



Centre for Origin and Prevalence of Life Newsletter # 1

July / August 2023

Dear all,

Before the summer break, we would like to share with you some COPL related information.

We wish you relaxing and inspiring weeks.

Best wishes,

The COPL Managing Office - Corinna Marchand and Mathias Beck

Research opportunities

Short-term Visitors

4 applications for Short-term Visitors were selected for financial support. Details are available on the COPL website:

<https://copl.ethz.ch/opportunities/short-term-visitors.html#upcoming>

Applications for visits during the spring semester 2024 can be submitted until 24 Nov. 2023 via the COPL website:

<https://copl.ethz.ch/opportunities/short-term-visitors.html#apply>

Compared to the first call, small changes are applicable to the max. funding:

- Support to travel cost is limited to a max. amount of CHF 500.
- Support for accommodation and daily allowance is limited to max. 10 days at a combined limit of CHF 250 per day.

Research Projects

3 applications for Research Projects have been selected for financial support. Details are available on the COPL website:

<https://copl.ethz.ch/opportunities/research-projects.html>

NOMIS ETH Fellowships

The next call for applications for the NOMIS ETH Fellowship Programme will open on 8 Sep. 2023. Applications will be accepted until 10 Nov. 2023.

Preliminary details are available on the COPL website:

<https://copl.ethz.ch/opportunities/nomis-eth-fellowships/nomis-fellowship-call-2023.html>

Upcoming events

General Assembly

The General Assembly of COPL Members is coming up:

Date: **28 Sep. 2023** from 14:00 to 16:00

Location: ETH Zentrum, building NO D 45

Registration: <https://copl.ethz.ch/events/registration-copl-ga.html> - by 31 Aug. 2023

The meeting will be followed by an apéro and dinner starting at 18:00 for up to 3 persons per affiliated research group. Please register via the above form by 31 Aug. 2023.

Inaugural Science Conference of the Origins Federation

The Origins of Life Initiative at the Harvard University is organizing the Inaugural Science Conference of the Origins Federation

Date: **12 to 15 Sep. 2023**

Location: The American Academy of Arts and Sciences in Cambridge, MA, next to the Harvard campus.

Registration: <https://origins.harvard.edu/2023-conference>

Seminars

See also <https://copl.ethz.ch/seminars.html>

Speaker: [Itay Halevy, Weizmann Institute of Science](#)

Title: Metabolic-isotopic models: Probes of microbial physiology, ecology and evolution

Date: **07 Aug. 2023**,

Location: TBA

Speaker: [Didier Queloz, ETH Zürich, D-PHYS, Institute for Particle Physics and Astrophysics](#)

Title: TBA

Date: **06 Sep. 2023**, 12:15 to 13:00

Location: NO C 60

Speaker: [Nozair Khawaja, Freie Universität Berlin](#)

Title: Exploring the habitability of icy moons through impact ionization mass spectrometers

Date: **08 Sep. 2023**, 12:30 to 13:30 – light lunch from 12:00 to 12:30

Location: HIT F 23.2

Speaker: [Jay Lennon, Indiana University](#)

Title: TBA

Date: **29 Sep. 2023**, 12:30 to 13:30 – light lunch from 12:00 to 12:30

Location: NO D 45

Speaker: [Craig Walton, NOMIS ETH Fellow, D-ERDW, Institute for Geochemistry and Petrology](#)

Title: Pre-biogenesis: Earth-like worlds before life

Date: **13 Oct. 2023**, 12:30 to 13:30 – light lunch from 12:00 to 12:30

Location: HIT F 23.2

Speaker: [Rafal Szabla, Wroclaw University](#)

Title: Quantum-chemical perspective on the prebiotic origins of RNA and DNA

Date: **27 Oct. 2023**, 12:30 to 13:30 – light lunch from 12:00 to 12:30

Location: NO D 45

Speaker: [Peter Driscoll, Carnegie Institution for Science](#)

Title: TBA

Date: **07 Nov. 2023**, 12:15 to 13:00

Location: NO C 60

Speaker: [Sonja Geilert, Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel](#)

Title: TBA

Date: **21 Nov. 2023**, 12:15 to 13:00

Location: NO C 60

Speaker: [Alessandro Morbidelli, Observatoire Côte d'Azur](#)

Title: TBA

Date: **28 Nov. 2023**, 12:15 to 13:00

Location: NO C 60