



2nd Palaeontological **Virtual** Congress

May 1st–15th, 2020



Book of Abstracts

Palaeontology in the virtual era

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A new way to make science

2nd Palaeontological Virtual Congress

Book of Abstracts

Palaeontology in the virtual era

From an original idea of Vicente D. Crespo

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Presentation

After the great success of the 1st **Palaeontological Virtual Congress (PVC)** organised in December 2018, we are back with the 2nd edition of the first Palaeontological meeting completely developed in a virtual environment. The original idea of implementing this format in our discipline was the natural consequence of the emergence of new technologies, which allow the wider range of communication possibilities. The importance of this kind of initiatives, that allow communication among peers without being physically present, is even more evident with the dramatic changes and exceptional situation that our society has been experiencing in the last few months. Within this context, the origin of the PVC represented the first attempt in palaeontology to take advantage of these new possibilities, becoming nowadays the most important international palaeontological congress developed in the net. This online meeting offers an exclusively virtual-developed environment to researchers all around the globe. The novelty of this project is its simplicity, and one of our main goals is to give international projection to the palaeontological research carried out by groups with limited economic resources; allowing to save expensive registration fees, travel, accommodation and maintenance expenses.

The soul of our congress has not changed, and that is trying to combine the benefits of traditional meetings (i.e., providing a forum for discussion, including guest lectures, field trips or the production of an abstract book) with the advantages of online platforms. These allow reaching a high number of researchers along the world, promoting the participation of palaeontologists from developing countries and providing a comprehensive forum for the exchange of ideas and discussion with specialists in the target field. This abstract book is the best evidence of the success of the initiative, whose figures are increasing edition after edition.

At the moment of publishing this abstract book, more than **363** researchers on palaeontology from **44** different nationalities, and **six** continents (Europe, Africa, North and Central America, South America, Asia, and Oceania), have taken part in this initiative. It is important to highlight the numerous contributions from South America, Africa, Asia, Middle East and Eastern European Countries strengthening our main goal of a palaeontological congress without barriers.

The 2nd PVC is organised in four general theme sessions (**Palaeozoic, Mesozoic, Cenozoic and General Palaeontology**), trying to span the whole variety of potential contributions. However, taking advantage of the flexibility that virtual platforms offer, **five** specific thematic sessions, encompassing topics such as **evolution and palaeobiodiversity in islands, fossil insects, palynology, outreach** and an specific session for palaeontologists in their **early career Stage** to present their works in an completely friendly environment. In total, **161** contributions are compiled in this Abstract Book, including **four key-notes** presented by Dr. **Michael J. Benton** "*Identifying the drivers of macroevolution – methods and pitfalls*"; Dr. **Anne-Laure Decombeix** "*Reconstructing the biology of Palaeozoic trees*"; Dr. **James Kirkland** and Dr. **Don DeBlieux** "*Constraining the Jurassic – Cretaceous terrestrial biota: new data from Utah helps close the gap across the atlantic basin*" and Dr. **Jesús Lozano-Fernández** "*The conquest of land by arthropods*". All those contributions presented in this volume, somehow, summarize the good health and multidisciplinary nature of our science.

Finally, we would like to thank all our colleagues for organising and coordinating the different workshops. We also want to thank all the authors for submitting their contributions and the numerous reviewers that have made this volume and congress possible. We would also like to give special thanks to all Palaeontological and Geological Societies, Editorials, Museums, and Universities, that have supported this initiative.

Thank you all,



The Organising Committee of the 2nd PVC

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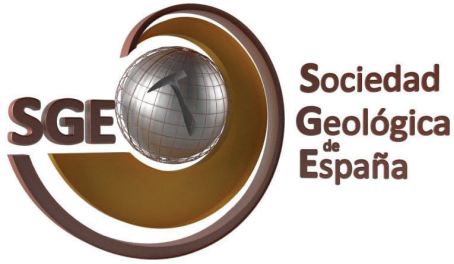
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Thematic Session: **Paleontology in Education and Society**

This thematic session will include all the topics concerning Paleontology and its impact in the education at all scholar levels, as well as the influence of this science in society.

Topics of Paleontology in Education can include strategies for a better understanding of paleontological processes in formal and informal education, experiences of students or instructors regarding class time, improvement of teaching/learning strategies, or designing of teaching material. Experiences of teaching Paleontology to minorities or persons with disabilities can be part of the session.

Topics of Paleontology and Society can include conservation of paleontological resources, perception of society of fossil sites or specimens, importance of fossils in certain cultures, or efforts of social groups or people to save fossiliferous sites or to create communal fossil collections.

Organisers

Dra. Rosalía Guerrero-Arenas, Dr. Eduardo Jiménez-Hidalgo

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Amber education at University of Gdańsk

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Museum of Amber Inclusions was established in 1998, for scientific purposes. Since the beginnings of the Museum, the close cooperation with the amber-workers environment has been established. The small exhibition of the amber and its inclusions was presented since the establishment of the collection. In 2012, the new exhibition "Life in amber forest" was opened as a permanent educational exhibition devoted to amber and its inclusions. The Museum and its workers are involved in the scientific elaboration of the material, but rich activities to all age and interest groups were and still are offered. Museum of Amber Inclusions together with the Palaeoentomological Section of the Polish Entomological Society is present during the **AMBERIF** and **AMBERMART** fairs, various types of workshops are provided with the cooperation of the International Amber Association, for amateurs, tourist guides, amber sellers, and amber jewellery makers. Courses, workshops, and lectures are offered to the public during the events as Baltic Festival of Science, Night of the Biologists, Open Days at the University. The exhibition, collections, and facilities of the Museum of Amber inclusions were also used in popular science and documentary films. Museum of Amber Inclusions is a member of the University Museums Association, which enables new educational initiatives for secondary school pupils and students of various specialisations interest in amber knowledge and experience.

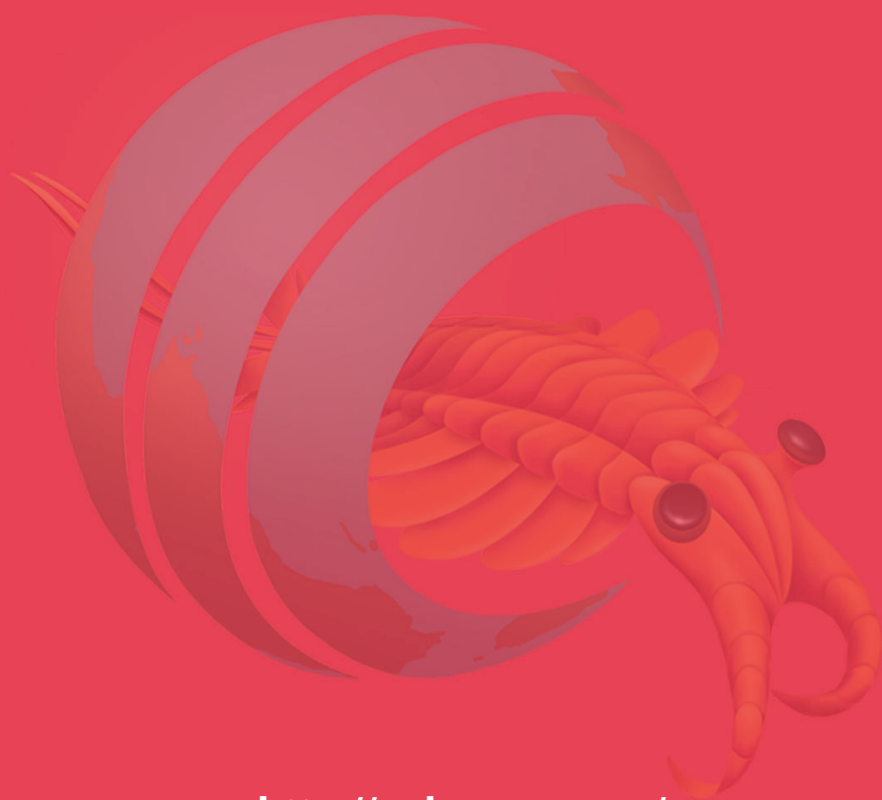


Permanent exhibition
Workshops
Courses
Education events
Amber education



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