ANNOUNCEMENTS

2 News

EDITORIAL: PAST PLANT DIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

3 Past plant diversity changes and future conservation issues
Rachid Cheddadi, S. Báez, S. Normand, D. Payne and P. Taberlet

SCIENCE HIGHLIGHTS: PAST PLANT DIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

4 Past and future contexts for climate and water-cycle variability and consequences for the biosphere
Pascale Braconnot and Françoise Vimeux

6 How the Asian subtropical area became evergreen since the Last Glacial Maximum
Zhuo Zheng, K. Huang, Q. Wan and R. Cheddadi

8 Past climate changes and the role of refugia in the temperate Northern Hemisphere
Rachid Cheddadi and Keith D. Bennett

10 Next generation sequencing, phylogeography, and paleoecology
Gentile F. Ficetola and Pierre Taberlet

12 Survival and spread of arctic plants in response to climate change: DNA-based evidence
Inger G. Alsos, M.E. Edwards and C.L. Clarke

14 Ancient DNA from lakes: Insights into plant response to past climate changes
Laura Parducci

16 Modeling past plant species’ distributions in mountainous areas: A way to improve our knowledge of future climate change impacts?
Louis François and Alain Hambuckers

18 Past changes in species diversity: A view from the mountains
Davnah Payne, C. Hoorn, C. Randin and S.G.A. Flantua

20 Using paleoecology to inform restoration and conservation of endangered heathlands
Cheríe J. Dirk and Lindsey Gillson

22 Mountain science poised to help ecotourism in Peruvian cloud forests
Fausto O. Sarmiento, M.B. Bush, W. Church, P. Van Valkenburgh, M. Oliva, E. Delgado, S. Fernandez and N. Rojas

24 Columbus’ footprint: Land-use change before and after European incursion in Hispaniola

WORKSHOP REPORTS

26 Relaunching the African Pollen Database: Abrupt change in climate and ecosystems

28 Exploiting the SISALv2 database for evaluating climate processes

28 Is the El Niño-Southern Oscillation changing?
Lessons from the past

29 Tropical ocean hydroclimate and temperature from coral archives

30 Integrating documentary evidence into climate reconstruction and impact studies

31 Floods in a warmer world: Insights from paleohydrology