

Environmental Chemistry: New international team of editors

From its beginnings just 6 years ago, *Environmental Chemistry* set high standards and has quickly carved out a clear niche for itself publishing innovative research on the chemical processes of the environment (air, water, earth, biota). The journal is unique by covering all fields of research in environmental chemistry including: atmospheric chemistry, biogeochemistry, marine and freshwater chemistry, soil, sediment and plant chemistry, speciation, biotransformation and bioavailability.

After the successful founding and establishment of the journal under the editorship of Dr Alison Green, *Environmental Chemistry* has recently adopted an external editor structure with a view to both expanding the journal and bringing it closer to the scientific community. The newly appointed editors (see biographies below), are active scientists who represent the major areas of environmental chemistry. At the inaugural editorial meeting in Graz, the editors affirmed their commitment to our vision of the future *Environmental Chemistry* as the premier journal for the chemistry of fundamental environmental processes and mechanisms. Through their handling of the manuscripts and their overseeing of the peer review process, the editors will strive to provide a fair, professional assessment of the submissions in an attempt to continually maximise the quality of papers published in *Environmental Chemistry*. The editors will also be attending key conferences in the coming year, where they will be identifying the novel research directions and exciting new potential authors.

Changes will be implemented in the coming months with immediate benefits for authors, reviewers and readers of *Environmental Chemistry*. Authors will appreciate a new manuscript submission system and clear descriptions of the type of manuscripts suitable for *Environmental Chemistry*, whereas reviewers will have a streamlined reviewing process with clear guidelines on what *Environmental Chemistry* expects from

published papers. Our sincere aim is to make submission of manuscripts and reviews as simple and fast as possible. Readers of *Environmental Chemistry* will be kept fully informed of major research developments through regular Research Fronts presenting a microcosm of concentrated research activity on a particular topic. In addition to its current vibrant mix of articles, which includes Research Papers, Reviews, and Concept papers, *Environmental Chemistry* will also encourage more comment in the form of correspondence from authors, reviewers and readers to highlight current significant environmental issues. Furthermore, debate on controversial or unresolved issues will be injected into the journal by interactive commentary articles representing opposing views on current hypotheses.

In closing, we thank the founding editor of *Environmental Chemistry*, Dr Alison Green, for her insight in identifying the clear niche for the journal, and for actually making it all happen. We will continue the example set by Alison by actively seeking to have the most important research topics published in *Environmental Chemistry*. We hope that you will continue to value and support *Environmental Chemistry* in its new structure, and we look forward to interacting with you in the coming years.

Kevin A. Francesconi, Editor-in-Chief

On behalf of the editorial team at *Environmental Chemistry*

Jon Chorover

Peter Croot

Ralf Ebinghaus

Jamie Lead

Kevin J. Wilkinson

Biographies

Jon Chorover



Dr. Jon Chorover is Professor of Environmental Chemistry in the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of Arizona. He received a PhD in Soil Chemistry at University of California – Berkeley (1993) and then completed an NSF International Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Department of Chemistry at University of Geneva, Switzerland (1994–1995). He is currently chair of the Soil Chemistry Division of the International Union of Soil Sciences, and is actively involved in interdisciplinary and international working groups in environmental and earth sciences. At Arizona, Dr Chorover maintains an active research and teaching program focussing on soil chemistry and biogeochemistry, with an emphasis on how mineral–organic interactions influence the weathering of soils and the speciation of pollutants.

University of Arizona, USA

Peter Croot



Dr Peter Croot is a marine biogeochemist who focusses on links between trace metal speciation, redox, photochemistry, and phytoplankton productivity in the ocean, with special emphasis on the Southern Ocean and the oxygen minimum zones in the Atlantic and Pacific. Dr Croot undertook his PhD studies in the Chemistry Department at the University of Otago in Dunedin, New Zealand. This was followed by post-doctoral studies at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (USA), Gothenburg University (Sweden), and at the NIOZ (Netherlands). Since 2002 Dr Croot has been a researcher in the Marine Biogeochemistry department at the IFM-GEOMAR in Kiel, Germany. In summer 2010, Dr Croot will take up a new position at the Plymouth Marine Laboratory.

Plymouth Marine Laboratory, Plymouth, UK

Ralf Ebinghaus



GKSS Research Centre, Geesthacht, Germany

Ralf Ebinghaus is an analytical and environmental chemist and head of the Department for Environmental Chemistry of the Institute for Coastal Research at GKSS Research Centre in Geesthacht near Hamburg. He is also Professor (h.c.) at the Faculty of Environmental Science at Leuphana University of Lüneburg. His research fields include transport, deposition, and air–sea–gas exchange of atmospheric trace constituents, such as mercury and persistent organic pollutants (POPs) with special emphasis on substances of emerging concern for the coastal, marine, and polar environment.

Jamie Lead



University of Birmingham, UK

Jamie Lead is Professor of Environmental Nanoscience and Director of the UK national Facility for Environmental Nanoscience Analysis and Characterisation (FENAC) and is based at the University of Birmingham, UK. His research interests are in the fate, behaviour, and impacts of both natural and manufactured nanomaterials. In the former area he focusses on the structural and chemical relationship of nanomaterials to their effects on trace element chemistry. In the latter area, he is interested in manufactured nanomaterials as an important emerging pollutant and has interests that range from synthesis and characterisation through to bio-uptake and toxicity to environmental biota and impacts on human health.

Kevin J. Wilkinson



University of Montréal, Canada

Kevin J. Wilkinson received a PhD in Environmental Chemistry from the National Water Research Institute of the University of Quebec (INRS-Eau) in 1993. He continued his work at the University of Geneva as a post-doctoral fellow, lecturer, and senior lecturer prior to an appointment at the University of Montreal in 2005. His research program is focussed on relating structure to function, both for environmental biopolymers and colloids and for trace element bioavailability and bio-uptake. His current research interests include: (i) relating (mechanistically) chemical speciation to bioavailability; (ii) developing and optimising novel analytical techniques for quantifying the bioavailability of contaminants; (iii) detecting, quantifying, and characterising nanoparticles in the environment; and (iv) determining the role of diffusion in complex environmental media (biofilms, flocs, sediments).

Kevin Francesconi



Karl-Franzens-University Graz, Austria

Kevin Francesconi is a graduate from Curtin University of Technology (BAppSci) and from the University of Western Australia (PhD, organic chemistry). He worked for 20 years at the Western Australian Marine Research Laboratories, first as an analytical chemist and then as a research scientist in environmental chemistry. In 1996, Dr Francesconi moved to the Ecotoxicology group at the University of Southern Denmark before moving to Graz University in 2002 where he is presently Professor of Analytical Chemistry. Dr Francesconi's research has focussed on the development and application of chemical and analytical methods for studying fundamental processes of biotransformation of metals in the environment and in organisms including man.