

EDITORIAL

Into the future

Fereidoun Rassoulzadegan^{1,*}, Paul A. del Giorgio^{2,**}¹Marine Microbial Ecology Group, Laboratoire d'Océanographie de Villefranche, Station Zoologique, BP 28, 06230 Villefranche-sur-Mer, France²Département des sciences biologiques, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQÀM), CP 8888, succursale Centre Ville, Montréal, Québec H3C 3P8, Canada

Aquatic Microbial Ecology (AME) has entered its second decade as one of the top international scientific journals in its field (Kinne 2005). It has attained an outstanding level and diversity of readership, with a high impact factor within its discipline. This performance has been mainly due to: (1) the high scientific quality of the work submitted to AME, (2) the dedication and effectiveness of AME's Editors, Review Editors and anonymous reviewers, and (3) the Inter-Research commitment to rapid and efficient handling of manuscripts.

At this 10 year 'milestone', our goal is to continue to grow and progress, maintaining rigorous review standards while increasing our thematic diversity, streamlining manuscript handling, and reducing delays in publication times. We will enhance the visibility of the limnetic domain in AME and encourage a wider range

of submissions, including more short communications of breaking news, reviews of key topics, and exchanges of opinion. With rapid and sometimes dramatic technical improvements often dominating the news in our field, we will work to preserve and enhance the 'ecology' in *Aquatic Microbial Ecology*, striving to merge technical advances with strong conceptual ecological underpinnings. There will be rapid and exciting developments in our field in the coming years, and our community can count on AME to be the most rapid and effective means of disseminating our science.

LITERATURE CITED

Kinne O (2005) 25 Years Inter-Research 1979–2004. *Mar Ecol Prog Ser* 285:1–2

*Email: rassoul@obs-vlfr.fr

**Email: del_giorgio.paul@uqam.ca