

Interactive comment on “Factors Influencing Porosity in Planktonic Foraminifera” by Janet E. Burke et al.

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General Comments

This paper represents an important contribution to our understanding of the morphology, taxonomy, physiology and biogeochemistry of planktonic foraminifera. A combination of core top analyses and culturing techniques yielded an effective means to evaluate environmental and genetic influences on pore characteristics of a large number of specimens. The very interesting results from this study provide information that can be applied to the microfossil record of paleoceanographic change.

The paper is clear, well written, novel and timely.

Specific Comments

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The term “porosity” has different meanings in geoscience. I think it might be best to use “surface area of pores” at least in the abstract, if not the title, to make it clearer what you are referring to.

What role does food availability play in the size and metabolism of planktonic foraminifera?

Technical Corrections

373 Should be “. . .Scripps Institution. . .”

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