

Noteworthy

ANTHROPOCENE: Linking pollen and geochemistry research

A workshop organized in the framework of the Galician Network on Heritage Research (awarded public founding for consolidation of competitive units of the Galician University System. Xunta de Galicia. Ref.: 2009/008)

[Download poster](#)

Venue: Aula Magna, Faculty of Biology, Santiago de Compostela

Date and time: 26 february, 2010, at 10:00

Abstract

The concept of *Anthropocene* has been recently introduced to highlight a new, human-dominated, geological epoch, in which the degree of alteration of the concentration of atmospheric greenhouse gases by humans has become large enough to produce significant changes in the climate system. Its beginning was set to 1800 AD, at the onset of the Industrial Revolution, assuming that human influence on the atmosphere was negligible before this date. Previous anthropogenic impacts were considered to be local and short-lived, without lasting changes in the interactions with the environment. But recent research indicates that interactions were complex and date back to thousands of years ago, including both human impacts on the environment and environmental changes -climate changes in particular- affecting humans (in the form of population dislocations, urban abandonment or cultural collapse).

The complex history of these human/environment interactions is recorded in natural archives (polar ice, lake sediments, peat deposits, soils) as biotic (pollen, spores, diatoms, testate amoebas, ...) and abiotic (elemental compositions, isotopic composition, ...) signals. Pollen and geochemical studies of natural archives are among the tools used to investigate into past environmental changes. These disciplines have largely evolved separately, and have seldom interacted with archaeological and prehistorical research. This workshop tries to bring them together by presenting a series of interdisciplinary investigations that demonstrate the importance of the coherent integration of knowledge to better understand the ecological history of our planet.

[Programme of lectures](#) , e-materials coming soon!

FREE ACCESS

Galician Network on Heritage Research (Ref.: 2009/008) // CONSOLIDER TCP (CSD2007-00058)

About the TOOLSCAPE

Everything is possible? your imagination is the limit. [Vincent Massol answering about XWiki](#)

The loss of digital information meaning also the loss of knowledge and maybe the loss of a part of our history will be one of the challenge in the future [Pascal Voitot discussing about XWiki](#)

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If we can interpret the present and read the past, we can accept the challenge of the future

Present environment can be considered as a dynamic system of emergent complexity, product of the many interactions -feedbacks, couplings, perturbations, inductions, metachronicities,? - established amongst its constituent parts -basically the lithosphere, the atmosphere, the hydrosphere and the biosphere; playing humans an increasing role among biota. So have to be considered past environments or palaeoenvironments. This complexity demands an integrated, interdisciplinary view of reasearch in both cases.

Present environment, although diverse, is a readily accessible continuum. Many of its properties can be assesed by scientific research obtaining a good idea of processes and products. The interpretation of past environments depends on a detailed knowledge of present environment (principle of uniformitarianism). The present shows us how to read the record of past environmental change.

Past environments are not directly accessible and their remains are discontinuous. To reconstruct them the object of analysis is the archive, a superficial formation (lake or ocean sediment, accumulation of peat, glacier ice, and others) that contains a record of environmental changes. The change itself leaves signals in the archive -structural, textural, mineralogical, biological, and chemical signals for example- which we attempt to interpret. In this sense, palaeoenvironmental reconstruction tries to make the itininerary from present observed properties of the archives to stablish the processes related to their genesis and from those to uncover the past environments that governed them.

Natural archives are thus the memory of the geosystem. Nevertheless, we have to be aware of the fact that progressive and regressive pathways are both likely to have ocurred, so information was sometimes stored and sometimes deleted from the archives. In fact, the further we go back in time the less information can be recovered. It is also important to remind that reconstruction is always partial, as it is impossible to obtain clues of all the complexities, and even some past environments may have had conditions which are not comparable to any present environment.

Even with these constrains, reconstructions provide a huge database of the evolution of the ecosystems. Under ideal circumstances the database of past environments would help us to know the range of different status showed by a given ecosystem through time and the factors, natural and/or anthropogenic, implicated in its changes. It is this background evolution the framework within which to evaluate present environment. The equation quotes to: the present shows us the processes and the products, the past shows us the evolution. Both knowledges have to be integrated for a proper understanding and to put present changes into perspective.

We keep moving [the old wiki](#) environment to this new XWiki system. Please, if your account is not accepted here or you don't find what you are looking, visit [the former MediaWiki installation](#) or contact [Your EPEC Network ICT Team](#) . Thanks!

Blog 

April 08, 2010
Internet Birthday
April the 7th, 1969



Posted by

[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)

at Apr 08, 2010 09:56 in [News](#) | Modified by

[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)

at Apr 08, 2010 10:02 | [0 Comment\(s\)](#) | [Permalink](#)

March 22, 2010

Workshop on empirical estimation of relative pollen productivity

Workshop on empirical estimation of relative pollen productivity

Hull 24-26 May 2010

Collecting empirical estimates of relative pollen productivity from field data using the Extended-R-value approach is an essential pre-requisite for testing and applying PollandCal approaches to vegetation reconstruction from pollen signals, such as the Landscape Reconstruction Algorithm or the Multiple Scenario Approach. Multiple studies have been published over the last few years (see e.g. review in Broström et al 2008), but methods have varied between studies. ...

Posted by

[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)

at Mar 22, 2010 13:04 in [News](#) | Modified by

[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)

at Mar 22, 2010 13:09 | [0 Comment\(s\)](#) | [Permalink](#)

March 15, 2010

VAST 2010

Welcome to the 11th [VAST International Symposium on Virtual Reality, Archaeology and Cultural Heritage](#)

, promoted by the EUROGRAPHICS Association. The

event will take place at the Ecole du Louvre, Paris,

France on the 21-24th September 2010. Previous

events were held in St.Julians Malta (VAST2009), Braga

...

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[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)

at Mar 15, 2010 19:24 in [News](#) | Modified by [Ricardo Rodríguez](#)
at Mar 15, 2010 19:25 | [0 Comment\(s\)](#) | [Permalink](#)
January 21, 2010
XWiki Newsletter
Read the newest information about XWiki company, products, services, activities? by subscribing to its newsletter (2009, in French).

Here you have it available on line:

<http://www.xwiki.com/xwiki/bin/view/News/Newsletter>

Posted by

[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)

at Jan 21, 2010 19:38 in [News](#) | Modified by

[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)

at Jan 21, 2010 19:40 | [0 Comment\(s\)](#) | [Permalink](#)

January 01, 2010

Wrapping up 2009 & Kicking off 2010

Directly from Slideshare!

We all hope you had a wonderful 2009 and wanted to make sure you hit the ground running in 2010. To help you out, we've compiled a list of SlideShare Must-Reads for 2010

[Presentation Secrets of Steve Jobs](#) : How to be insanely great ...

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[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)

at Jan 01, 2010 09:57 in [News](#) | Modified by

[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)

at Jan 01, 2010 09:58 | [0 Comment\(s\)](#) | [Permalink](#)

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Recent changes

- [PilarCacheiro in XWiki](#) 2010 Sep 01 at 08:54
[Pilar Cacheiro](#)
- [MariaJesusSobrido in XWiki](#) 2010 Sep 01 at 02:31
[Maria Jesus Sobrido](#)
- [JohanRydberg in XWiki](#) 2010 Aug 26 at 12:59
[Johan Rydberg](#)
- [Instrumentation in Lab](#) 2010 Aug 13 at 09:26
[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)
- [IriaFernandezBlancafort in XWiki](#) 2010 Aug 12 at 20:53
[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)
- [AidaGonzalez in XWiki](#) 2010 Aug 12 at 19:36
[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)
- [RobertoCalvelo in XWiki](#) 2010 Aug 12 at 14:54
[Roberto Calvelo](#)
- [MartinCacheiro in XWiki](#) 2010 Aug 10 at 10:03
[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)
- [MelisaAlcalde in XWiki](#) 2010 Aug 09 at 12:36
[Maria Luisa Alcalde Rivero](#)

- [COST20102011 in Call](#) 2010 Aug 09 at 11:40
[Ricardo Rodríguez](#)

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