During its first five years (2014–2019), and under the thoughtful guidance of its first Editor-in-Chief Professor Anthony Harding, the journal *Open Archaeology* has established itself as an important forum and open access journal within global archaeology.

The aim of the journal is to publish original high-quality research on all aspects of archaeology and stimulating critical studies and interpretations of the past which have a global impact on the archaeological community and beyond. The journal encompasses novel, interdisciplinary approaches to world archaeology, archaeological science, theory and interpretation, as well as archaeological heritage, management and promotion. It offers archaeologists from all over the world the chance to publish seminal topical issues under the guidance of invited guest editors, special thematic issues on important concurrent debates and fields of research, as well as thought-provoking regular freestanding interpretative articles with high relevance to our understanding of the past.

I am very honoured to have been offered the possibility to act as the new Editor-in-Chief for *Open Archaeology* from 2020 and onwards, and I am very much looking forward to developing this forum in collaboration with De Gruyter, the journal’s Managing Editor Katarzyna Inga Michalak, its prominent team of Editors and the Editorial Advisory Board.

In my opinion archaeology has never been so dynamic, inspiring and progressive, and my mission is to make this shine through in this and future issues of *Open Archaeology*.

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