



## EDITORIAL

# Climate Research: a focal point for the climate and ecosystem-impact research communities

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The Nobel Peace Prize 2007 was awarded to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Al Gore Jr. 'for their efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change' (Norwegian Nobel Committee 2007; [http://nobelpeaceprize.org/eng\\_lau\\_announce2007.html](http://nobelpeaceprize.org/eng_lau_announce2007.html)). This reflects the grand challenge posed by global warming to present and future generations. Decisions on combating negative effects of anthropogenic climate change must be based on the best science available.

Predictions of the effects of climate on biological and ecological systems require multidisciplinary efforts of many scientists, including climatologists and physicists, ecologists and mathematicians, biologists and statisticians. The journal *Climate Research* (CR) is an outlet for research on all aspects of climate change and the interactions of climate with individuals, populations, ecological communities and entire ecosystems.

In response to the interests of the scientific community, the publisher of CR, Inter-Research (IR), has expanded the scope of the journal slightly to include contributions on climate modelling and climate change, and appointed a second Editor-in-Chief, Mikhail Semenov, to oversee this field, while Nils Chr. Stenseth as Editor-in-Chief continues to oversee the field of interactions between climate and organisms. The editorial board of CR will be expanded in the near

future to include Editors covering all areas of climate research.

As Editors-in-Chief, we will ensure that submitted manuscripts are handled promptly and efficiently, while being scrutinised to the highest standard of quality control by 3 or 4 peers. In addition to ordinary submissions, we welcome proposals for Climate Specials — collections of articles on specific research topics or defined geographic areas. If a proposal for a Special is accepted, the editorial scrutiny of each submitted manuscript will follow the procedures applicable to other submissions.

Top-quality contributions will be published as Feature Articles with Open Access at no cost to the authors. IR will continue to emphasize rapid publication of papers (approximately 2 months from final acceptance) and the highest professional standard of presentation. Beginning with Volume 37, CR will publish articles online as soon as they are ready, i.e. without waiting for an issue to be full; issues will be printed when complete. As a result, the work of CR authors will enjoy worldwide online visibility several weeks before printed issues are delivered to the libraries.

Our common aim is to develop CR further into one of the top multidisciplinary journals. Through a collaborative effort between the authors, the editors and the publishers, CR's place among the leading publications in its field will be ensured.

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