Ecological uniformitarianism

- help or hindrance to palaeoecology, palaeoclimatology and conservation biology?

Date:
2-3 July 2024

Location:
Remote via Zoom

Hosted by:
The Palaeontological Association

Registration fee:
£20 (£25 after 7th June 2024). Free for participants from low and middle income countries

Organised by:
A.L.A. Johnson and J.-F. Cudennec (University of Derby)

E.M. Harper (University of Cambridge)

J.A.I. Hennissen (British Geological Survey)

R.J. Twitchett and T.S. White (Natural History Museum, London)

Meeting website:
www.palass.org/meetings-events/ecological-uniformitarianism

General contact:
ecologicaluniformitarianism@palass.org

Speakers:

Neil Adams (Natural History Museum, London)
Paolo Albano (Anton Dohrn Zoological Station, Naples)
Joanne Bennett (Australian National University)
Kate Britton (University of Aberdeen)
Jean-François Cudennec (University of Derby)
Greg Dietl (Cornell University)
Harry Dowsett (US Geological Survey)
Malcolm Hart (University of Plymouth)
David Horne (Queen Mary, University of London)
Bruce Lieberman (University of Kansas)
Rafael Marquina-Blasco (University of València)
Sierra Petersen (University of Michigan)
Andrew Townsend Peterson (University of Kansas)
Lynn Wingard (US Geological Survey)

Following the success of a pump-priming event in 2022 (Ecological uniformitarianism – key or lock?), this online meeting will reunite a diverse community of Earth and Life Scientists to discuss the stability of ecological niches. Earth scientists have long taken the (pseudo-)uniformitarian view that niches are stable and hence that the environments of fossil organisms can be interpreted from the ecology of modern counterparts. Niche change is, however, demonstrated by many invasive species. Whether niches are stable or labile has major implications not only for interpreting past environments but also for predicting future communities in the face of ongoing climate and other environmental change.

species. Whether niches are stable or labile has