue

Sustainable Biological Removal and Separation Processes in Wastewater Treatment

Message from the Guest Editors

In the context of energy crisis and climate warming, global wastewater treatment facilities are facing unprecedented challenges. It is of utmost importance to develop novel and sustainable wastewater treatment technologies. For organic and nutrient removal, innovative bio-processes, such as aerobic granular sludge (AGS), membrane-aerated biofilm reactors (MABRs), moving bed biofilm reactors (MBBRs), and autotrophic nitrogen removal (e.g., anammox and sulfur-autotrophic denitrification), have received great attention. Separation-based technologies including Membrane Bio-reactors (MBRs) have also been widely applied in wastewater purification. Moreover, efficient removal for trace-level emerging pollutants (such as microplastics and PFAS) and the control for direct carbon emission (CH₄ and N₂O) have become major concerns for future wastewater treatment plants. These aspects are subjects of interest in this Special Issue, titled 'Sustainable Biological Removal and Separation Processes in Wastewater Treatment'.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Xin Zhou

College of Environment and Ecology, Taiyuan University of Technology, Taiyuan 030024, China

Prof. Dr. Shouqing Ni

School of Environmental Science and Engineering, Shandong University, Qingdao 266237, China

Prof. Dr. Guoqiang Liu

School of Environment, Jinan University, Guangzhou, China

Deadline for manuscript submissions

10 September 2025



Separations

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.7
CiteScore 4.5



mdpi.com/si/224795

Separations
Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
separations@mdpi.com

[mdpi.com/journal/
separations](https://mdpi.com/journal/separations)





Separations

an Open Access Journal
by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.7
CiteScore 4.5



[mdpi.com/journal/
separations](https://mdpi.com/journal/separations)



About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Separations offers the scientific community a high-quality, open-access journal option with rapid time-to-publication without any sacrifice of a rigorous peer-review process. We invite contributions ranging from fundamental characterization and instrumentation development through application of techniques to shed light on a broad spectrum of separation science needs. Since inception, *Separations*, has become unique in its combination of rapid publication and thorough scientific content. We invite you to consider us for your next contribution.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Frank L. Dorman

Department of Chemistry, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH 03755,
USA

Author Benefits

High Visibility:

indexed within Scopus, SCIE (Web of Science), CAPlus / SciFinder, and other databases.

Rapid Publication:

manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 16.3 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.7 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).

Recognition of Reviewers:

reviewers who provide timely, thorough peer-review reports receive vouchers entitling them to a discount on the APC of their next publication in any MDPI journal, in appreciation of the work done.