

Dear readers:

It's an exciting time for mycology! The last decade witnessed a mushrooming of interest in fungi, and numerous fungal applications are likely to come into focus in 2020.

Taking cues from the Eastern appreciation of mycophagy, the nutraceutical and adaptogenic properties of mushrooms for maintaining health are gaining notice. Furthermore, nonedibles like *Trametes versicolor*, *Inonotus obliquus* (chaga) and *Ganoderma* spp. are recognized as potential sources of bioactive natural products for use when health fails; research continues into their potential.

Moreover, fungi are recognized as a resource for addressing broader issues of sustainability: not just as an animal protein substitute, but also for processes of soil and water remediation, recyclable packaging materials, biodegradable furniture, and treating colony collapse disorder. From this perspective, the only limit to fungal possibilities seems to be our imagination...and mushrooms can even help us address that!

After the long winter of psilocybin research imposed by its designation as a schedule 1 drug, serious clinical research into the use of psychedelic mushrooms has reemerged as a very promising treatment—dare I say solution—for chronic problems like smoking and alcohol addiction, depression and post-traumatic stress disorder. This has been made possible by the FDA designation in 2018 of Breakthrough Therapy status to psilocybin, the active ingredient, along with psilocin, in 'Magic Mushrooms'.

I encourage you to submit a manuscript to *Mcllvainea*, no matter its length or breadth. Note that [instructions for formatting manuscript submissions](#) have been expanded on the *Mcllvainea* homepage.

Best wishes for successful foraging, and thanks for reading.

Laura Juszczak, Editor
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Cover photo caption: Appalachian *Triplax* spp. beetle on oyster gills from “Animal-Fungal Interactions 4: Observations of Coleopteran use of *Ganoderma* and other fungi in the southern Appalachian Mountains” by Todd Elliot, *Mcllvainea*, this volume