

## Editorial

### Online early – only online

This issue (Number 28) of the CHIRONOMUS Journal of Chironomidae Research includes three research papers and six short communications. The number of contributions is lower than what we have had in a while, and we have therefore considered which actions to take to make the journal a more attractive publication channel for the Chironomidae research community. In a world in which the number of online, open access journals is rapidly increasing and the turn-around time between manuscript submission and publication is rapidly decreasing, the competition between small journals is tough. A periodical like CHIRONOMUS, in which a submission in January cannot be expected to be published before December, is of course less appealing than one with frequent publication dates.

The CHIRONOMUS Journal for Chironomidae Research has taken a number of steps over the last few years to make the publication more widely available and appealing to the community. Current Research articles are peer-reviewed by expert reviewers and publication complies with the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (ICZN-Code); the journal's recent name change is meant to reflect the enhanced rigor, making CHIRONOMUS a more attractive venue for publication. Additionally, publications are freely accessible online and are deposited in the Directory of Open Access Journals, and there are no page-charge fees for publication. But, until now, we have been stuck to one issue per year in which all included papers have the same publication date. This has been necessary to avoid discrepancies between publication time for online and paper versions of the same article, as paper versions have been required to comply with the ICZN-Code.

The requirement for printed copies has now changed. As of January 1, 2016, CHIRONOMUS will only be electronically available and its publications separately downloadable through our website (<http://www.ntnu.no/ojs/index.php/chironomus>). This is possible since CHIRONOMUS contributions now also are stored in the permanent and approved electronic depository system PKP-LOCKSS enabled through the Open Journal System that we use. Together with ZooBank ([www.zoobank.org](http://www.zoobank.org)) registrations of all new scientific names, this meets the requirement by the ICZN-Code for publication of new taxa.

There are several immediate advantages of online-only publication. Printing costs are reduced to zero, but more importantly, we can now evaluate, accept and publish papers and short communications continuously as they are submitted to the journal. Thus, the turn-around time for a paper submitted to CHIRONOMUS will now only depend on the speed of the editorial board members, reviewers and authors, not the Gregorian calendar. All papers will still belong to a yearly issue and are citeable as we are used to. Along with publication of current research and short communications, the journal will still remain an important venue for relaying announcements and other significant news items relevant to the community of Chironomidae researchers; these items will be published annually in December. The CHIRONOMUS Journal aims to be a valuable resource for the Chironomidae research community and we hope the newest changes will make our journal a more attractive place to publish research results, news and short communications.

With best wishes for 2016.

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