

April 2013

## 1) BioSyst.EU Meeting “Global Systematics!” Vienna, 18-22 February 2013

After Leiden in 2009, this second BioSyst.EU meeting was organized by the University and the Natural History Museum of Vienna. Let us recall that BioSyst.EU is the Federation of European Biological Systematic Societies: current members include the national systematics societies of Germany, Austria, France, Sweden, Switzerland, and UK. In



Vienna, the SSS organized a symposium on the evolution of parasites and parasitoids convened by Seraina Klopstein, Hannes Baur, and Jean Mariaux and including 12 talks. The conference itself was attended by over 400 participants and was extremely stimulating. Its wide coverage looked into the recent developments of the field, from case studies to more general topics including the philosophy of phylogeny, museum techniques or all recent advances in molecular biosystematics methods. The next Biosyst meeting is scheduled in Göteborg in August 20017. Book it now!

## 2) General Assembly of the SSS in February 2013

The general assembly was held on February 8<sup>th</sup> in Basel during the Biology13 meeting. Seven members attended. Rapport by the President and the Treasurer were presented and accepted by the members. The board of the Society welcomed two new members, **Mathieu Perret** from the Geneva Botanical garden, and **Simon Loader** from the University of Basel. Planned activities for 2013 were presented and included the SSS-Day in Luzern and the summer school (see below). Two main points were discussed: First, we expressed the wish to improve our communication to members. In this perspective, Simon Loader proposed to provide a list of seminars on Systematics in Switzerland occurring this semester: the first list was sent to the members this spring. Second, because very few members usually attend the General Assembly during the Biology meetings, the board suggested moving the annual GA to the SSSDay in November. The board proposed calling an extraordinary assembly that will take place during the next SSSDay in Luzern, first to submit this change to the assembly, and second to make a formal vote on the minor status change that this decision required. The invitation to this extraordinary GA will be sent along with the SSSDay announcement.



### 3) 6<sup>th</sup> SSS-Day in Lucern, 15<sup>th</sup> November 2013



The 6th SSSDay will be a one-day event at the Natur-Museum Luzern, hosted by Marco Bernasconi. All members are welcomed to propose a communication, and students are particularly encouraged to present their work (reminder: there is no registration fee for the meeting and the SSS can reimburse the student travel fees).

## NATUR-MUSEUM LUZERN

The meeting will be followed by the vernissage for the museum's new temporary exhibition on life in winter. Further details on the program and registration to participate in this event will be offered after the summer break in August.

### 4) Summer school 2013: Discovering the world of insects

This year the summer school will take place at the University of Lausanne, organized by Michel Sartori and his team (Zoology Museum Lausanne), Yves Gonseth (Centre Suisse de Cartographie de la Faune, Neuchâtel), and Jean Mariaux (Geneva Museum). Aimed to young students (Lycée, Gymnasium), this five-days school will focus on the groups of insects in both lectures and hands-on. The students will discover entomology and systematics, insects, including an introduction to molecular methods. After Zurich last year, this is the second time that the SSS organizes such summer school in cooperation with ScNat.



### 5) Membership fee for 2013

**This SSS-News contains a payment order for your membership fee for 2013.**



The annual fee remains at a modest 30 CHF (10 CHF for students registered at a university or public school). The account information is: Swiss Society of Systematics (SSS), Avenue de la Praille 40, 1227 Carouge (GE); Banque Cantonale Genève - SWIFT: BCGE CH GG XXX - IBAN: CH63 0078 8000 E328 4521 3 (For your convenience we have added a payment order).