

# **Centenary 1916-2016: pollen analysis and the legacy of Lennart von Post**

## **A two-day Symposium at the Royal Swedish Academy of Science in Stockholm in honour of the Swedish Geologist Lennart von Post**

Organizers: Marie-José Gaillard (SC), Björn E. Berglund (SC), H. John B. Birks (SC) (Royal Swedish Academy (KVA), Class V, Geosciences), Kevin J. Edwards (SC), Bert Allard (Chair of KVA's Class V), and Göran Hansson (KVA's Secretary General); SC=scientific committee

The planned two-day conference includes 25 invited lectures (20 minutes) and keynote talks (30 minutes) prepared by scholars (25 young, mid-career, and senior researchers from Sweden and 11 foreign countries) who have played/play important roles in the development of pollen analysis as a tool for the reconstruction and understanding of past climate, vegetation, landscapes, and biodiversity, and the use of this knowledge to solve current and future ecological questions and problems. The overall philosophy of the conference is "the past is the key to the present and future". By analogy, the conference will be structured into three parts, PAST, PRESENT, and FUTURE representing the history of Quaternary pollen analysis, current research topics and developments, and visions for the future of pollen analysis, respectively.

### **Programme**

Note: all key notes and invited lectures are confirmed. Titles are still preliminary

#### **Day 1**

9.00-9.30 Welcome and rationale – Björn E. Berglund, Marie-José Gaillard, Kevin J. Edwards, and H. John B. Birks

Morning Chair: Björn E. Berglund

#### **I. PAST - Lennart von Post and the development of pollen analysis**

09.30-10.00 keynote

Björn E. Berglund (Lund, Sweden): Lennart von Post and Scandinavian palynology into the mid-20th century

10.00-10.30 keynote

H. John B. Birks (Bergen, Norway): Lennart von Post and palynology since the 1960s

10.30-10.40 Questions/Discussion

*10.40-11.10: Coffee, tea*

11.10-11.40 keynote

Kevin J. Edwards (Aberdeen, UK): Lennart von Post, palyno-historiography and continuity

11.40-12.00

Christer Nordlund (Umeå, Sweden): Peat bogs as geological archives: Lennart von Post et al. and the development of quantitative pollen analysis during World War I

12.00-12.10 Questions/Discussion

*12.10-13.30: Lunch*

Afternoon Chair: H. John B. Birks

## **II. PRESENT – Current developments and research topics**

### ***Introduction***

13.30-14.00 keynote

Steve Jackson (Laramie and Tucson, USA): The pollen record as a long-term ecological observatory

14.00-14.10 Questions/Discussion

### ***Pollen databases, pollen-vegetation modelling, mapping pollen data and past vegetation, phylogeography***

14.10-14.30

Eric Grimm (S Dakota, USA): Pollen databases, why, what and how?

14.30-14.50

Thomas Giesecke (Göttingen, Germany): Applications of the European Pollen Database: phylogeography

14.50-15.00 Questions/Discussion

*15.00-15.30: Coffee, tea*

15.30-16.00

Shinya Sugita (Tallinn, Estonia) and Marie-José Gaillard (Kalmar, Sweden): Pollen-vegetation modelling – why it is needed and examples of its application

16.00-16.20

Willy Tinner (Bern, Switzerland): Disturbance and vegetation dynamics

16.20-16.40

Ralph Fyfe (Plymouth, UK): Biomization, pseudo-biomization and land cover

16.40-16.50 Questions/Discussion

### ***Quaternary stratigraphy and pollen-based climate reconstructions***

16.50-17.10

Chronis Tzedakis (London, UK): Quaternary stratigraphy

17.10-17.30

Heikki Seppä (Helsinki, Finland): Pollen-based climate reconstructions

17.30-17.40 Questions/Discussion

*19.30 Symposium Dinner*

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## **Day 2**

### **II. PRESENT – Current developments and research topics**

#### ***Vegetation dynamics and disturbance, cultural landscapes, conservation and management***

Morning Chair: Kevin Edwards

09.00-09.30

Per Lagerås (Lund, Sweden) and Anna Broström (Lund, Sweden): Pollen analysis in an archaeological context, what research questions?

09.30-09.40 Questions/Discussion

09.40-10.10 keynote

Kathy Willis (Oxford and Kew, UK): biodiversity and conservation biology

10.10-10.30

Lindsay Gillson (Cape Town, South Africa): Ecological dynamics, resilience and ecosystem services

10.30-10.40 Questions/Discussion

*10.40-11.10 Coffee, tea*

11.10-11.30

Richard Bradshaw (Liverpool, UK; Lund, Sweden): Disturbances (fire), forest dynamics and management

11.30-11.50

Matts Lindbladh (SLU, Alnarp, Sweden): Landscape history and management

11.50-12.00: Questions/Discussion

#### ***Further research questions in the Southern Hemisphere, Russia and the Far East***

12.00-12.30 keynote

Anne-Marie Lézine (Paris, France): A Mid-Holocene ecological crisis in western Africa

12.30-12.40 Questions/Discussion

*12.40-14.00 Lunch*

Afternoon Chair: Marie-José Gaillard

14.00-14.20

Will Gosling (Amsterdam, the Netherlands): Tropical ecosystem diversity

14.20-14.50 keynote

Henry Hoogheemstra (Amsterdam, The Netherlands): Palynology and research in Latin America

14.50-15.10

Anupama Krishnamurthi (Pondicherry, India): Palynology and research in the Indian sub-continent

15.10-15.30

Yan Zhao (Beijing, China): Palynology and research topics in China

15.30-15.50

Ulrike Herzschuh (Potsdam, Germany): Palynology and research in Russia

15.50-16.00 Questions/Discussion

*16.00-16.30 Coffee, tea*

### **III. FUTURE – Visions for the future of pollen analysis**

16.30-17.45 Round-table discussion (chair: Henry Hogheimstra)

Introduction (5 minutes each) by scientists of different generations, working on different continents and focusing on different topics:

Ralph Fyfe, Lindsay Gillson, Steve Jackson, Anupama Krishnamurthi, Anne-Marie Lézine, and Matts Lindbladh

17.45-18.00 - Closing of the Symposium (the organizers)