

## Ecsite Nature Group Pre-Conference 6th June 2018

### **Facts from Nature, let's prove them!**

We imagine too Keynote speakers interrupted by sessions with workshops, plenary, one with three minor posts on forward action and finally a final wrap-up presentation.

#### Part 1

Keynote speaker, Peter C. Kjærgaard, PhD, FLS, Museum Director & Professor of Evolutionary History, Natural History Museum of Denmark. For many years he has been working on the problem of evolution and creationism and has, among other things, wrote the books Creationism in Europe & the Family

Debate and questions

#### Part 2

Keynote speaker: André Abreu, Head of Environment and Climate Policy of Tara Expeditions. This project on a boat has been sailing for 13 years, discovering new species, especially of plankton and witnessing climate change.

<http://oceans.taraexpeditions.org/en/m/about-tara/lequipe/andre-abreu-de-almeida/>

<http://oceans.taraexpeditions.org/en/m/environment/ocean-biodiversity/>

Debate and questions

#### Part 3

Workshop

How do we handle unexcited myths, misinformed citizens and unscientific beliefs in our communication at museums and science centres? We do not want to ridicule people, but on the other hand, we also have to respond to unfair claims within our field of study.

#### Part 4

Participants present practical activities/projects developed in their museums, for example in the format of a fishbowl/roundtable session

## Part 5: How do we reach our goals?

Yuri Matteman, Head of Education, Naturalis, The Netherlands. Connecting learning environments (museum, school, home, nature). People learn everywhere, all the time, all through their lives; and they can be motivated to engage with science at all those moments and locations. Children spent just 16% of their waking time at school! To help society become more science literate and to empower citizens to make informed decisions, we should connect schools with out-of-school learning environments, such as museums. Learning ecosystems, partnerships between local learning environments, enable children to be critical and inquisitive and discover their passions in science. In this way they explore their talents continuously at school as well as outside school. .

Claudia Göbel, ECSA Project Officer, The value of citizen science as a learning tool for the public and museum communication.

Michele Price: Chair of Consortium of European Taxonomic Initiatives (<http://www/cetaf.org>) is Head of Science; Curator of Bryophytes, Ferns and Gymnosperms Conservatoire et Jardin botaniques de la Ville de Genève. She could providing highlight through taxonomy and collections on factual knowledge versus alternative facts . Note that CETAF working groups tackle science communication and citizens science: monitoring, crowdsourcing, and targets the science teachers and secondary school kids through the BIOTALENT project on biodiversity issues. <http://biotalent.myspecies.info/content/objectives>

Debate, questions, and workshop.

## Part 6

Wrap up the day