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Sex Chromosome Evolution and Meiosis

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Message from the Guest Editors

From the early days of study of genetics and – with ever refined research tools – up to the present time, sex chromosomes have always been a source of fascination. At least three features set sex chromosomes apart from the rest of the genome and drive their unique evolution: the unusual pattern of transmission, the lack of recombination on sex-specific regions, and the absence of synapsis once the two sex chromosomes become divergent enough.

All these three features take place during meiosis, which makes this process the key component to understanding the evolution and differentiation of sex chromosomes. Surprisingly, however, the meiotic behaviour of sex chromosomes and the cellular context in which it happens have received little attention so far.

In this Special Issue, we aim to fill this gap by exploring the large diversity of sex chromosome systems and how the tightly choreographed process of meiosis copes with this. We hope that the table of contents will illustrate this diversity, and that multiple model systems, meiotic processes, and disciplines will be covered.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Genes are central to our understanding of biology, and modern advances such as genomics and genome editing have maintained genetics as a vibrant, diverse and fastmoving field. There is a need for good quality, open access journals in this area, and the *Genes* team aims to provide expert manuscript handling, serious peer review, and rapid publication across the whole discipline of genetics. Starting in 2010, the journal is now well established and recognised.

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