

Conference announcement, Call for Posters

An international conference on

Macroecological Tools for Global Change Research

will be held from **21.08.-23.08.2006** in **Potsdam**, Germany at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), organized by the “Virtual Institute Macroecology”, Germany.

Topics

Macroecology is an important field in contemporary ecology dealing with emerging statistical properties such as the patterns and processes of diversity and distribution of a large number of “ecological particles”. Ecological particles could not only be species, but be on any scale of the hierarchy of biological organization, e.g. genes, traits, ecosystems. Macroecology has large influence on ecological theory and practical applications. It is widely regarded as a basic science for Global Change research.

- *New Methods in Macroecological Research*
- *Functional Traits and Environmental Relationships*
- *Macroecology of Plant Animal Interactions*
- *Ecophysiology and Energy Relationships in Macroecology*
- *Evolutionary Changes through Global Change*
- *Community Shift or Community Reassembly*
- *Impact of Climate Change on Different Trophic Levels*

Invited Speakers

The conference will consist of comprehensive reviews on specific topics by leading experts. The following individuals already agreed to give presentations:

- Tim Blackburn, UK
- David Currie, Canada
- Alexandre Diniz-Filho, Brazil
- Brian Enquist, USA
- Nicholas Gotelli, USA
- Sandra Lavorel, France
- Pablo Marquet, Chile
- Carsten Rabek, Denmark
- Dave Richardson, South Africa (tentatively)
- Dov Sax, USA
- Felisa Smith, USA
- Martin Sykes, Sweden

Call for Posters

Basic elements of the conference are posters. Every poster will be presented by an oral contribution of a few minutes and an additional discussion. The poster presentations will thus form a substantial part of the conference.

There will be the opportunity to apply for poster presentations. To register, please provide an abstract of the poster. Abstracts will be evaluated by at least two members of the scientific

committee to restrict the presentations to innovative approaches and to ensure scientific quality.

Venue

The Conference will be held at the Science Park “Albert Einstein” close to Potsdam city centre. Potsdam is centrally located, just west of Berlin with easy access to the Berlin airports and Berlin railway stations with regular public transport connections

Registration and Further Details

There will be a web registration interface available soon at www.macroecology.org
Deadline for poster registration will be 30. April, 2006.

Fees

Regular Fees: 100.00 €(registering and payment until 30. April, 2006)

Students Fees: 50.00 €

Late registrations: 150.00 €(registration and payment after 31. April, 2006)

Late student registration: 75.00 €

Students have to provide prove to be eligible for reduced fees when registering at the conference office.

The Virtual Institute Macroecology

The “Virtual Institute Macroecology” is a network, comprising the UFZ – Centre for Environmental Research Leipzig-Halle in the Helmholtz Association, the PIK – Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, and the Universities of Göttingen, Mainz and Marburg. Virtual Institutes are funded by the President of the “Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres” to facilitate thematic research on important scientific topics by combining the expertise of at least one Helmholtz Centre and different Universities and other Research Centres.

The aim of the “Virtual Institute Macroecology” is to develop and test concepts and methods for assessing changes in macroecological patterns under global change. This will be realized by working on functional traits of organisms across environmental gradients employing a macroecological approach to understand the consequences of global change.

Scientific Committee of the Virtual Institute

Katrin Böhning-Gaese (University of Mainz)

Roland Brandl (University of Marburg)

Wolfgang Cramer (Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research)

Christoph Leuschner (University of Göttingen)

Stefan Klotz (UFZ – Centre for Environmental Research, Leipzig-Halle)

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