

CALL FOR PAPERS



Environmental Conservation Themed Issue on *Interdisciplinary Progress in Environmental Science*

Managing Editor

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Important Dates

Manuscript submission deadline: 4th January 2010

Submission of final revised paper: 7th June 2010

Publication of issue: around December 2010 (to be confirmed)

Scope

Environmental issues encompass huge problems that evidently require ‘interdisciplinary’ science and management, yet these approaches seem to be few and there are many barriers (e.g. institutional structures) to progress. With much discussion about the need for interdisciplinary thinking to improve understanding and management of the global environment, the Foundation for Environmental Conservation is planning the 6th International Conference on Environmental Future (6ICEF, Newcastle upon Tyne UK 18–22 July 2011) to comprehensively debate what ‘interdisciplinary environmental science’ is and what it might be in future.

The overarching questions for the 6ICEF are: What is interdisciplinarity in environmental science and management? When is interdisciplinarity successful in environmental science or management and when not, and what are the measures of success? What are the tools, media, approaches and frameworks that work? What if any has been the added value of interdisciplinary work and what are its limitations?

Major reviews are already being commissioned to provide keynote and discussion material at the 6ICEF and this themed issue will help further broaden the background for this conference. Papers of interest may be on epistemologies and institutional issues, on the science and methodologies involved or on management practices. The following are example of the sorts of questions which papers in the Themed Issue might seek to answer:

Epistemological and Institutional issues

- What are the social, economic, psychological etc barriers to interdisciplinary work?
- What are the benefits and costs of ID communication and what are the scales and drivers of interdisciplinary work and understanding?
- What new types of knowledge production arrangements exist, is there a shift from disciplinary to interdisciplinary knowledge production?
- How sharply should the sciences be separated from the interpretation of value, how should scientific data from different disciplines be integrated and how should the data be used to evaluate proposed policies?
- What sort of an institutional milieu is optimal for interdisciplinary work? How does one teach or foster interdisciplinary approaches? How can institutional (e.g. university) programmes be structured to promote this?

Science and methodologies

- How does disciplinary science integrate results from interdisciplinary research? What are the tools, media, approaches and frameworks that work interdisciplinarily?

- Which are the criteria of excellence for the evaluation of ID research?
- Which kinds of change must disciplinary theories and methods undergo to become suitable for interdisciplinary work, and thus meaningful for problems which cannot usefully be addressed by single disciplines in isolation?
- What if any has been the added value of interdisciplinary work and what are its limitations?
- When is interdisciplinarity successful in environmental science and when not, and what are the measures of success?
- How should interdisciplinary research be promoted to funders and implementation agencies? How should interdisciplinary research results be published?

Authors might be interested to highlight case studies of particular ecosystems, landscapes or biomes, or might focus on particular resources (e.g. forestry, fisheries).

Management

- Does environmental management always have to be interdisciplinary?
- What is the main medium of successful interdisciplinary management?
- What demands will a surge in interdisciplinary place on conceptual foundations and practices of research?
- What are the environmental interdisciplinary needs of practitioners?
- How important is the science/management relationship relative to that between managers and stakeholder communities and how improve these?
- What is interdisciplinary environmental management?
- When is interdisciplinarity successful in environmental management and when not, and what are the measures of success?
- What are the tools, media, approaches and frameworks that work?
- What if any has been the added value of interdisciplinary work and what are its limitations?

Authors might wish to address such questions based on studies of particular movements or concepts (e.g. co-management, social-ecological systems, adaptive management, sustainability science) or base their papers on specific processes or approaches (e.g. political ecology, environmental economics, policy formulation).

Submission Guidelines

Only original and unpublished high-quality research papers are considered, and manuscripts must be in English. Standard Research papers (max 8000 words) are of particular interest but Reviews (Max 10000 words), Reports (max 4000 words) and Comments (max 1500 words) may also be submitted. Instructions for Authors can be found at <http://journals.cambridge.org/enc/ifc>. The papers must be submitted via the journal web submission route (<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/envcon>).

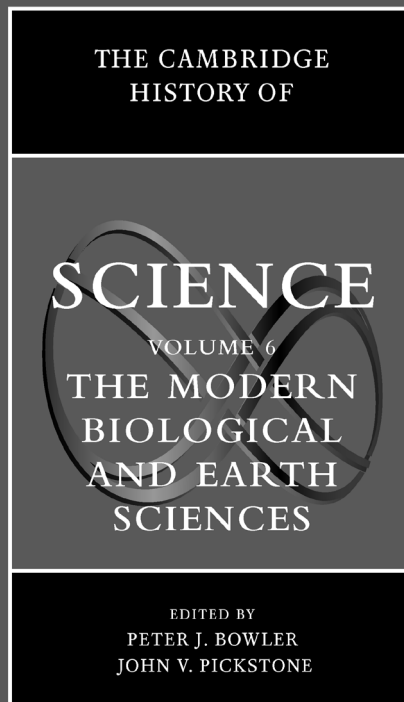
You must provide a cover letter to indicate that the submission is for “Themed Issue on Interdisciplinary Progress in Environmental Science”. If this is not supplied, or if insufficient papers are submitted for the theme, they will be published by the journal as normal submissions. All papers will be submitted to a rigorous peer-review process and the mere fact that they are part of a themed issue (solicited or not) does not guarantee acceptance. All contributors must commit themselves to the schedule of dates above, otherwise their paper will not be included in the issue, but could be included in later issues as a stand alone paper.

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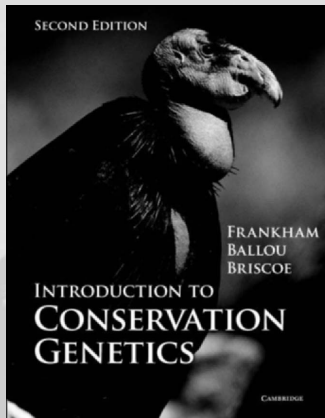
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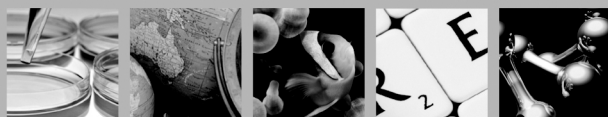
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