

## Editorial

### The First Eleven (2013-2023) of *Life: The Excitement of Biology*<sup>1</sup>

Jorge A. Santiago-Blay<sup>2</sup>

This is my annual summary of the major developments of *Life: The Excitement of Biology*, emphasizing 2023. Although the pandemic phase of COVID-19 is over, my fieldwork between 2022 and 2024, along with increased professional demands, limited my ability to complete *Life: The Excitement of Biology (LEB)* issues as planned. I take full responsibility for this and aim to catch up. While some uncontrollable factors have contributed to the delays, I am learning to manage them better. Fortunately, several revised manuscripts are ready for publication in upcoming *LEB* issues.

One of the main reasons I created *Life: The Excitement of Biology* in 2012 was to foster an atmosphere of innovation through constructive feedback, helping authors improve their work. This mission remains central to my efforts, whether the research focuses on molecular biology, ecosystemology, or any field in between. I strive to present science in accessible language, complemented by clear illustrations.

I am deeply grateful to the authors, reviewers, guest editors, and supporters who have helped make *LEB* possible. I want to thank authors who have commended my work and expediency, even during the times when I have not been able to produce as many issues as I had wished. Also, I want to wholeheartedly thank the reviewers and guest editors who help make *Life: The Excitement of Biology* possible. The kind words of several prospective authors, whose work may be considered “controversial”, encourage me to continue pursuing my mission of welcoming all, particularly those whose voices may be less heard. Special thanks go to the staff at Wolf Printing in York, Pennsylvania (USA), printers of the hard copy version of *LEB*, the WordPress team for their excellent support, and the many friends, colleagues, and staff members at different organizations who help me with computer issues. In sum, many thanks to all who have helped me during the past eleven years and hope that all readers will continue supporting this call.

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<sup>1</sup> Completed on December 29, 2024.

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Please continue sharing *Life: The Excitement of Biology*'s reputation for high-quality, fast publication, and editorial assistance. Health permitting, I hope to continue this journey of discovery for years to come.

Sincerely and gratefully,

*Jorge Santiago-Blay*

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