

EDITORIAL

Special Features

This first issue of Volume 3, 1997 is largely devoted to a Special Feature on ecology and restoration perspectives of soft coastal ecosystems. An earlier Special Feature on research and management of estuaries and coastal waters was published in issue 2-2, 1996. Such Special Features are attractive for the readers because they offer series of coherent papers on an actual topic. They are also attractive for organizers of symposia and workshops because they enable publication of the entire or partial proceedings of scientific meetings in the form of peer-reviewed papers in an international journal. Moreover, the organizers of such Special Features may be able to acquire funds for publication and this may mean that the Journal can publish more pages than scheduled. No wonder that Special Features have rapidly become popular. As a matter of fact we are negotiating with colleagues about the preparation of no less than three Special Features which may appear during 1997 and 1998.

Cooperation with the *Journal of Coastal Research*

Another recent development is the growing cooperation between the *Journal of Coastal Conservation* and the renowned *Journal of Coastal Research*. It would be to the benefit of both journals if the cooperation could be extended towards an exchange of submitted papers so that the Editors of the *Journal of Coastal Research* would be consulted about papers with a clear emphasis on coastal research submitted to the *Journal of Coastal Conservation*, and the Editors of the *Journal of Coastal Conservation* would be interested in considering papers with a clear emphasis on conservation and management submitted to the *Journal of Coastal Research*. Such an exchange of papers needs some flexibility, particularly as far as Special Features are concerned, in order to maintain the coherence of a group of papers. To this purpose we have arranged with Professor Charles W. Finkl of the *Journal of Coastal Research* to adopt a memorandum of understanding, which we have the pleasure to include in this Editorial.

Frank van der Meulen, Amsterdam
Roland Paskoff, Lyon/Paris

Memorandum of Understanding

The Editors-in-chief of the *Journal of Coastal Research (JCR)* and the *Journal of Coastal Conservation (JCC)* have decided to establish a policy of cooperation between the two journals. *JCR* has a worldwide scope and, while its identity is mainly related to pure sciences and engineering, it also publishes sometimes papers dealing with coastal management. *JCC* is chiefly interested in papers whose topics correspond to applied research for integrated coastal management with a conservationist and wise use perspective. *JCC* emphasizes European papers, but manuscripts from outside Europe are also welcome. Scientists, managers, planners and politicians are the target persons of both journals.

The goal is now to put into practice collaboration which, through the creation of a pool of manuscripts, will strengthen the identity of each journal as defined above. The procedure will be the following. When *JCR* receives a manuscript which might be better placed in *JCC*, it will be forwarded to the latter, after acceptance (and revision) according to each journal's standards, and of course with the authors' consent, and *vice versa*. In case of a Special Feature envisaged for one of the journals it must be accepted, however, that papers which fit the theme of the Feature very well will be included even if their approach would better fit the other journal's scope.

Each journal will keep its own handling policy since the review, revision and acceptance procedure will go ahead according to each journal's standards. Instructions to authors will be homogenized.

Cooperation and mutual agreement are better than competition for the benefit of everyone in the long run. With this policy of cooperation between the journals we strongly intend to contribute in a positive manner to the development of science and management of the coastal zone, one of the world's most endangered natural systems.

Charles W. Finkl

Editor-in-chief
JCR

Frank van der Meulen
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