



## Exobiology Studies and the Study of the History, Present, and Future of Life on our Planet

Guest Editor:

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Deadline for manuscript submissions:

**closed (31 January 2009)**

### Message from the Guest Editor

Sustainability can apply to the (nearly) complete recycling of materials in large systems over long periods of time. Astrophysical cycles include the incorporation of gas clouds into stellar and planetary systems which, in turn, evolve and redistribute the (now enhanced) material throughout the galaxy through, for example, supernovae which generate all elements heavier than hydrogen and helium. On Earth recycling of tectonic plates sustains life on our planet via biogeochemical cycles such as the carbon-silicate cycle.

Papers relating to the long-term sustainability of technical civilizations can be submitted. Papers that address the sustainability of such systems -- their lifetimes and mechanisms -- particularly as they apply to long-term life on Earth -- will be appropriate.





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