

Editorial

The year 2008 was a fruitful year for the Netherlands Journal of Geosciences. We have had a healthy manuscript flow resulting in a series of very good contributions, which will likely result in the increase of our journals' Impact Factor.

Volume 87 comprised two special issues, the first one on 'the Rhine - a major fluvial record' (87-1), which received a lot of attention in particularly Germany. The other special issue on 'Climate change- Facts, Uncertainties and Myths' (87-3) contained papers and abstracts from the successful symposium organized by one of our founders KNGMG. For both special issues, our guest editors Wim Westerhoff and Evert van de Graaff did an excellent job.

During 2008 Cees van der Zwan and Hubert Vonhof resigned from the editorial board. We thank both for their contributions to the journal and hope that they continue to support NJG in the future. We are very happy that Ronald van Balen was willing to replace Hubert Vonhof, and we hope that NJG profits from his expertise and good contacts in the Dutch geological society. We are in the process of refreshing our editorial advisory board, which means that during this year a number of colleagues will disappear from the list and will be replaced by new advisory board members. On behalf of the whole editorial team I would like to thank all our active advisory board members for their help in the reviewing process.

For this year we have again some new features. Firstly, we started with an electronic workflow system OJS supported by IGTUR publishing and archiving services, which will enable us to follow the editorial process more easily, and which will eventually decrease the running time between submission and publication. From now on this means that submission of manuscripts will be handled electronically through our web-page www.njgonline.nl.

Secondly, in the present issue 88-1 we make a start with a new section in NJG which is named: 'Geo-perspective'. Geo-perspective papers are invited contributions that provide a geo-scientific viewpoint on societal issues. Geo-perspective papers are reviewed by an editorial board member and one external reviewer.

As evidenced by the successful KNGMG symposium mentioned above, climate change was indeed an important issue in 2008. The publication of the report of the second Delta commission (Commissie Veerman) is prove that the threat of rising sea-level reached politics and resulted in an increased attention for issues related to the impact of climate change. The formation of the new DELTARES institute, also underlines the growing awareness of sea-level rise and increased flooding on a vulnerable area as the Netherlands.

Therefore, first Geo-perspective article in NJG is a paper by Pier Vellinga and his colleagues entitled: 'Climate-proofing the flood protection of the Netherlands'. In this contribution the effects of sea-level rise and possible solutions are outlined from the viewpoint of one of the worlds leading specialists in Climate Impact Studies.

Subsequently, the superbly illustrated paper by Marc Hijma and co-workers shows that for the Netherlands, sea-level change is nothing new, as seen from an early to middle Holocene perspective. In the contribution by Kees Linthout and co-workers the link between geology and archeology is very nicely illustrated in the provenance study of basaltic blocks used in Roman times for different purposes. Finally, in the last contribution in this issue by John Menzies and Colin Whiteman, microstructures from Late Jurassic diamictic units from the Scottish side of the North Sea Basin are compared with a Pleistocene diamicton from southern Ontario, Canada, revealing a different origin despite the visual similarity.

I hope you all enjoy reading this issue and get stimulated to submit your papers to NJG.

W.Z. Hoek
Editor-in-chief