

Dear EANA Councillors

I would like to draw your attention to the following upcoming events of interest to astrobiologists, all happening in Europe within the next months:

1. and most important: The 8th European Workshop of Astrobiology “EANA’08” to be held in Neuchatel from September 1-3, 2008:
<http://www.space-x.eu/EANA08/>
the deadline for abstract submission is: June 9, 2008
Important new information: Travel grant applications for students and Art exhibition
Please, spread this information to interested colleagues and students and encourage them to attend.
2. Just the week before: 15th International Conference on the Origin of life “ISSOL’08” to be held in Florence from August 24-29, 2009
<http://www.space-x.eu/EANA08/>
3. also in September: the Third European Planetary Science Congress will take place in Muenster, Germany from September 21-26, 2008. For general information see: <http://meetings.copernicus.org/epsc2008/>
Deadline for Abstract submission is June 1, 2008
With many EANA members as conveners:
Session ON5 “Life on Mars, past, present and future” will be convened by Christian Muller and Charles Cockell
Session ON6 “Origin of life and life under extreme conditions” will be convened by Helga Stan-Lotter, Attila Bérce, and Gerda Horneck
Session ON8 “Astrobiology of Subsurface Oceans and Titan lakes” will be convened by O. Prieto Ballesteros, and Francois Raulin
Session ON9 “Habitability in the early Earth and Mars planetary systems will be convened by T. Zegers, Frances Westall and Ricardo Amils
Session LF1 “Astrobiology studies under simulated space conditions and in outer space” will be convened by Gerda Horneck, Petra Rettberg, and Corinna Panitz
more information under:
http://www.cosis.net/members/meetings/programme/view.php?p_id=340
4. also in September: To the Moon and beyond to be held from September 15-17, 2008 in Bremen with exobiology as one of the topics;
Deadline for abstract submission: June 6, 2008
more information under: www.beyondmoon.de
5. For undergraduate and graduate students and postdocs: AbGradNet is a student network on astrobiology:
AbGradNet is to help astrobiology grad students and postdocs communicate with each other

<http://researchpages.net/AbGradNet/>

The last meeting of AbGradNet was held April 13-14 2008, in Santa Clara, CA, USA, in combination with AbSciCon.

It is planned to have the next meeting of AbGradNet together with EANA'09. European students and postdocs, interested to join AbGradNet should contact Vlada Stamenkovic under: Vlada.Stamenkovic@dlr.de

6. We have also a new open position for a PhD student at the Open University:

Full-time PhD Studentship in Geomicrobiology, CEPSAR, Faculty of Science
Three years from 1 October 2008, based in Milton Keynes
closing date : 30/05/2008

“Microorganisms in Civil Engineering (MICE)”, funded by the Leverhulme Trust

Many microorganisms are capable of precipitating minerals in the natural environment. The aim of this project is to understand how this occurs and in the process to investigate whether it could be used in practical civil engineering projects, such as, for example, the repair of tunnels. The project will focus on the isolation of carbonate-precipitating organisms and the study of the rates and characteristics of precipitated minerals. The long term vision guiding this project is the idea of the incorporation of a microbiota into public infrastructure (e.g., self-repairing buildings). You should have a good honours degree in a biological science. Experience of microbiological culturing and/or molecular biology would be highly advantageous.

Informal enquiries to Prof. Charles Cockell (c.s.cockell@open.ac.uk).

Details of the geomicrobiology research group can be found at <http://cepsar.open.ac.uk/pers/c.s.cockell>.

For detailed information and how to apply email p.punchihewa@open.ac.uk.

This and many more infos you will find at our EANA website:

<http://www.astrobiologia.pl/eana/>

Please, visit it regularly and provide new information of interest to EANA members to me or directly to Ewa Szuszkiewicz:

szusz@fermi.fiz.univ.szczecin.pl

Please, spread all this news within your national astrobiology community.

With many thanks in advance and
Looking forward to meeting many of you at EANA'08
And with my best regards
Gerda

Dr. Gerda Horneck