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Quaternary global change: Review and issues

Special issue in memory of Hugues Faure

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Introduction

The French National Committee of INQUA, the IGCP Project n° 459 (Carbon Cycle and Hydrology in the Paleo Terrestrial Environments), the CNRS (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique), the CCGM (Commission de la Carte Géologique du Monde), the IRD (Institut de Recherche pour le Développement), and the BRGM (Bureau de Recherches Géologiques et Minières) have organized in June 2004 a special International Colloquium dedicated to the memory of Hugues Faure who passed away in May 2003. It was the occasion to make a review and to emphasize new results and issues on the different topics initiated by Hugues and his collaborators. It was also a chance for all his colleagues and friends to remember a rare human being and a great scientist, passionately involved in the observation and understanding of the planet, which he called “the real world”, and assuming his destiny up to the end.

The Scientific committee of this colloquium has decided to publish a special issue of *Global and Planetary Change* with some selected papers presented during this colloquium.

This GPC special issue includes some of the papers presented at this colloquium and some invited papers from scientific personalities who wished to contribute to this special volume. The general theme of the special publication in honour to Hugues Faure is the Quaternary and the Global Changes. It will focus on the global cycles and Quaternary climate (3 papers), sea-level fluctuations, tectonics and climate variations (3 papers), climate changes in terrestrial records (9 papers), and man, environment and global change (4 papers). A total of 20 contributions, including a foreword on Hugues Faure, are proposed by the participants of this colloquium.

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