



# Centre for Origin and Prevalence of Life Newsletter # 3

December 2023

Dear all,

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

We wish you and your families and friends relaxing end of the year celebrations and hope to see you at many of the 2024 COPL activities.

If you have any feedback on this issue or any input for the next issue, please contact us via email to [copl.management@sympa.ethz.ch](mailto:copl.management@sympa.ethz.ch).

Best wishes,  
The COPL Managing Office - Corinna Marchand and Mathias Beck

## Opportunities

### Networking Support

Applications to the new Programme for Networking Support are now open.

More details are available on the COPL website:

<https://copl.ethz.ch/opportunities/networking-support.html#apply>

Networking Support is a flexible resource open to all members aimed at supporting networking activities like conferences, colloquia, seminars, workshops, and the like. Networking Support opportunities are available through a permanent call. Networking Support applications are selected by the COPL Directorate once per month.

### Short-term Visitors

Applications for visits during the autumn semester 2024 can be submitted until 31 May 2024 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.
- All expenses need to be justified by invoices. Only the expenses for the visitor can be refunded. The cost for persons accompanying the visitor cannot be refunded.

### NOMIS ETH Fellowships

We have received 6 valid applications for the 2024 cohort. The interviews are scheduled for 18 December. We anticipate making offers to three candidates in January 2024.

## Upcoming events

### Short-term Visitors

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

Dates: 14 to 20 Dec. 2023

Host: [Veerle Sterken](#)

Visitor: [S. Furkan Ozturk](#), Harvard University

Dates: 14 Dec. 2023 to 05 Jan. 2024

Host: [Craig Walton](#)

Visitor: [William F. Martin](#), Institut für Molekulare Evolution, Universität Düsseldorf, Germany

Dates: 18 to 24 Feb. 2024

Host: [Julia Vorholt](#)

Visitor: [Yoshinori Takano](#), Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology

Dates: 24 to 30 Mar. 2024

Host: [Tim Eglinton](#), [Thomas Blattmann](#)

Visitor: [Anjali Piette](#), Carnegie Institute for Science, Washington DC

Dates: 05 to 18 May 2024

Host: [Caroline Dorn](#)

### Seminars

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

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

Title:

Date: **14 Dec. 2023**, 12:30 to 13:30 – light lunch from 12:00 to 12:30

Location: HIT F 23.2

## Past Activities

### First COPL Coffee Seminar



On 1<sup>st</sup> December Craig Walton hosted the first COPL Coffee Seminar. Janina Hansen from D-PHYS talked about 'One way to search for habitable planets'. Some 20 on-site participants and 5 remote attendants had the pleasure to participate in a very lively and interactive seminar with, to the pleasure of many, no slides. A lot of positive feedback was provided. We are looking forward to more slide-less Coffee Seminars in 2024. Please contact [craig.walton@erdw.ethz.ch](mailto:craig.walton@erdw.ethz.ch) if you would like to be the presenter of a COPL Coffee Seminar.



### Short-term Visitors

Over the past few months, the COPL welcomed 4 short-term visitors. Thanks to the organisation by their respective hosts, all 4 visitors had very intense interactions with the COPL affiliated research groups. The COPL community could enjoy 101 Lunch Seminars focusing on the research of each of the 4 visitors.

## COPL featured in Uplift, the magazine of the ETH Foundation



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The Centre with its research focus on the Origin of Life is featured in the December issue of the Uplift magazine of the ETH Foundation. The online version of the articles is available via the [website of the ETH Foundation](#). Sit back and enjoy the read ...

## Membership updates

### **New COPL affiliated group leaders**

*None this reporting period.*

### **Exiting Members**

*None this reporting period.*