



New Editor-in-Chief Professor Degan SHU

Professor Shu received his undergraduate training in Paleontology at Peking (Beijing) University in 1964–1969, obtaining his Master's degree at Northwest University (Xi'an) and Ph.D. in China University of Geosciences (Beijing); he was Visiting Scholar at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., USA in 1988, Humboldt Research Fellow at University of Bonn in 1988–1989, at University of Wuerzburg, Germany in 1994–1995, and Visiting Scholar at Cambridge University, UK in 1998. He has been Professor of Geology at Northwest University, Xi'an since 1992.

His research focuses mainly on the evolution of early deuterostomes. He discovered the “First Fish” Order Myllokunmingiida, in life history, and erected the extinct Phylum Vetulicolia, first proposing the concept of the hypothesis “Cambrian Explosion as a unique three-episode event to create the Tree of Animals” in 2008. As a member of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and recipient of the National First Grade Award of Natural Sciences, he has authored a dozen publications in *Nature* and *Science*.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Dear Authors and Readers:

First of all, on behalf of the new Editorial Board, I would like to express our sincere appreciation for your continuing support of our journal.

This journal, founded in 1922, is the oldest geological journal in China. As the flagship journal of the Geological Society of China, it has become more and more influential in earth sciences in China and beyond. The journal is now indexed by SCI, CA and more than 20 other databases, with an impact factor varying between 1.58 and 2.15 from year to year. It is co-published by the Geological Society of China and Wiley-Blackwell Co.

The new Editorial Board consists of six major sections, including: paleobiology and stratigraphy; structural geology and geophysics; mineralogy, petrology and geochemistry; mineral resources; oil and gas; and hydrology and environmental geology. Each section is coordinated by two deputy editors-in-chief, one is based in China and the other based overseas. The membership in the new Editorial Board includes over 50 active geoscience researchers from China and internationally.

Despite its historical title *Acta Geologica Sinica*, our journal has never been a regional journal. And it is our goal to make it more international, in both contents and readership. To achieve this goal, we need your continuing support and cordially invite your high-quality contributions in any discipline of geological sciences and for research conducted in any region of the globe.

In 2014, our journal will continue to publish four types of contributions: Review Papers, Research Articles, News Reports and Research Advances. Review Papers are usually invited contributions and authored by prominent researchers in their respective fields to provide a comprehensive review of the recent advances in a particular field with discussion and perspectives on the challenges and future directions. Research Articles make up the core of the journal and are mostly volunteered contributions. News Reports are solicited by the editors to report major geologically newsworthy events in China and elsewhere. Research Advances publish the latest

Authors interested in submitting paper to this journal are welcome to use either one of the submission websites: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ags> (with English instructions) and <http://www.geojournals.cn/dzxbcn/ch/index.aspx> (with Chinese instructions). We also welcome proposals for special issues that can be organized around a specific cutting-edge research topic or an international conference. There is no page charge to publish in *Acta Geologica Sinica*, nor any cost for color figures.

With best regards,



SHU, Degan
Editor-in-Chief
Acta Geologica Sinica

Associate Editors-in-Chief



Shuhai XIAO

Shuhai XIAO is a geobiologist interested in Proterozoic and Cambrian Earth history. He obtained Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Peking University and Ph.D. from Harvard University. He was an assistant professor at Tulane University (2000–2003), and assistant professor (2003–2005) and associate professor (2005–2008) at Virginia Tech, and is currently Professor of Geobiology at Virginia Tech, USA.



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Xing XU is a Professor at the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences. He studies reptilian taxonomy and systematics, focusing on the origin of birds and their flight, and the origin and early evolution of feathers. He has published over 100 peer-reviewed papers, many of which are in high-profile journals such as *Nature* and *Science*.



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Xiaodong SONG is a Professor at the Dept of Geology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA. He received his Master's and Ph.D. degrees at California Institute of Technology in 1991 and at the California Institute of Technology in 1994, respectively. His research involves primarily the application of seismic observations in modeling and imaging the structure and dynamics of the Earth's interior.



Jingsui YANG

Jingsui YANG is a Professor at the Institute of Geology, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, Beijing, China. He received his Ph.D. at Dalhousie University, Canada in 1992. He has been working on ophiolites for many years, particularly on high-pressure minerals in mantle rocks as well as ultra-high pressure metamorphic rocks in subduction zones on the Tibetan plateau and other orogenic belts. He is also a Fellow of Mineralogical Society of America and a Fellow of Geological Society of America.



Chen ZHU

Chen ZHU is a Professor of Geological Sciences at Indiana University, USA. He received his Ph.D. degree from The Johns Hopkins University. His research interests are aqueous geochemistry and geochemical modeling of water-rock interactions. Zhu's recent work involves the kinetics of feldspar dissolution, geological carbon sequestration, and arsenic and antimony in the environment.



Hong-Fu ZHANG

Hong-Fu ZHANG, Research Fellow, Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences and Department of Geology, Northwest University, China. Over the years he has been engaged in the study of lower crust and lithospheric mantle evolution of the North China Craton and non-traditional stable isotopes (Li, Fe, Mg). His research includes basalts and mafic intrusive rocks, mantle peridotite and pyroxenite xenoliths, and lower crustal granulite xenoliths.



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Jingwen MAO is a Professor of Institute of Mineral Resources, China Academy of Geological Sciences, and adjunct Professor of China University of Geosciences (both Beijing and Wuhan), Central South University, Chang'an University and Nanjing University. He graduated from Hebei College of Geology in 1978, and got his Master's and Ph.D. from the Department of Postgraduate Students, CAGS in 1982 and 1988, respectively. His research interests are geology and geochemistry of ore deposits, and regional metallogeny.



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Fang HAO

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Chunmiao ZHENG

Chunmiao ZHENG currently holds the position of Chair Professor and Director of the Center for Water Research at Peking University. He has also been the George Lindahl III Endowed Professor of Hydrogeology at the University of Alabama, USA. He received a BS in geology from Chengdu University of Technology in 1983 and a Ph.D. in hydrogeology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA in 1988.



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