

## **Upcoming conferences of interest to astrobiology**

1.

Gordon Research Conference: Polar Marine Science - Beyond IPY Crossing boundaries  
March 15-20, 2009

Location: Barga, near Lucca, Tuscany, Italy

The 2009 Gordon Research Conference will take place directly following the 2007-2009 International Polar Year (IPY), which has been one of the most significant internationally coordinated efforts yet undertaken in polar research.

The overarching conference goal will be to bring together marine scientists from wide ranging disciplines for discussion of future research pathways within a cross-disciplinary context in order to better understand the implications of large-scale marine dynamics in the polar regions.

Please apply for the conference at (where further details about speakers can be found):

<http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2009&program=polar>

2.

Lunar and Planetary Science Conference

March 23-27, 2009

The Woodlands, TX, USA

<http://astrobiology.nasa.gov/event/lunar-and-planetary-science-conference/>

3.

European Advanced Life Support Workshop

June 2 - 4 2009

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain.

DL for abstracts: January 15, 2009

<http://www.congrex.nl/09C13>

4.

Goldschmidt2009

June 21 - 26

Davos, Switzerland

[www.goldschmidt2009.org](http://www.goldschmidt2009.org)

abstract forms available 1 January 2009

abstract deadline 22 February 2009

5.

Nordic Summer school: "Water, Ice and the Origin of Life in the Universe"

June 29- July 13, 2009

Iceland

<http://www.nordicastrobiology.net/iceland2009/>

6.

AbGradCon 2009,

Astrobiology Graduate Student Conference,  
July 17-20, 2009,  
Seattle WA, USA  
<http://tinyurl.com/abgradcon09>

7.

General Assembly of the European Geosciences Union 2009 (EGU2009),  
19 Apr 2009 - 24 Apr 2009,  
Vienna, Austria.

<http://meetingorganizer.copernicus.org/EGU2009/sessionprogramme/BG#BG7>

BG7.1 Traces of life from cells to planets

Sponsored by ESF ArchEnviron

Convener: Emmanuelle Javaux (university of Liège, Belgium)

Co-Conveners: Andrey Bekker (Univ Manitoba, Canada) , Kevin Lepot (university of Liège, Belgium)

The search for life in early Earth rocks and beyond Earth requires the characterization of biosignatures. Under what conditions do cells with varying biochemical properties preserve? How do processes of decay and preservation retain, obliterate or alter original biological properties? How can we tell biological from non-biological? At a global scale, what are the consequences of early life diversification on planet Earth? How would Earth be like without life? To address these questions about traces of life from the cellular to the planetary scale, we welcome contributions about morphological, chemical, isotopic signatures of life in various past and modern environmental conditions, as well as potential abiotic signatures that mimic biological processes.

The deadline for the receipt of Abstracts is 13 Jan 2009. In case that you would like to apply for a support, please submit not later than 07 Dec 2008.

Further information about the EGU General Assembly 2009 can be found at:

<http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2009>

<<http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2009>> we hope to see you in Vienna!

Emmanuelle Javaux

Andrey Bekker

Kevin Lepot

8.

17th IAA Humans in Space Symposium

which includes a whole section on Future of manned space flight: preparation for Lunar and Martian missions with topics like Advanced life support systems, Planetary Protection and Astrobiology

June 7-11, 2009

Moscow, Russia

<http://iaa-his2009.imbp.ru>

9.  
European Planetary Science Congress  
EPSC 4,  
September 14-18, 2009  
Postdam, Germany  
<http://meetings.copernicus.org/epsc2009/>

10.  
9<sup>th</sup> European Workshop on Astrobiology, EANA'09  
October 12-14, 2009  
Brussels, Belgium