

## EDITORIAL

### Comments in *Environmental Conservation*: developing crucial dialogue in environmental science

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It seems widely accepted that environmental conservation will develop in the right direction only through dialogue across disciplines that is well sourced and objectively argued. Yet most people seem to have different ideas about what constitutes interdisciplinarity and few if any have a clear idea as to how different disciplines should be effectively integrated in the context of conserving the environment. The Comments section of the journal provides a unique opportunity to explore more of this important ground. In effect, *Environmental Conservation* is aiming for the Comments section to become a regular feature in each issue. This is a new departure to address topical issues of general interest through brief essays that are intended to stimulate discussion. Comments may either challenge or augment the findings of previously published work (in this or other journals), present new interpretations or syntheses of current issues, or suggest new ideas and approaches to environmental conservation, policy and management.

Over the next year, the journal intends to publish a series of invited comments which we hope will provoke debate and provide food for thought in the domain of interdisciplinary environmental science and management. And, as usual, we will continue to consider Comments across the journal's subject range, papers that will be subject to the usual rigorous external review and editing. All Comments need to be particularly succinct (maximum 1500 words including references), although they may be written in a slightly less formal style than research papers and subject reviews. Submissions that challenge existing paradigms, theory or management practices are welcome, subject to their being based on sound logic and balanced well-supported arguments.

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