

EDITORIAL

Editorial: 20 Years of *Tourism in Marine Environments*

Back in 2004, we published the first issue of *Tourism in Marine Environments*, featuring an editorial, five full (refereed) articles, a commentary, two conference reviews, and two book reviews. It was an excellent start for the only journal entirely dedicated to tourism in coastal, marine and island environments. Fast forward to today, and we are celebrating our 20th anniversary!

It has been very busy years for authors, editors, and publisher, and over the past 20 years we have published a total of 68 issues containing 349 written pieces in various categories (Table 1). Among these issues were 14 special issues, including five with the best papers of the International Coastal and Marine Congresses (CMT) (2005, 2007, 2009, 2012, and 2015), four special issues on cruise tourism, and one each on polar tourism, the Great Lakes, scuba diving, crowding, use levels, and social capacity issues, and safety and marine wildlife.

All these articles were penned by authors from 57 different countries on all continents, except Antarctica (Table 2).

Table 1
 Content of 20 Years of *Tourism in Marine Environments*

Full Refereed Articles	252
Research Notes	31
Commentaries	12
Reviews	9
Editorials	17
Book Reviews	17
Conference Reviews	10
Student Summaries	1
	349

Table 2
 Authors' Country of Origin

57 Countries ^a	
North America	126
Central/South America/Caribbean	8
Europe	96
Asia	27
Africa/Middle East	34
Australia/NZ/Oceania	120

Note. ^aBased on countries per article (i.e., if there were two or more authors from the same country on one article, they have been counted as one).

These authors reported on research in 64 countries and territories, plus the Arctic and Antarctica (Table 3). In addition, there were 77 articles that addressed issues in multiple countries or general global issues (marked as “international”).

A total of 49 past and current editors and countless reviewers have taken on the task to coordinate

Table 3
 Research Subject Regions

64 Countries	
International ^a	77
Antarctic/Arctic	11
North America	71
Central/South America/Caribbean	17
Europe	36
Asia	23
Africa/Middle East	26
Australia/NZ/Oceania	79

Note. ^aDenotes articles that address/discuss multiple regions.

and review all these manuscripts, giving constructive feedback. These are the unsung heroes of academic publishing, since most of their work happens in the background and is rarely recognized. Since the inception of TiME, we have made a concerted effort to increase the geographic spread and the gender balance of our editorial board members. While we still have a lot of work to do to have a better representation across the world's regions, I am pleased to report that we have achieved a fairly even gender split.

Celebrations

To celebrate the past 20 years of *Tourism in Marine Environments*, I invited all past and current members of the editorial board to nominate their top picks for best articles in two categories: Full Research Articles and Research Notes/Commentaries. The idea was to end up with 20 articles (one *for* each year of TiME, but not necessarily one *from* each year). However, after two rounds of nominating and voting, the team ended up with the top 25 (i.e., five more than planned). Congratulations to all authors of these articles—a certificate marking this achievement is on the way to you!

I am extremely pleased to announce the overall winners of the best articles in each category:

The **Best Full Research Article Award** goes to Carolin Meisel-Lusby and Stuart Cottrell for their article: Meisel-Lusby, C., & Cottrell, S. (2008). Understanding motivations and expectation of scuba divers. *Tourism in Marine Environments*, 5(1), 1–14. <https://doi.org/10.3727/154427308785855279>

The **Best article in the Research Notes & Commentaries category** goes to David Lusseau, Liz Slooten, and Rohan Currey for their research note: Lusseau, D., Slooten, L., & Currey, R. J. C. (2006). Unsustainable dolphin-watching tourism in Fiordland, New Zealand. *Tourism in Marine Environments*, 3(2), 173–178. <https://doi.org/10.3727/154427306779435184>

Our publisher, Cognizant Communication Corp., has generously contributed a \$500 prize for the best full article and a \$300 prize for the best research note. Congratulations to the authors of these two outstanding papers!

It is wonderful to celebrate all authors of these 25 papers, and their great work and writing. Thus, we have decided to dedicate this special double issue to republish the first nine of these articles, and then

the remaining articles spread over the coming four issues of Volume 20.

The Future of *Tourism in Marine Environments*

An anniversary such as this is also time for reflection, and a view into where we would like to go in the future. A look back shows that we have been very successful, and the journal is widely accepted in the academic community. However, not everything was a resounding success: For example, at our 10-year anniversary, we introduced a new section featuring postgraduate student summaries of their theses and dissertations, but this option was not accepted at all. We received and published only one such summary. My guess is that most postgraduate students rather write full papers and research notes based on their work, because these count for more on their CVs. Consequently, we will discontinue this section.

After 20 years, I also think that it is time for me to step back a bit and have somebody else take over as editor-in-chief. I am extremely pleased to announce that Serena Lucrezi (Associate Professor at North-West University in Potchefstroom, South Africa) has agreed to join me as co-EiC for about 2 years and then take over the journal. I have known Serena for quite some time and have been impressed not only by her academic achievements but also by her always happy and helpful personality. Over the past 2 months we have already shared this role and it has been nothing but a pleasure to work with Serena. She will be the best EiC I could ever wish for! I will remain involved with TiME, but not as EiC.

Along with Serena and a number of new editors, we will have Dr Roxane de Waegh joining us in the new role of a Social Media Editor. Roxy will work closely with Cognizant's social media person, Serena, and myself to make the journal and its authors more visible across our social media channels.

Along with the change of the EiC, we have also decided to make major changes to the editorial board. We invited new editors to join us, particularly looking at a better representation across the globe. This will be an ongoing process, so if you feel you would like to join the editorial board, feel free to send us an informal email and we will go from there. I am also pleased that some of the current editors will stay on the board, so that we have a smooth transition with a mix of new and experienced editors.

A major milestone, around the 10th anniversary, was the introduction of our online submission and management system, Scholastica. After 10 years of managing all papers in an Excel file and receiving paper submissions by email, it was time to take the plunge. Based on my experiences as an author publishing in other journals, I was actively looking for a system that is intuitive and easy to use. During my search I came across Scholastica and found this much easier to use than other systems, and subsequently we decided to implement it. To this day, I am very happy with Scholastica, and we will continue using it. Scholastica has also evolved over the last 10 years and offers us more options than ever. One of the exciting changes in the future will be a streamlining of the submission guidelines and required items to be submitted by authors. These changes will not be visible but help making the life of authors and editors much easier.

Gratitude

Establishing and running the journal for 20 years, I have had the pleasure working with so many individuals and groups. Editors, authors, reviewers, the publisher, and many others at conferences around the globe have made my life so much richer. It has been a wonderful experience, and by in large I have received nothing but positive feedback.

One type of feedback I am especially proud of is when authors send me messages and mails, saying that they had a great experience with their papers, highlighting how patient and supportive the respective editor and reviewers were. This is thanks to the tireless work of our editors and reviewers, and I can't thank them enough!

For a few years now, we have had a great relationship with the Pacific Whale Foundation (PWF) on Maui, Hawai'i. PWF helped us enormously with making publishing for ESL authors possible. They offered to copy-edit/proof papers by ESL authors once they had been accepted. Most amazingly, this was done by PWF staff members who volunteered to do this, totally free of charge. Both authors and editors are extremely grateful to them for this valuable contribution to TiME!

My sincere thanks also go to the team at Cognizant Communication, especially Lori Miranda and Chris Stagg! Without Lori's never-ending and enthusiastic support, we could not publish TiME at

all. And Chris Stagg is the heart of the production process and never fails to be prompt and diligent. Her keen eyes have caught so many mistakes—many of them my own—and she has not complained once. I am so grateful to have you both as integral members of the TiME family!

Lastly, I would like to thank Bob Miranda. In 2003, when I was looking for a publisher to accept the idea of the new journal, it was Bob who was excited about the proposal and gave us the opportunity to launch it with Cognizant. Just like Lori now, Bob has always been extremely supportive and helpful. Bob has deservedly retired a while ago and celebrated his 90th birthday last year. And I am so happy to receive occasional updates about Bob from Lori.

Bob, you are a wonderful person, and we all are lucky having had you in the right place at the right time. Simply put, without you, TiME would not exist. **With great gratitude, I dedicate this special issue to you!**



Bob Miranda celebrating his 90th birthday

Michael Lück
Co-Editor-in-Chief
Bjåsta, Sweden