Special Issue

Bioactivity and Chemical Ecological Interactions of Marine Toxins

Message from the Guest Editor

A vast array of marine organisms, including microeukaryotes and prokaryotes, metazoa, marine plants and macroalgae, are capable of biosynthezing natural bioactive substances. Many of these compounds are designated as toxins if they exhibit inimical effects on growth, behavior, or survival of specified target living systems. Toxicity is often defined with respect to bioassays (cultured cell and tissue lines, or whole animals, including humans), and thus may lead to erroneous inferences about the functional role of these compounds in situ in marine environments. The high global incidences of human poisoning due to the consumption of seafood contaminated with marine toxins, or exposure to poisonous or venomous creatures, underscore the critical need for studies to protect human health. Such research, however, provides little insight into the function and evolution of these toxins and their biosynthetic pathways.

Guest Editor

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Toxinology is an incredibly diverse area of study, ranging from field surveys of environmental toxins to the study of toxin action at the molecular level. The editorial board and staff of *Toxins* are dedicated to providing a timely, peer-reviewed outlet for exciting, innovative primary research articles and concise, informative reviews from investigators in the myriad of disciplines contributing to our knowledge on toxins. We are committed to meeting the needs of the toxin research community by offering useful and timely reviews of all manuscripts submitted. Please consider *Toxins* when submitting your work for publication.

Editor-in-Chief

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