

Address by the Editor-in-Chief

Fossil Record is the palaeontological journal of the Museum für Naturkunde. It was founded by Hans-Peter Schultze in 1998 as a geoscience journal, the *Mitteilungen aus dem Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin, Geowissenschaftliche Reihe*. Together with its sister journals, the *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift* and *Zoosystematics and Evolution* (formerly the *Zoologische Reihe*), it promotes, as one of the central objectives of the museum, the dissemination of scientific results.

Over the past ten years, *Fossil Record* has experienced a series of changes. Starting in 1998 with the broad perspective of publishing contributions covering all aspects of earth sciences, the journal now focuses on the publication of high-quality, original papers in all areas of palaeontology. These include the taxonomy and systematics of fossil organisms, biostratigraphy, palaeoecology and evolution. All taxonomic groups are considered, ranging from vertebrates and invertebrates to microfossils and plants. The journal emphasizes specimen-based research and particularly encourages the publication of studies based on fossil material in collections housed in Berlin.

Furthermore, a new editorial staff took charge of the journal. Gloria Arratia, for many years the highly dedicated managing editor of the journal, moved to the University of Kansas in 2005, and was followed as managing editor by Dieter Korn. The new editorial team is completed by the co-editors Christian Klug and Rainer

Schoch, and the assistant editors Eva Patzschke and Angela Haese.

To appeal to an international audience and to demonstrate the increasing acceptance of the journal among the scientific community, we changed its name to *Fossil Record* in 2006. Since this time the journal has appeared with two issues each year, one in February and a second in August. As a standard, papers are written in English and each manuscript is subject to strict peer review, including at least two expert referees. Also since 2006, the journal is available online (<http://museum-fossilrecord.wiley-vch.de>). In view of these qualities we are confident that we will be included in the international citation index in the near future.

With the present issue, *Fossil Record* has also changed its look with a new colour cover and a new layout. To generate a consistent appearance for all three museum journals, these changes are also being adopted by the *Deutsche Entomologische Zeitschrift* and by *Zoosystematics and Evolution*. Publication of a manuscript in *Fossil Record* typically takes no longer than one year from submission and six months from acceptance of a manuscript. Along with its large format, high quality illustrations, and an option for publishing monographs, we anticipate that the journal will remain attractive to all readers and authors worldwide.

Martin Aberhan
Editor-in-Chief