

News

6th Open Science Meeting and 4th Young Scientists Meeting

Due to the continuing uncertainties related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the decision was made by the Local Organizing Committee, the PAGES SSC, and the PAGES EXCOM to hold the Open Science Meeting (OSM) and Young Scientists Meeting (YSM) online in 2022. The dates for the OSM are 16-20 May 2022 and the YSM will be taking place from 9-13 May 2022. The deadline for OSM abstract submissions and YSM applications is 31 January 2022. More information: pages-osm.org

PAGES IAI and African Mobility Fellowships

2021 saw the launch of two mobility fellowships for early-career scientists studying past global changes: The PAGES-IAI International Mobility Research Fellowship Program for Latin American and Caribbean early-career scientists and The PAGES Inter-Africa Mobility Research Fellowship Program for African early-career scientists. More details: pastglobalchanges.org/support#mobility

New PAGES website

In the summer of 2021 PAGES launched its new website. While we are thrilled with the fresh and updated look, we are experiencing issues which we are working tirelessly to iron out. We appreciate your patience and understanding in this teething phase. You are welcome to email us about any issues you spot: pages@pages.unibe.ch

Goodbye and welcome to SSC and EXCOM members

PAGES says thank you and bids farewell to five members who will be rotating off the SSC at the end of 2021: Asfawossen Asrat, Cristiano Chiessi, Michael Evans, Lindsey Gillson, and Katrin Meissner. In January 2022, we welcome Ilham Bouimetarhan, Martin Grosjean, and Fabrice Lambert to the SSC, and Paul Valdes and Boris Vanni re will replace Michael Evans and Katrin Meissner on the EXCOM.

Apply to be on our SSC

PAGES is pleased to announce that the call for applications from scientists to serve on its Scientific Steering Committee for the term starting January 2023 is now open. The next deadline for applications is 4 April 2022. Details: pastglobalchanges.org/be-involved/ssc/apply

PAGES Early-Career Network

PAGES' ECN is pleased to welcome two new members to the steering committee: Georgy Falster (Postdoctoral Fellow, Australian National University, Australia) and Ignacio Jara (Postdoctoral Researcher, CEAZA Scientific Centre, Chile). They will join the steering committee in its primary tasks of visioning, coordination, communication, and organization for the ECN.

New working group

PAGES is pleased to announce the launch of the new PaleoEcoGen working group, which aims to improve our understanding of past critical ecological transitions based on a key and emerging proxy: ancient environmental DNA. The group is motivated to address the key question: what can we learn about the mechanisms leading to critical transitions and their subsequent evolutionary and ecological trajectories based on the comparison of biomes in paleorecords from terrestrial and aquatic biomes? Find out more and join its activities: pastglobalchanges.org/paleoecogen

New endorsed group

The Climate Change & History Research Initiative (CCHRI) was recently endorsed by PAGES. CCHRI is an international interdisciplinary project to bring together archaeologists, historians, and climate historians as well as paleoenvironmentalists to address past responses to environmental challenges. All details: pastglobalchanges.org/science/endorsed-wg/cchri

Deadline for new working groups and financial support

The next deadline to propose a new PAGES working group or apply for financial support for a workshop, meeting, or conference, as well as for Data Steward Scholarship applications will be on 31 March 2022. All details: pastglobalchanges.org/support

PAGES IPO staff update

PAGES' International Project Office recently bade farewell to Angela Wade, who navigated PAGES' communications and office management for six years. We thank Angela for her dedication over the years and welcome Chen  van Rensburg and Leigh Martens Winiger, who have replaced Angela. In addition, we welcome Ursula Widmer as the new Finance and Office Manager, who has taken over from Monika Hofer, and Francesco Verde, who has replaced Shashika Sedara Hettige as IT Coordinator. All new contact details can be found on the PAGES website: pastglobalchanges.org/about/structure/international-project-office

Upcoming issue of Past Global Changes Magazine

The next magazine, guest edited by Lindsey Gillson, Peter Gell, Cathy Whitlock, Willy Tinner, and Sabine Prader, focuses on paleoecology and restoration ecology. Members of the DiverseK working group are additionally organizing a mini-section within the issue. Although preparations are well underway, if you would like to contribute, please contact our Science Officer: sarah.eggleston@pages.unibe.ch

Calendar

LandCover6k: New land-cover and land-use datasets for evaluation and improvement of anthropogenic land-cover change scenarios
2-4 December 2021 - Online

SISAL: Towards a global compilation of speleothem trace element records
28 Feb-4 Mar 2022 - Jerusalem, Israel

C-SIDE: Integrating sea-ice proxies, model simulations, and complementary records of glacial-interglacial climate change
May 2022 (exact dates TBC) - Bordeaux, France

VICS: Moving forward by looking back
2022 (exact dates TBC) - Aarhus, Denmark

Due to COVID-19 disruptions, dates and venues are subject to change. Please check the website regularly for updates from the organizers.

pastglobalchanges.org/calendar

Featured publications

Thresholds, tipping points, and multiple equilibria in the Earth system

Victor Brovkin, together with members of the PAGES integrative activity on Thresholds and the Future Earth global research project AIMES, showed that past abrupt climate changes provide evidence of cascading tipping points and early warning signals in the Earth system: pastglobalchanges.org/publications/128389

PALSEA

Blake Dyer et al. compared paleo sea-level observations from the Bahamian archipelago to results from several Earth deformation models to explore the sensitivity of polar ice sheets to high-latitude warming. Results indicate that previous estimates should be corrected downward: pastglobalchanges.org/publications/128491

C-PEAT

In collaboration with PAGES and Future Earth, C-PEAT leaders took part in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP26). They were present at the Peatland Pavilion, showing an interactive peatland map with >75 sites from 20 countries that have been studied by the C-PEAT community: pastglobalchanges.org/c-peat

CRIS

The group's special issue in *Climate of the Past* "International methods and comparisons in climate reconstruction and impacts from archives of societies" currently includes seven papers focusing on different world regions, and two papers under review: pastglobalchanges.org/publications/special-issues/13159

Cover

Group "photo" representing the different models used to simulate the mid-Holocene climate following PMIP3 or PMIP4 protocols.

The different parts of the heads represent different climate indicators. These statistics are presented as Chernoff faces, which allows us to compare how the different models represent the change in temperature seasonality over the Eurasian continent and monsoon precipitation over India and Africa. Illustration by Jean-Yves Petershmitt and Pascale Braconnot.