

Future Meeting

2022 International Youth Forum for Wood Anatomy and the 9th IAWA-China Group Annual Meeting, December 9th - 12th, 2022, Online

The 2022 International Youth Forum for Wood Anatomy and the 9th IAWA-China Group Annual Meeting will be held on December 9th - 12th, 2022 in Guangzhou, China. The conference will be organized by IAWA and South China Agricultural University (Guangzhou), co-sponsored by International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) Division 5, International Academy of Wood Science (IAWS) and International Wood Culture Society (IWCS). From 2022, the newly established Sherwin Carlquist Award by IAWA will be given to excellent speakers of the Youth Forum for Wood Anatomy with a certificate and grant. The International Youth Forum of 2022 will contain an invited keynote speech titled "The significance of porous media and polar lipids for fluid transport in angiosperm xylem" by Steven Jansen, and 19 oral presentations by PhD candidates or early career researchers who have completed their PhD no longer than five years ago.

Please visit for details: http://iawa-website.org/en/Meeting/Future_Meetings/article_204.shtml and contact Dr. Kate Chen chenkate93@hotmail.com or Dr. Shan Li lishan.ecology@hotmail.com

Lichao Jiao, China

Q-NET Online Workshop on Plant Cell Walls – structure, function, composition, January 2023

Next Q-NET online workshop "Plant cell walls – structure, function, composition" will be held in January 2023. The workshop is being organised by Ilana Shtein and Veronica de Micco and will include several expert lectures. The definite date will be announced soon.

Q-NET (a network of scholars using Quantitative Wood Anatomy) workshops are virtual meetings where the members can actively discuss during topical sessions. Participation is reserved to Q-NET members and is free of charge (Q-NET membership is also free).

Q-NET was established in 2020 and is currently supported by the Association for Tree-Ring Research (ATR), International Association of Wood Anatomists (IAWA) and Tree-Ring Society (TRS). More information will be available soon on Q-NET website: <https://qwa-net.com/workshops-2/>

Ilana Shtein, Israel

IAWA Wood Identification Symposium of IUFRO Division 5 Conference in Cairns, Australia on June 4th - 8th, 2023

The next All - Division Conference of IUFRO Division 5 - Forest Products will be held in tropical Cairns, Australia on June 4th - 8th, 2023. During this conference, the IAWA-IUFRO Symposium titled "Promoting Data-driven Methods for Species and Origin Identification of Forest Products" is organized by Yafang Yin, Hans Beeckman and Ratih Damayanti. The program will encourage open dialogue around the following topics: a) Can a xylarium network and an integrated wood identification system guarantee a legal timber trade? b) Can the development of integrated wood identification technology enhance the regional and/or international timber and wood products export and import activities among countries? c) Do different regulations in each country complicate the development of a xylarium network? During this conference, IAWA will also co-sponsor a session "From Wood Anatomy to DNA: Species and Provenance Tracking for Modern and Archaeological Woods".

For more detailed information, please visit <https://www.iufro-div5-2023.com/>

Lichao Jiao, China

IAWA Fossil Wood Symposium in Prague, Czech Republic, on May 25th-31st, 2024

The IAWA Fossil Wood Symposium, dedicated to the memories of Prof. Dr. Herbert Süß (1920-2017) and Prof. Dr. Alfred Selmeier (1923-2018), will be held on May 25th-31st, 2024, organized during the XIth IOPC (International Organization of Palaeobotany Conference) held conjunctly with the XVth International Palynological Congress, due to reviewing the various levels of Coronavirus infections and processes implemented by various European countries. The IAWA Symposium will be organizing an IAWA Social Hour and supper in the famous Carthusian Monastery (1628) in Melnik, just outside Prague, where IAWA has been previously hosted at a European Palaeo-botanical Conference. Detailed information is available by clicking <https://www.prague2020.cz/news.php>

Jakub Sakala, Czech Republic

Deadline for Symposium Proposal Submission for IBC 2024 is December 30th, 2022

The XX International Botanical Congress (IBC) will be held in Madrid, Spain, July 21st - 27th, 2024. The call for symposia of IBC 2024 is now open at <https://ibcmadrid2024.com/> and will remain until December 30th, 2022, at 1 pm (GMT+1). Prospective attendees of IBC 2024 are invited to submit symposium proposals that fit at least one of the 31 topics listed at the end of its webpage.

Each symposium will last for 2 hours and will consist of six 20-minute oral communications (15 min presentations + 5 min Q&A). To maximize the interchangeability of participants among concurrent symposia, changes to this schedule will not be allowed. IAWA plans to submit at least one proposal of IAWA Symposium during the IBC 2024.

Meeting reports

IAWA Symposium at the 22nd Mexican Botanical Congress in Puebla, Mexico, on September 25 - 30, 2022

The XXII Mexican Botanical Congress was held in the beautiful city of Puebla in the Puebla State. Puebla is well-known for its colonial architecture and its "Talavera" pottery. The state is also notorious for its contrasting vegetation types, such as the arid to semi-arid zones hotspots of biodiversity, such as the Tehuacán-Cuicatlán valley, where forests of columnar cacti form a unique, stunning landscape. In the mountains of the state, beautiful cloud mountain forests abound.

Within this context, from the 25th to 30th of September, the most important botanical event in Mexico, which happens every three years, was held at the Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla (BUAP). The motto of the congress was "Botany in the Anthropocene" with nearly 868 attendees and many symposia organized. Plant anatomy was present in several symposia, with one of the most concurred being the IAWA Symposium.

The IAWA symposium was organized by Tereza Terrazas, Guillermo Angeles, and Marcelo Pace, and supported by the IAWA. At the symposium, different aspects were covered, from dendroecology covered by Marín Pompa-García, the seasonality of wood and bark formation covered by Marcelo Pace, hydraulic in stems and roots by Guillermo Angeles and hydraulic architecture in monocots by Gilberto Alemán-Sancheschúlz, functional wood anatomy was covered by both Maribel Arenas-Navarro and Marco Alvarado-Butanda, wood and stem ontogeny and evolution covered by Angélica Quintanar-Castillo, Emilio Petrone-Mendoza and Rosa Nejapa, wood and leaf features in response to drought by Georgina González-Rebeles and plasticity in anatomical features of the wood by Hilda Sánchez-Sosa, how leaf area and sapwood scale between them, covered by Mark E. Olson, and also how paleobotany can shed light on the past and present of wood diversity, covered by Sergio R. S. Cevallos-Ferriz.

The symposium was a great success, with good participation from the audience encouraging the exchange of ideas among the speakers and the public, from senior scholars to undergraduate students.

At the end of the session, a happy hour of IAWA was held with delicacies brought from a pueblo known from their Italian community near Puebla called Chipilo. During the happy hours the attendees could enjoy cheeses, cookies, dried fruits, juices while wood scholars shared and discussed topics related to the symposium and the new perspectives on wood anatomy. We thank the IAWA for their sponsorship in organizing this successful meeting, where about 50 participants participated. The IAWA also counted with a stand in the exhibits, where over 30 IAWA publications were sold.

In addition to the IAWA Symposium, sessions related to the wood and plant anatomy were present, such as one moderated by Teresa Terrazas in leaf anatomy, the session of wood anatomy moderated by Agustín Maceda-Rodríguez, and a paleobotany symposium, organized by Ana L. Hernández-Damián, Socorro Lozano-García and Sergio R. S. Cevallos-Ferriz. In the structural botany posters, several works related to wood anatomy were presented, including topics related to the anatomical composition of trees of certain vegetation, phenotypic plasticity in species of broad distribution, and the characterization of wood in several species.

The entire congress was a great success and it as great to have the support of the IAWA, which actively continue to allow the exchange of ideas and collaborations among wood scholars and the new generations.

Angélica Quintanar-Castillo and Rosa Nejapa, Mexico



Marcelo Pace and Guillermo Angeles giving the introduction to the IAWA Symposium



Group photo of all attendees to the IAWA Symposium before the happy hour

Wood Anatomy Workshop in Réunion, France, October 17th - 25th, 2022

A camera wood anatomical workshop was conducted by Kamil Frankiewicz of South African Biodiversity Institute and University of Cape Town, at the Agrocampus (University of La Réunion) in Saint-Pierre on the paradise island of La Réunion (Mascarene archipelago), at Dr Claudine Ah-Peng's invitation and supported through Erasmus+ mobility grant.

The goal of the workshop was to equip the participants with skills to establish a new-wood anatomical-component to an ever-expanding database of the local flora curated by Dr. Ah-Peng. A bark-focused follow-up is already on the table and an influx of Réunionese members to the IAWA may be expected. Scientists and students from the University of La Réunion, Mascarin National Botanical Conservatory and the local Forestry Offices enjoyed fieldwork in the cloud forest below Le Maïdo, familiarised wood anatomical techniques and the IAWA nomenclature system, and discussed drought-resistance and insular woodiness phenomena.

Kamil E. Frankiewicz, South Africa



Group photo of participants to the camera wood anatomical workshop



Training on section preparation using sliding microtome



Training on collecting increment core from standing tree

Miscellaneous News

Machine Vision Protects Tree Biodiversity in Peru, Madagascar and Indonesia

Illegal logging ranks third in transnational crime and costs billions of dollars in lost revenue annually. Increasing global demand for precious timber—used to produce items such as wind turbine blades and flooring—has led to a surge of illegal exploitation. Wood identification is one of the ways to combat illegal logging, but it requires officials to be familiar with the diverse characteristics of tree species—a challenge when wood products often look similar and no longer have readily identifiable parts such as leaves, flowers and fruits.

To address these challenges, three researchers in the USAID-supported Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER) in Peru, Madagascar and Indonesia have each partnered with scientists from the U.S. Forest Service to develop tools to assist private and public organizations in wood identification and help curb illegal logging. Machine vision is the combination of optics, electrical, and software engineering that uses light captured by a sensor to inform decisions. The Xylotron developed by U.S. Forest Service, as one of the portable wood identification tools with machine vision technology, is being piloted in different countries. The three research teams broaden the Xylotron's database by cataloging thousands of wood samples and macroscopic images of native tree species in their respective countries. The Xylotron processes and catalogs these images until it recognizes the species independently with machine vision. By equipping the Xylotron with data on important species and training monitoring officials on how to use it, researchers can increase local capacity to reduce lumber trafficking, leading to healthier ecosystems and safer communities.

Melissa Trimble, USA



A member of the Peruvian research team using the Xylotron

Opening for PhD. or Master's Student with Assistantship in Wood Anatomy and Identification at Mississippi State University, USA

Applications are now being accepted for Summer Semester (June 1) 2023. Our research focuses on field-deployable wood identification methods to deter illegal logging and wood trade. Minimum qualifications include a background in forest products, wood science, biology, botany, or other related disciplines. Training and/or experience in wood anatomy, artificial intelligence and/or computer science/programming is preferred.

Links to the online application and deadlines for domestic and international applicants can be found at <https://www.grad.msstate.edu/apply>. Students interested in applying should email their CV and TOEFL/IELTS score to Dr. Frank Owens (frank.owens@msstate.edu) or Dr. Adriana Costa (adc751@msstate.edu).

Adriana Costa, USA

Call for Nomination of I.W. Bailey Award 2023 by September 1st, 2023

I.W. Bailey Award 2023 is calling for Nominations. From 2014 onwards, the I.W. Bailey Award is presented annually for the best original or review paper submitted to the IAWA Journal by a undergraduate, graduate student, or postdoc up to five years after their PhD defense since the submission of her/his manuscript. All subject matters published in the IAWA Journal are eligible: wood, bark, palm, bamboo, and rattan anatomy and ultrastructure, preferably linked to other fields such as, for instance, plant physiology, ecology, tree biology, pathology and decay, plant systematics and phylogeny, palaeobotany, climatology, archaeobotany, wood properties, biomechanics and wood culture. The Award consists of a certificate and €1000, sponsored by Brill Publishers.

Candidates may nominate their own submissions directly to the editors Lloyd Donaldson (lloyd.donaldson@scionresearch.com) and Marcelo Pace (marcelo.pace@ib.unam.mx), together with a one-page cv, and one supporting statement from a senior IAWA Member before September 1st of the current year. The Award Committee will be formed by the Editors and Associate Editors of the IAWA Journal (please visit <http://www.editorialmanager.com/iawa/> for instructions to authors).

The I.W. Bailey Committee is looking forward to receiving nominations for 2023 before September 1st, 2023. Please visit for more details:

http://www.iawa-website.org/en/IAWA_Journal/I_W_Bailey_Award/About_the_award.shtml

Call for Newsletter Items

The IAWA Newsletter will keep the IAWA community actively informed and stimulate members to visit the IAWA website for the latest and detailed news. Please send any news items you wish to share with the whole IAWA community to the newsletter editors Dr. Shan Li (lishan.ecology@hotmail.com) or Dr. Lichao Jiao (ljiao@caf.ac.cn) of the IAWA Office, Beijing.

Call for Manuscripts of IAWA Journal 2023

The editors of the IAWA Journal would like to encourage new manuscript submissions for volume 44, 2023. A reminder that subscribers/IAWA members can register for 'table of contents alerts on the IAWA Journal homepage.

*Lloyd Donaldson & Marcelo R Pace
Editors in Chief – IAWA Journal*