EDITORIAL

From the Chief Editor

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FEMS Yeast Research is attracting more and more submissions every year. This is a very good sign and it implies that the journal has found its position in the field of scientific publishing. The journal attracts authors from all over the world, indicating its role as a global player in its field. It is stimulating to see how authors from nations emerging in the scientific arena want to see their work published in FEMS Yeast Research. It is my aim to further stimulate this trend, but at the same time, also to keep our standards as high as is possible in order to face the ongoing fierce competition. In doing so, we will continue to attract the best manuscripts that will further strengthen our profile in the field of eukaryotic microbiology.

In 2008, we were confronted with the passing away of Professor Isabel Spencer Martins (Portugal 1951–2008), who from the beginning was a strong supporter of the journal. It was a privilege for me to know her for such a long time and to collaborate with her.

A Thematic Section was published on Yeast Systems Biology (Vol. 8, Issue 1) with Jens Nielsen (Sweden) and Merja Penttilä (Finland) as guest editors. This section included one MiniReview and five original contributions. In November, a Thematic Issue (Vol. 8, Issue 7) was published on ‘Alcoholic fermentation: beverages to biofuel’, edited by Patrizia Romano (Italy) and Graham Fleet (Australia), that contained six MiniReviews and 15 original contributions. I would like to thank sincerely the Guest Editors involved in these Thematic Issues for their encouraging work for the journal, as I know this meant a lot of extra work. In 2009 we plan to have one Thematic Issue on clinically important ‘Candida’ yeasts that will be edited by Richard Calderone (USA) and Frank Odds (Scotland, UK).

As every year, part of the editorial board has been replaced in order to guarantee a flux of dedicated scientists involved in the journal throughout time. Here, I would like to thank those whose term ended December 31, 2008, for all their contributions to the journal.

Since January 1, 2008, the ‘Conference Calendar on Yeasts’, the ‘Meeting Reports’ and ‘Acknowledgements to the Reviewers’ have been published online only. The ‘Conference Calendar’ in particular has attracted quite some interest. Therefore, I would like to ask all of you who are organizing future meetings on yeasts to contact me in order that the information can be posted on our website. This will be beneficial for both the meeting organizers (and the meeting) as well as our journal. Of course, these meetings can be local/regional, national, or international in character, and may range from small and focused to large meetings that cover many topics.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you who made the journal a success, namely authors, reviewers, members of the editorial board, editors, editorial assistants at the FEMS publication office in Delft, the FEMS publication manager, and our publisher. Without you there would be no journal! We will continue to keep FEMS Yeast Research a strong journal dedicated to publishing excellent research on the many aspects of the biology of yeasts, thus serving the global community of fundamental, applied, and clinically oriented yeast researchers.

The future will be bright for FEMS Yeast Research.

Teun Boekhout
Chief Editor
CBS Fungal Diversity Centre
Uppsalalaan 8
3584 Utrecht
The Netherlands
E-mail: t.boekhout@cbs.knaw.nl