COMMUNITY PROJECTS
THE SPIRIT OF "LA CAIXA"

COSMOCAIXA
BARCELONA

THE POLAR REGIONS AND GLOBAL WARMING

Photo: Jerónimo López

Scientific Symposium
Barcelona, 20 April 2007

Obra Social
Fundación "la Caixa"

THE POLAR REGIONS PLAY A KEY ROLE IN THE GLOBAL CLIMATE SYSTEM OF OUR PLANET; THEY AFFECT THE RECEIPT OF SOLAR RADIATION, AND HAVE AN IMPACT ON OCEANS, CURRENTS, THE ATMOSPHERE AND THE LAND, AND, BY EXTENSION, ON ENVIRONMENTS, ECOSYSTEMS AND HUMAN ACTIVITIES. IN RECENT YEARS, THE POLAR REGIONS HAVE UNDERGONE DRAMATIC CHANGES, SOME AREAS EXPERIENCING CLIMATIC VARIATIONS WHICH ARE FAR HIGHER THAN THE GLOBAL AVERAGE. CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE POLAR REGIONS ACTS AS AN EARLY-WARNING SYSTEM FOR THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEM.

THE INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR 2007-2008, IS A SCIENTIFIC INITIATIVE, INTERDISCIPLINARY IN ITS APPROACH AND TRULY INTERNATIONAL IN PARTICIPATION. IT WILL BE HELD FROM MARCH 2007 TO MARCH 2009 AND PROMOTED BY TWO INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC ORGANISATIONS, THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE (ICSU) AND THE WORLD METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION (WMO). IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THIS INITIATIVE, THE ENVIRONMENT AND SCIENCE DIVISION OF THE FUNDACIÓN "LA CAIXA" SOCIAL WORK DIVISION IS PREPARING A PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES WHICH SHALL BEGIN WITH THIS SEMINAR AT COSMOCAIXA BARCELONA.

SCIENTIFIC DIRECTORS

Jerónimo López
Professor at *Universidad Autónoma de Madrid,* Member of the ICSU-WMO Joint Committee for the International Polar Year, President of the Spanish SCAR Committee

Josep Maria Gili
Research Professor, *CSIC-Institut de Ciències del Mar,* Barcelona, Spain

Antoni Rosell
ICREA Research Professor, *Institut de Ciencia y Tecnologia Ambiental, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona*, Spain

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

Friday, April, 20

10.00 h Opening

PRESENTATION OF THE MEETING

Antoni Rosell

THE POLAR REGIONS AND THE INTERNATIONAL POLAR YEAR

Jerónimo López

10.45 h

THE ROLE OF POLAR OCEANS IN THE CLIMATE SYSTEM

Eberhard Fahrbach

Climate Sciences Division, Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, Germany. Member of the ICSU-WMO Joint Committee for the International Polar Year

11.30 h Coffee break

12.00 h

FROM HERE TO ETERNITY, GLOBAL WARMING IN GEOLOGICAL TIMES

David Archer

Department of Geophysical Sciences, University of Chicago, USA

12.45 h

ARCTIC WARMTH, GREENLAND MELTING AND SEA-LEVEL RISE: LESSONS FROM THE PAST

Bette L. Otto-Bliesner

Climate and Global Dynamics Division, National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), Boulder, Colorado, USA

13.30 h Lunch

15.00 h

LIFE IN THE MARINE DEPTHS OF THE ANTARCTIC: A LESSON FROM THE PAST THAT GIVES US HINTS ABOUT THE FUTURE OF ANTARCTIC BIODIVERSITY

Josep Maria Gili

Research Professor, *CSIC - Institut de Ciències del Mar*, Barcelona, Spain

15.45 h

ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIETAL CONSEQUENCES OF CLIMATE WARMING

F. Stuart Chapin III

Department of Biology and Wildlife, Institute of Arctic Biology, University of Alaska, USA

16.30 h Coffee break

17.00 h Round table with all participants

AND WHAT ABOUT TOMORROW? ROUTE MAP

Moderator: Rainer Zahn

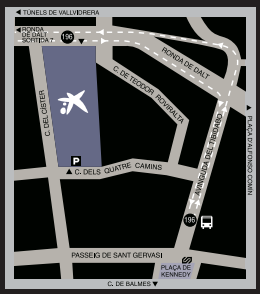
ICREA Research Professor, *Institut de Ciencia y Tecnologia Ambiental, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona*, Spain

18.00 h End of the meeting

BCIÈNCIA
BARCELONA CIÈNCIA 2007

COSMOCAIXA

Teodor Roviralta, 47-51 | Barcelona 08022



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OPENING TIMES
Open Tuesday to Sunday 10 to 20 h
Closed Mondays (except public holidays)

ENTRANCES
Ronda de Dalt between calle C ster and
Avinguda del Tibidabo (exits 6 and 7)
Calle Quatre Camins, 89

TRANSPORT

17 | 22 | 58 | 60 | 73 | 75 | 196

Ferrocarrils de la Generalitat de Catalunya
(Avinguda del Tibidabo station)

Tramvia Blau (Blue Tram)

Entrance on calle Quatre Camins, 89 (1euro/hour)
Coaches: Ronda de Dalt opposite CosmoCaixa

MUSEUM SHOP
Laie - CosmoCaixa

CAFETERIA - RESTAURANT
Arcasa - CosmoCaixa

INFORMATION SERVICE
OBRA SOCIAL FUNDACI LA CAIXA
Tel. 93 495 39 45
Monday to Sunday 9 to 20 h
www.laCaixa.es/ObraSocial

PRICE
6 euros - Reduced rate 4 euros

REGISTRATION
www.laCaixa.es/ObraSocial
Places limited
There will be simultaneous translation

EUROPEAN MUSEUM OF THE YEAR AWARD

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