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EDITORIAL AND REFLECTION

The mycological journal ***Studies in Mycology*** (*SiM*) was established by the late CBS director Johann Adolf von Arx in September 1972 and has evolved from a publication with taxonomic monographs with irregular appearance to a professional journal. Deviating from the practice of previous years when the *Studies in Mycology* (*SiM*) appeared once a year, the editorial board decided in 2005 that:

- *SiM* would in future publish three issues per year;
- *SiM* would only accept papers that deal with fungal cultures, and/or fungal DNA, which should be deposited at CBS to be optimally accessible to the scientific community;
- *SiM* would publish papers by invitation or if a volume or special topic was supported by one of its *associate editors*;
- *SiM* would move to a print-on-demand system that allows to incorporate full colour throughout the journal at reasonable costs, making *SiM* the first mycological journal to do so;
- *SiM* would be effectively linked to *MycoBank* (www.MycoBank.org), which facilitates the incorporation of additional data and illustrations that are not printed in the journal itself.

This policy has resulted in the publication of an issue focusing on Antarctic fungi and evolution under extreme conditions (De Hoog *et al*. 2005, Selbmann *et al*. 2005), an issue focusing on the phylogeny and morphology of *Cytospora* species and related teleomorphs (Adams *et al*. 2005), and a third issue focusing on the missing lineages, namely the taxonomy and ecology of sterile endophytic root-associated fungi (Hambleton & Sigler 2005, Hambleton *et al*. 2005, Mandyam & Jumpponen 2005, Rice & Currah 2005a, b, Sigler & Gibas 2005, Sigler *et al*. 2005, Summerbell 2005a, b, Zettler *et al*. 2005, Zijlstra *et al*. 2005). In the latter issue molecular techniques were indispensable to resolve the missing lineages of sterile root-inhabiting fungi and root-associated fungi such as *Oidiodendron*, *Meliniomyces*, *Leohumicola*, and *Cryptosporiopsis*.

Studies in Mycology: current status and future prospects

In 2006 we successfully continued with the policy of publishing three issues per year, but in accordance to the *open access* policy of the *Royal Dutch Academy of Arts and Sciences*, *SiM* chose to make its papers freely available, though hard copies will still be sold via its online *CBS WebShop*. Furthermore, *SiM* sees itself as developing as a high-impact journal focusing on monographs and revisions and, under special circumstances, introducing specific topical issues. In this regard, *SiM* strives to publish monographs and books formerly published in the *Mycological Papers* series (CABI), or the *Mycologia Memoirs* series of the *Mycological Society of America*. A high content of well founded taxonomic novelties is criterion for acceptance. Besides intensive in-house editorial treatment, each issue is reviewed by two external referees.

Effectively *SiM* should eventually become a journal that is seamlessly linked to regular online mycological journals such as *Mycological Research* and *Mycologia*, as well as *MycoBank*, *GenBank*, the *CBS culture collection*, and online herbaria, to name but a few.

February 2007 saw the first issues of *SiM* appearing online via *HighWire Press*. During 2007, we shall apply for inclusion in *PubMed*, which would further assist us in our goal to freely distribute published mycological literature, and to help promote mycology internationally.

Special issues of 2006

SIM 54: Taxonomy and Pathology of *Togninia* (*Diaporthales*) and its *Phaeoacremonium* anamorphs

Since the genus *Phaeoacremonium* W. Gams, Crous & M.J. Wingfield was described in 1996, the genus has been conclusively linked to phaeohyphomycosis of humans, as well as Petri disease and brown wood streaking of grapevines, a disease complex that is the topic of biennial meetings by the *International Council of Grapevine Trunk Diseases*. *Phaeoacremonium* was shown to comprise anamorphs of the genus *Togninia* (*Diaporthales*, *Togniniaceae*); it was monographed by Mostert *et al*. (2006), who treated 10 *Togninia* and 22 *Phaeoacremonium* species. Furthermore, several new species of *Togninia* and *Phaeoacremonium* were introduced, along with a *polyphasic online identification key*. The mating strategy of several *Togninia* species was investigated, showing several taxa to be homothallic, while others had a biallelic heterothallic mating system. The *Togniniaceae* was shown to be part of the *Diaporthales*, while the *Calosphaeriales* and the *Pleurostomataceae* clustered in the *Calosphaeriales*.

SIM 55: 100 Years of Fungal Biodiversity in southern Africa

The centenary of the National Collection of Fungi in South Africa was the incentive for a special celebratory volume of *SiM*, focusing on some current fungal research activities underway in southern Africa. Furthermore, it also led to the digitalization of “Doidge 1950” *[The South African Fungi and Lichens to the end of 1945, Bothalia 5: 1–1094]*, which made all these old fungal records available online. This set the stage for papers treating the history of the National Collection of Fungi (Rong & Baxter 2006), and another one speculating about the number of fungal species that exist at the tip of Africa (Crous *et al*. 2006d). Several disease and saprobic fungal complexes on *Eucalyptus* trees were

treated (Cortinas *et al*. 2006, Crous *et al*. 2006e–g, de Beer *et al*. 2006, Gryzenhout *et al*. 2006, Hunter *et al*. 2006). Indigenous fungi on rooibos (*Aspalathus linearis*) (Van Rensburg *et al*. 2006), *Restionaceae* (Lee *et al*. 2006), *Proteaceae* (Roets *et al*. 2006), *Myrtales* (Nakabonge *et al*. 2006), and *Zizyphus* (Maier *et al*. 2006), also received attention, along with soil-inhabiting genera such as *Cylindrocladium* (Crous *et al*. 2006b), and *Cylindrocarpon* (Halleen *et al*. 2006). Furthermore, Zhou *et al*. (2006) and Zipfel *et al.* (2006) treated the genus *Ophiostoma*, and reinstated *Grossmania* as distinct from *Ceratocystiopsis*. Two major *Mycosphaerella* disease complexes were treated by Crous *et al*. (2006a, c), showing that one species of *Pseudocercospora griseola* with two *formae* was associated with angular leaf spot of bean, but several species of *Cercospora* were associated with grey leaf spot of maize.

SIM 56: *Hypocrea* and *Trichoderma* studies marking the 90th birthday of Joan M. Dingley

A special issue of *SiM* was dedicated to Joan M. Dingley on the occasion of her 90th birthday. Joan Dingley received international status as mycologist for her excellent monographic work dealing with the *Hypocreales* of New Zealand. This special issue consists of four papers focusing on *Trichoderma* and their *Hypocrea* teleomorphs (Jaklitsch *et al*. 2006, Overton *et al*. 2006a, b, Samuels *et al*. 2006). Overton *et al*. (2006a, b) dealt with some conspicuous, mainly fungicolous *Hypocrea* species which have inconspicuous anamorphs. Samuels *et al*. (2006) (*T. koningii* clade) and Jaklitsch *et al*. 2006 (*T. viride* clade) dealt with some of the commonest, but very complex species, in which the *Trichoderma* anamorph outweighs the teleomorph in ecological success and differentiation. These groups include some important biocontrol agents.

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