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Editorial

Since the turn of the century there has been an ever-increasing awareness of anthropogenic impacts on the biosphere. We once considered aquatic environments as extremely resilient, but many studies have shown that marine and freshwater ecosystems are bearing the brunt of global change impacts. As algae include some of the most important primary producers in near-shore and open-ocean ecosystems, we must develop understanding of how these impacts affect micro- and macro-algae. However, our knowledge of algal biodiversity is fragmentary at best and empirical assessment of these dynamics is still in its infancy. It is therefore imperative to return to the field and conduct experiments in the laboratory to reveal the complexity of interactions between organisms and their biotic and abiotic environments, explore evolutionary relationships, elucidate genetic variation and patterns of gene flow and investigate algal physiology and the potential to adapt to environmental perturbations.

As technological advances have precipitously increased in the last decade, the resources available to phycologists provide an unprecedented opportunity to better understand the complexity of life from DNA to ecosystems. It thus seemed important to reorient the editorial themes of *Cryptogamie, Algologie* to better reflect state-of-the-art algal biodiversity research. The new editorial structure of the journal is therefore sub-divided into the following categories:

Ecoevolutionary dynamics of algae in a changing world
Phylogenetic systematics, species delimitation & genetics of speciation
Comparative evolutionary genomics of algae
Algal physiology & photosynthesis
Prokaryotic algae

We wish to sincerely thank the associate editors who have served on the board and we warmly welcome the new members who will continue the expansion of this journal. We hope you enjoy these new directions and accompany us as we delve deeper into this brave new world of *Cryptogamie, Algologie*.

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