Early Earth

John W. Valley, Guest Editor

The Origin of the Earth – What’s New?
Alex N. Halliday

Impact Processes on the Early Earth
Christian Koeberl

Earth’s Earliest Atmosphere
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Antiquity of the Oceans and Continents
Allen P. Nutman

The First Billion Years: When Did Life Emerge?
J. William Schopf

About the Cover:
Artist’s view of the cool early Earth as it may have appeared at 4.2 Ga. Meteorite impacts were still relatively common on Earth and Moon. The Moon was in closer orbit, and its dark maria had not yet appeared. On Earth, volcanism and other magmatic processes were starting to form granitic rocks and proto-continental crust. Liquid water covered much of Earth, locally altering rocks, and the stage was set for emergence of life.