



There is an urgent need to predict more accurately how global climate is likely to react to increased emissions of greenhouse gases as a result of human activities. In order to predict the future, it is necessary to determine how global climate has responded during the past to natural variations in forcing factors such as changes in solar input and in the earth's orbital parameters during climatic periods similar to the present. It is well known that millennial scale oscillations have occurred over the last 8000 years, resulting in an advance and retreat of mountain glaciers. The causes for this variability are however poorly understood and a deeper knowledge of the problem requires an integrated approach through the study of several archives and above all the comparison with previous interglacials.

The difference between past interglacials, their climatic stability, as well as the interaction with polar ice sheets and with the biosphere will be addressed during this conference for a better understanding of future climate. Young scientists from European countries will be therefore exposed to an area of science of paramount importance for the society of tomorrow. The topic treated is timely and relevant, also considering the future implications of the Kyoto Protocol and the end of field campaigns associated to the International Polar Year (2007-2008). This conference is based on the outstanding knowledge acquired during decades of fruitful research programs and it will go a step further in integrating European and international research groups in the field of palaeoclimatology. It will cover several complementary disciplines in the field of climate change and will also aim to involve scientists of other disciplines closely related to climate changes, such as socio-economics and politics. It is therefore perfectly suited to a large variety of researchers.

RESEARCH CONFERENCES

ESF-FWF Conference in Partnership with LFUI

Mechanisms of Quaternary Climate Change: Stability of Warm Phases in the Past and in the Future

Universitätszentrum Obergurgl (Ötz Valley, near Innsbruck) • Austria
6-11 June 2009

With support from

European Project for Ice Coring in Antarctica



Chair: Carlo Barbante, University of Venice, IT

Co/Vice-Chair: Hubertus Fischer, University of Bern, CH

Invited Speakers will include

André Berger, Catholic University of Louvain, BE

Keith Briffa, University of East Anglia, UK

Paul Crutzen (Nobel Laureate), University of Mainz, DE

Dorthe Dahl Jensen, University of Copenhagen, DK

Barbara Delmonte, University of Milan, IT

Hubertus Fischer, University of Bern, CH

Marie France Loutre, Catholic University of Louvain, BE

Kumiko Goto-Azuma, National Institute of Polar Research, Tokyo, JP

Fortunat Joos, University of Bern, CH

Valérie Masson Delmotte, CEA, Saclay, FR

Gilles Ramstein, LGGE Grenoble, FR

Hans Renssen, University of Amsterdam, NL

Eric Rignot, JPL, Pasadena, US

William F. Ruddiman, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, US

Frank Sirocko, University of Mainz, DE

Polychronis Tzedakis, University of Leeds, UK

Application Form & Programme available from

www.esf.org/conferences/09285

Closing Date for Application 2 March 2009

European Science Foundation | Research Conferences Unit
149 avenue Louise | Box 14 | Tour Generali, 15th Floor | Brussels | Belgium
Tel: + 32 (0)2 533 2020 | Fax: +32 (0)2 538 8486
Email: conferences@esf.org | www.esf.org/conferences