Editorial

This issue of Quaternary Geochronology is the last one where I am the Editor-in-Chief. Quaternary Geochronology (QG) was born during a conversation when Giff Miller, John Chappell and John Magee and I were sitting around a camp fire in the Simpson Desert in Australia. I took the idea to David Bowen, the Editor-in-Chief of Quaternary Science Reviews (QSR) and Peter Henn, the Production Manager of QSR at Pergamon Press. Both agreed that it was a good idea, however, rather than starting a new journal it was decided to have special issues in QSR. The first issue of Quaternary Geochronology was published in 1994 as QSR 13 (2). In the early 2000s, Jim Rose, then the Editor-in-Chief of QSR, suggested that QG should become a stand-alone-journal. I have to admit that I was quite reluctant to go alone. QSR had impact factors of more than 4, and I thought that QG would struggle to reach 1. Jim suggested to start with a special issue on Cosmogenic Isotopes, as these papers did well in QSR. This was brilliant advice, as QG published some of the most influential papers on this topic over the years. The dreaded impact factor of less than 1 never materialised. QG did much better. The factor has been oscillating widely in a range between 2 and 4, which is typical for a relatively small journal.

Now, 27 years after the Simpson Desert camp fire went out it's time to pass the flame to the next Editor-in-Chief. I am very pleased that Frank Preusser has agreed to fill this role. Perhaps it is a good sign that Frank actually did his PhD at the same working desk in the Department of Geology in Cologne as I did 14 years before him. But it could also be a sign that the office furniture was of reasonable quality. I want to take the opportunity to thank Ann Wintle and David Bowen who were instrumental to set up QG, Jim Rose for our longstanding collaboration during QSR times and beyond, and Femke Wallien from Elsevier for being an incredibly supporter and good friend. I thank the editors who have worked with me over the years, the Editorial Board members and all production managers at Elsevier. So it's time to wish QG all the best and I am certain that Frank, the subject editors, the QG Board members and, of course, the many excellent authors will face the recent challenges provided by open source publications and improve on the internationally acknowledged quality of Quaternary Geochronology.

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