

## Editorial: The First Six Years (2013-2018) of *Life: The Excitement of Biology*

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This is my annual summary of the major developments of *Life: The Excitement of Biology*, emphasizing 2018.

**Indexing and Referencing.** *Life: The Excitement of Biology* continues to be indexed and its published articles detected by *Biosis*, *Biological Abstracts*, *CAB Abstracts*, *Google Scholar*, and *Research Gate* and many others. Sometime during the early spring of 2019 three events occurred. I do not know if those events are causally linked.

- a. First, **LEB** received an impact factor from *Research Gate*. We have worked conscientiously and are pleased to have garnered this recognition. I vow to continue doing so to keep improving and gain similar recognition from other organizations.
- b. Second, a kind librarian made me aware that **LEB** is being indexed in many more venues than I was aware of. The full list of current indexing and abstracting units that detect *Life: The Excitement of Biology* can be found here: <https://blaypublishers.com/> and in all the digital pages of or web site.
- c. The number of hits in the web page of **LEB** expanded, from 30-35 hits per day to 100-150 hits per day in early 2019.

Although I hope to have more to say about all those trends in my editorial of *Life: The Excitement of Biology* 8(1) of 2020, certainly those news were heartwarming news to me.

**Increased Internationalization.** More scholars joined the Board of Editors of *Life: The Excitement of Biology* during 2018. Currently, the board has over 100 members representing over 40 countries worldwide. As usual, I am looking for competent colleagues from any area of biology and wholeheartedly welcome scholars to join, particularly those from countries less represented in the Board of Editors. The full and updated list of members of the Board of Editors can be found here: <https://blaypublishers.com/board/>.

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**“Responsive” Presence via Social Media.** *Life: The Excitement of Biology* retains a strong digital presence through, WordPress, its digital carrier. I cannot t more emphasize the excellent customer service I have received from the staff members of WordPress all these years. Also, **LEB** maintains a regular presence, particularly through email, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter, among others.

**Constantly Improving.** Authors, reviewers, subscribers, and members of the boards of *Life: The Excitement of Biology* continue suggesting improvements to the journal many of which we have incorporated. This editor insists that all scientific papers submitted to **LEB** be peer-reviewed while colleagues doing the reviews are encouraged to be careful, constructive, and as fast as possible. It is essential the authors take to heart the suggestions of reviewers and do not ignore alternative scientific explanations for the events they are trying to explain.

All of these continue helping **LEB** gain visibility among the communities of scholars and the broader public. The support of Wolf Printing of York, Pennsylvania (USA), printers of the hard copy version of *Life: The Excitement of Biology* as well as their friendly and helpful staff members deserve a special recognition.

Please, feel free to spread the word about *Life: The Excitement of Biology* and its high quality, fast publication, and helpfulness. I hope all of you join me in a wonderful voyage of discovery during the remaining of 2019 and years to come.

Finally, please consider **LEB** as a worthy venue to submit your scholarly work.

Sincerely and gratefully,

*Jorge Santiago-Blay*

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