NOW circular 2022 02 18

Dear NOW Community, Hi All,

we have an update about the NOW anniversary meeting. The organizing team decided to settle for a live meeting on November 16-18, 2022 in Barcelona.

The meeting is about research that spans from NOW in a broad sense, and first and foremost it is an opportunity for the NOW Community to meet and celebrate. Everybody is most welcome -- coordinators, users, students, friends, anyone who might be interested.

The pandemic is not likely to go away, that's quite certain. Still, let us imagine that the world stays as it is now and the pandemic is at the level as it is now. Would you come to the meeting? Please reply via this online form, which asks yes or no and for any suggestions about the meeting:

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Isaac Casanovas-Vilar is the main organizer of this meeting. Do not hesitate to write to him if you have any questions or concerns about the logistics of the meeting or otherwise.

There will be a registration fee, the cost is not yet known, it may be along 100-200 eur range, with possible discounts for students. Isaac can answer further questions about the practicalities.

Here is a message from Isaac:

"After multiple rescheduling because of COVID restrictions, we would like to celebrate the NOW 25th anniversary meeting this year at Barcelona. Proposed dates are November 16-18th. The meeting will be hosted by the Institut Català de Paleontologia Miquel Crusafont (Sabadell, Barcelona) and will include two days of symposia and workshops plus a one-day field trip to the Miocene succession and key sites of the Vallès-Penedès Basin."

Meanwhile, these days many curatorial initiatives are active in NOW. Taxonomic consistency checking is back and active, especially that of the same genera being affiliated with different families. Kari has been writing many curatorial inquiries over the last month in relation to this. Quite a few replies from the responsible coordinators are still missing. If you receive such a curatorial inquiry from Kari Lintulaakso or anyone of the curatorial team, please please let know that you are there for NOW, even if a reply with the curatorial response has to wait. That's alright, normally there is no rush as long as things happen eventually.

The archaeology tab is one larger initiative currently in the making. The idea ripened in the previous NOW meeting in Bratislava 2018. The tab is already in production and the user interface for this hopefully will be available by the time of next NOW news, after that data entry will follow. The tab, similarly to tabs like Lithology, Taphonomy, Climate or Ecometrics that already exist in NOW, will give information describing aspects of the existing NOW localities. The Archaeology tab present information whether the locality has evidence for

presence of hominins. The responsible NOW coordinator is Miikka Tallavaara. More on this soon.

In other news, a big revision of North American data in NOW is underway, both taxonomically and of localities. Curatorial inquiries will be coming soon particularly to the coordinators who are closer to the North American data. Please stay tuned.

As always, if you have any ideas, suggestions, wishes, complaints, anything to discuss about NOW or in general, let me know.

best wishes, Indrė General coordinator of NOW