

EDITORIAL

It is with much respect and fond memories, tinged with sadness that we note the passing of long-time and founding editorial board member, Lipke B. Holthuis of the Nationaal Natuurhistorisch Museum. Lipke was a lot more than a long-time Editorial Board member — he was a mentor, a top expert on nomenclature, a respected carcinologist and most of all a friend to many of the researchers who have published and continue to publish in this Journal.

And it is because of the lasting influence of researchers such as Lipke that Zoology will not be wanting of dedicated individuals to continue striving to push back the limits of what we know. Matthew Lim is one such individual. He is an accomplished behavioural biologist who has done work on jumping spiders (Lim & Li, 2004). He joins us on the Editorial Board as an Associate Editor. Navjot Sodhi stepped down as Associate Editor with us to focus on his editorship with “*Biological Conservation*”. We are pleased that he has agreed to remain on the Editorial Board of the RBZ to give us advice based on his considerable editorial experience.

The year 2008 saw the publishing of *Systema Brachyurorum*, the 17th RBZ Supplement. Three of the leading key players in the field of carcinology spent much of the past decade compiling this annotated checklist of the world’s brachyurans. Copies of this supplement have been spotted all over the world with personal notes and annotations made by their owners. We hope that this checklist will bring about a greater coherence in brachyuran systematics and open up new avenues for research into this diverse and intriguing group.

Supplement 18 encompassing the “Molluscs of Eastern Thailand: Proceedings of the International Marine Bivalve Workshop, Chantaburi, Thailand, August–September 2005, with contributions on other molluscan groups” was also published on 15 August 2008. It was our privilege to be able to play a part in advancing this field in conjunction with the International Marine Bivalve Workshop.

RBZ’s impact factor has risen for 2007 to 0.648 from 0.533 of the previous year. Once again, credit has to go to all on the Editorial Board for their untiring efforts in making the Bulletin more prominent in the zoological publication scene. We also like to thank all the referees who had graciously devoted considerable time and effort in helping us review and improving the manuscripts for publication. We look ahead to a busy year in 2009 with at least two supplements over and above the two regular issues.

Tan Swee Hee

Managing Editor

Raffles Bulletin of Zoology

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