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Challenging Times in Academia

Editorial Board

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Challenging Times in Academia

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Abstract

With volume 8, *Spora* is well on its way to be a highly respected platform for student-driven research in mathematics, biology, and related fields. *Spora's* role in disseminating work especially accessible to students makes it a unique platform to expand the body of knowledge in mathematical biology. *Spora* welcomes submissions related to Ph.D. dissertations, master's theses, and undergraduate research projects.

Keywords: collaborative, student-driven, Intercollegiate Biomathematics Alliance

Spora Stands Strong

With the release of our eighth volume, we are proud of the place that *Spora* has reached in research and education of the mathematical biology world. As 2021 proved to be as challenging as the previous year, the educators, researchers, and professionals who dedicate their efforts to the betterment of the world as we know it relied on *Spora* to disseminate their and their students' work.

Thanks to the generous support of the Intercollegiate Biomathematics Alliance (IBA), *Spora* remains available for the contributions of future researchers and young scholars along with their mentors to elevate the efforts of this generation to an even higher echelon. Our sponsor, the IBA, is a consortium of universities and colleges working together to foster and promote the advancement of mathematical biology. None of these could have happened without the contributions of our energetic Editorial Board. I am grateful to each and every member of the Editorial Board for their tireless work during this journey. To our authors and reviewers, please accept my deepest gratitude as well for your contributions that have brought much success since our inception. We rely on you to continue spreading the word to your colleagues and students.

Journal Sections

Manuscripts may be submitted to one of the three sections of *Spora*.

The Biomathematics section publishes high-quality research articles of novel, as well as established, mathematical and statistical approaches to biological hypotheses. Manuscripts should employ an interdisciplinary approach

and should be of interest to a wide spectrum of scientists from related fields. Interdisciplinary research from any sub-discipline within the life sciences in conjunction with any sub-discipline within the mathematical and statistical sciences are also considered for this section.

Similarly, the Biology Research section publishes high-quality articles communicating student-driven research in experimental biology. Research from any sub-discipline of biology are considered, and manuscripts should be of general interest to the biological research community.

Finally, the Exposition section publishes high-quality expository articles that describe particular areas of mathematical biology research. Manuscripts in this section may consist of critical and constructive analyses of the literature in a specific field that are part of undergraduate capstone projects, graduate projects, or reviews. For reviews, it is also appropriate to mention any relevant software or instrumentation.

As always *Spora* owes a part of its success to dedicated faculty reviewers, its editorial board, and the editorial support team members.

With deepest gratitude for our reviewers, editors, staff, and especially authors, I welcome you to Volume 8.

We start 2022 with the hope that it brings good health and more academic success and satisfaction to the close-knit family we share in mathematical biology.