

# Ancient TL

## Editorial

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Recently, the editing and production of *Ancient TL* transitioned from Greenville, North Carolina, USA, to Lausanne, Switzerland. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to all the previous Editors for their invaluable work and dedication over the years, which has been essential to the success of our community. As the new Editor of *Ancient TL*, I am delighted to announce a series of changes designed to enhance the journal's visibility, accessibility, and relevance within the luminescence and ESR research community. These changes, detailed below, will take effect from 1 January 2025.

To support these advancements, I am pleased to introduce a new Editorial Board, comprised of experts from around the world, reflecting diversity in terms of geographical affiliation, career stages, and gender (Figs. 1 and 2). This team will play a crucial role in guiding the journal's strategic direction and maintaining the quality standards of *Ancient TL*. We are also grateful for the continued support of the new Advisory Board, which includes former Editors and the head of the steering committee of the International Luminescence and Electron Spin Resonance Dating Association (ILEDA). Their experience will be instrumental in navigating complex editorial matters and ensuring adherence to the highest ethical standards.

*Ancient TL* has a longstanding tradition of publishing papers of practical relevance for luminescence and ESR dating techniques. To reflect the progression of our field, we are broadening the journal's scope to encompass a wider range of topics. This includes all methods for quantifying environmental dose rates, software and code for data processing, and applications of luminescence and ESR beyond dating, such as determining rates of geological processes, rock thermal histories, provenance, or for characterisation purposes. We also welcome contributions on interlaboratory comparisons, standardisation procedures, failed experiments and observations that are yet difficult to explain. We believe that publishing those results fills a gap left by other journals and stimulates discussion in the community.

Furthermore, we recognise the importance of an objective and thorough peer-review process. To this end, we are mov-

ing to a single-blind review system where authors are asked to suggest potential reviewers from our new Editorial Board or also from the broader research community, depending on the topic's requirements. While the final selection of reviewers rests with the handling editor, this adapted system ensures a fair and rigorous evaluation of the submitted works.

We are also introducing refined article formats to cater to the diverse needs of our authors. These include:

- Research Article (up to 10,000 words, 2 peer-reviews)
- Short Communication (up to 4,000 words, 1 peer-review)
- Spotlight review (invited, up to 5,000 words, 1 peer-review)
- Letter to the Editor, including comments on previous papers published in *Ancient TL* (1 peer-review)
- Thesis Abstract
- Corrigendum

This range of formats provides authors with more flexible options for presenting their research findings and engaging in scholarly dialogue.

In line with the growing emphasis on open science, *Ancient TL* will continue to publish diamond open access, henceforth using the SOAP2 platform which is based on Open Journal Systems. This platform offers a comprehensive editorial workflow and promotes transparency and efficiency throughout the publication process. With the transition to SOAP2, all *Ancient TL* articles, including past publications, will be assigned a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) and registered with CrossRef. The journal policies on publication ethics, data availability, and conflict of interest have been updated to ensure the integrity and credibility of the research published in *Ancient TL*.

We are confident that these changes will attract a wider range of submissions, including from early-career researchers, foster greater discussion within the research community and enhance the visibility and impact of the

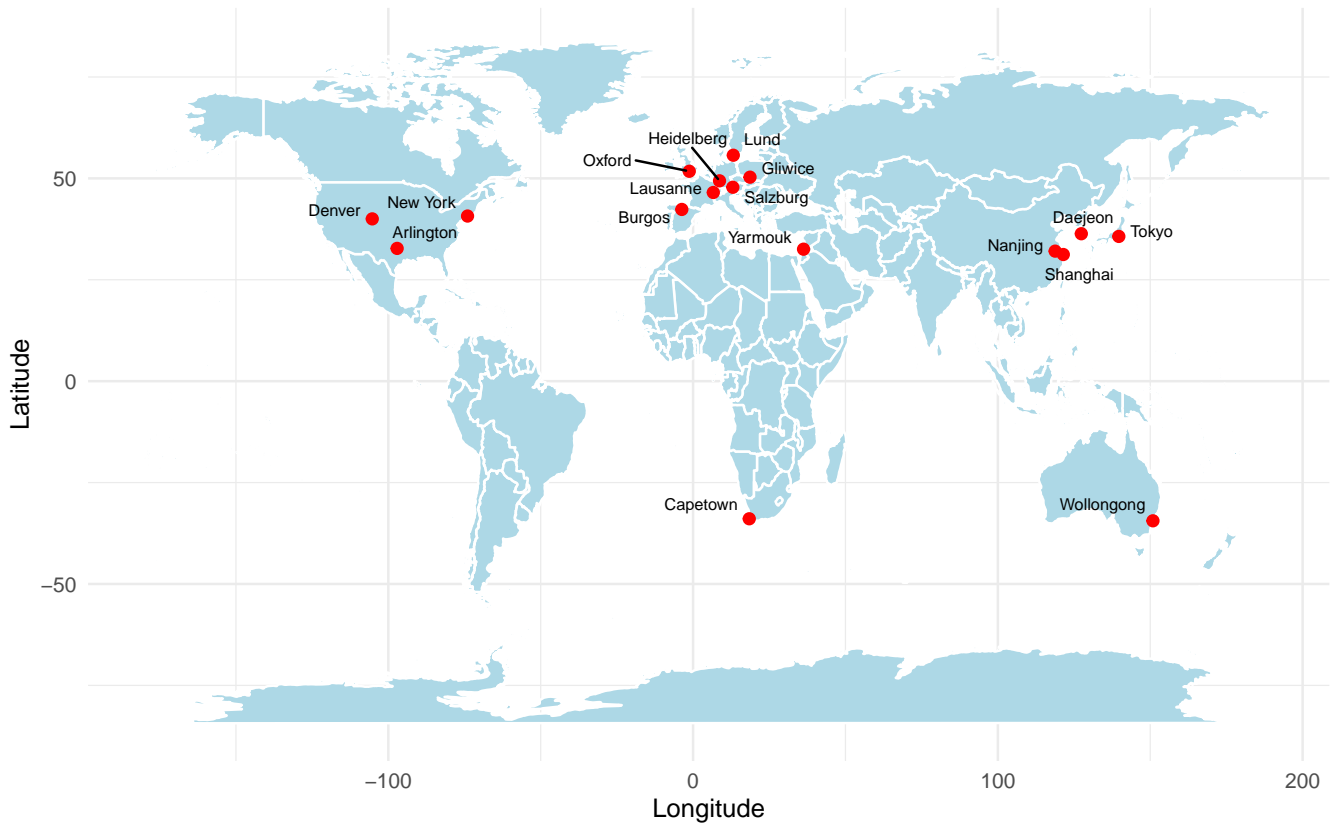


Figure 1. Affiliation of the new Editorial Board members.

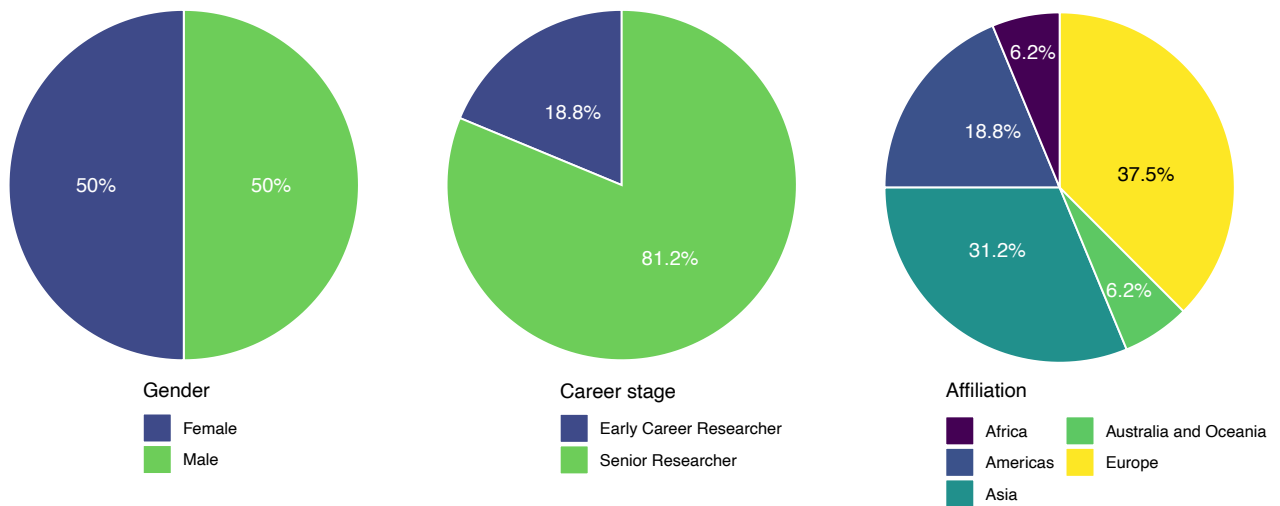


Figure 2. Gender and career stage representation as well as geographic affiliation of the new Editorial Board members. Early Career Scientists are defined as those who received their highest academic degree within the last seven years.

research published in *Ancient TL*. We encourage you to explore the new website and submit your latest research to *Ancient TL*.

The Editorial Team of *Ancient TL*