The journal encourages the dissemination of knowledge and understanding of the coastal zone by promoting cooperation and communication between specialists in different disciplines. Natural scientists, for example, are encouraged to collaborate with professionals in other fields to prepare contributions relating to the coastal zone that foster increased appreciation of coastal environments and processes. By means of this journal, with its scholarly and professional nature, the wide range of interrelated topics, the journal invites original contributions and manuscripts dealing with theory, methodology, techniques, and field or applied topic studies on interdisciplinary coastal issues.

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Aims and Scope of the Journal

Journal of Coastal Research, an International Forum for the Littoral Sciences, is dedicated to all aspects of coastal research. These include geology, biology, geomorphology (physical geography), climate, littoral oceanography, hydrography, coastal hydrodynamics, environmental (resource) management, engineering, and remote sensing. Although each field functions effectively within its own purview, the cross-disciplinary nature of coastal studies requires familiarity with other fields as well. Hence, the scope of topics is necessarily broad in order to address the complexity of coastal biophysical and socio-economic interactions. Because of the wide range of interrelated topics, the journal invites original contributions and manuscripts dealing with theory, methodology, techniques, and field or applied topic studies on interdisciplinary coastal issues.

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Subscription Information: The Journal of Coastal Research is a bimonthly publication. Calendar-year (2017) print and online subscription prices for the JCR are: $115.00 for US CERF members / $125.00 for International CERF members ($95.00 for online only), and $519.00 for US institutions / $541.00 for International institutions ($437.00 for online only). Additional surface charges may apply to subscribers located outside of the USA. For additional membership and subscription forms and information, please go to www.CERF-JCR.org. To obtain a membership or subscription form by mail, please send request to Journal of Coastal Research, P.O. Box 7065, Lawrence, KS 66044. Back Issues and Special Issues of the JCR, when available, can be directly purchased at www.CERF-JCR.org.

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St. Georgios Bay, Naxos Island, Greece. Naxos is the largest island (around 429 km²) of the Greek Cyclades Archipelago in the Aegean Sea. In addition to being the center of archaic Cycladic culture and an abundant source of emery deposits, Naxos is one of the most fertile islands within the Cyclades. It has a good supply of water in a region where water is usually lacking. Mount Zeus (at approximately 1,004 m) is the highest peak in the Cyclades, and tends to trap the clouds, permitting greater rainfall. This has made agriculture an important economic commerce, with various vegetable and fruit crops, as well as cattle breeding. Naxos is well known within Greece for its cheese, potatoes, and Kitron, a local lemon-citrus spirit.

The climate found on Naxos Island is typical Mediterranean, with relatively mild winters and very warm summers. The Köppen Climate Classification subtype for this climate is Csa. This dry climate, in combination with the coastal marine and aeolian processes, have shaped the recent landscape of the western coast of Naxos island. Around 6000 years BP, St. Georgios Bay was protected by an elongated coastline, which extended almost parallel to the present day shore. The analysis of sediments and microfaunal content revealed that at least from 6144 yrs BP until 232 yrs BP, this area used to be an active lagoon. The embayment was actively changing from a pure coastal environment to a system that frequently alternated between shallow marine (with some fresh water input) and brackish mesohaline (Evelpidou et al., 2010, 2012). The bay shown in the photo has now periodically allowed seawater into a lagoon beside the sand dune beach. This large shallow bay was probably used as a harbor to access the Yria archaeological site, which contains several worship centers and a temple dedicated to the god Dionysus. (Photograph taken by Niki Evelpidou, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece)

LITERATURE CITED

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The Coastal Education and Research Foundation (CERF) is
a nonprofit society dedicated to the advancement of the
coastal sciences. The Foundation is devoted to the multi-disciplinary study
of the complex problems of the coastal zone. The purpose of CERF is to
help translate and interpret coastal issues for the public and to assist
professional research and public information programs. The Founda-
tion specifically supports and encourages field and laboratory studies
on a local, national, and international basis. Through the medium of
scientific publications, television, and radio CERF brings accurate in-
formation to the public and coastal specialists on all aspects of coastal
issues in an effort to maintain or improve the quality of shoreline
resources.

Because CERF is concerned with broad environmental issues, our
efforts concentrate on significant problems such as maintenance of
good quality (potable) water with adequate supply, and hazards
associated with potential beach erosion, flooding, and susceptibility of
developed shorelines to storm surge and wave attack. By focusing
attention on these potential man-made and natural hazards, it is hoped that
our research efforts will help others improve the quality of life in
diverse coastal areas. CERF thus aims to stimulate awareness of
coastal (marine and freshwater shorelines) land and water problems;
initiate and foster research and innovation to promote long-term
costal productivity; establish an educational forum for the debate of
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and use.
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