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Microbialites: Organisms, Processes and Products in Modern and Fossil Ecosystems

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:
closed (31 October 2018)

Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

This Special Issue aspires to take advantage of the recent increase in attention being given to modern and fossil microbialites. Microbialites record the evidence of the evolution of life on Earth (and probably on other planets too), as they preserve the relics of the earliest life-forms, descendants of which continue to dominate the Earth today. Moreover, the micro-organisms involved in their formation have generated significant amounts of biomediated sedimentary deposits, mainly consisting of microbial carbonates.

Many methods are used in the study of microbialites, from field-work to textural and nano-structural/compositional analyses, including lab cultures. These researches have the aim of unravelling the complex chemical and physical interactions between: the organic components (bacteria, fungi, viruses, extracellular substances and vesicles) forming the microbial community, the environmental conditions, and the mineral products.

Thus, we would like to invite you to submit an article regarding your work, case studies or reviews, on modern or fossil microbialites of any type from marine, terrestrial or subsurface environments.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Understanding the Earth's origin and its bio-geological evolution, the multiple implications of the geosciences (as a coherentset of interconnected disciplines), and the sociocultural and ethical interdisciplinary approaches, will be crucial for a better understanding of Nature, and also for undertaking scientificallybased political decisions.

We are committed to drive *Geosciences* to a position in which it is recognized for its high-quality, cutting-edge research and scientific influence, and strongly encourage and invite your participation and manuscripts.

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