

The 6th Deep Time Meeting and Workshop

6-7 March, 2003

The George Washington University

Washington DC

The 6th Deep Time meeting will be held on the campus of George Washington University on Saturday and Sunday, March 6th and 7th, 2004. The workshop will be held on Saturday and will focus on problems associated with missing data in phylogenetic analysis and possible solutions. The Sunday meeting will include further discussion from the workshop, as well as presentations of ongoing Deep Time projects and other business. We are now taking reservations for Sunday talks and discussion topics!

Travel Support - The Deep Time RCN will provide travel support to faculty participants attending the meeting, on a reimbursement basis requiring original receipts.

Students and postdocs: The Deep Time RCN will offer travel awards of up to \$1000 each (again on a reimbursement basis with original receipts) to attend the meeting and workshop. Undergraduates, graduate students, and postdocs are eligible to apply.

To apply for student travel and research awards please send 1-page narrative describing the proposed activity (including how it will benefit your research), CV, and a letter from your advisor to Pam Soltis psoltis@flmnh.ufl.edu by **2 February, 2004**.

Housing - Hotel rooms have been booked at the State Plaza Hotel, 2117 E Street NW (walking distance from Foggy Bottom Metro station, Biology Department and meeting site), [phone: (800) 424-2859 or (202) 861-8200; fax: (202) 659-8601; web: <http://www.stateplaza.com> (note- web registration does not have a place to indicate group rate and identification so please reserve via toll free number)]. From overseas, you may email the hotel to make your reservation (reservations@stateplaza.com; if you are uncomfortable giving credit card details in an email message simply indicate "will provide credit card details upon arrival").

!!IMPORTANT: you **MUST** reserve your room by 5 February. All rooms that are not reserved by 6 February will be released. Conference room rate is \$109/night (single or double). Be sure to mention Deep Time/George Washington University (group #7529) to get the group rate.

Parking Parking is available at the State Plaza hotel and the GWU visitor garage (22nd St.

& I Street) paying daily rate, or on the street (check meters carefully- most are free on weekday evenings and Saturday and Sunday).

Transport By air- Three airports serve the Washington DC area (Reagan National, Dulles, BWI [near Baltimore]). **BWI** often has the best airfares. Amtrak and MARC trains run from BWI to Union Station in Washington. From Union Station take the Metro (subway) system to GWU campus (Foggy Bottom station). From **Reagan National** the Metro system is very convenient (take blue line to Foggy Bottom station). Transportation from **Dulles** is by taxi or shuttle van.

By car- from the **Northeast on I-95** take the Wash DC Beltway (I-495) west toward Silver Spring and Bethesda. Exit on Route 355 South, which becomes Wisconsin Ave. Proceed on Wisconsin, turning left toward Massachusetts Ave. just after Mass. Ave. has crossed Wisconsin. Continue on Mass. Ave. until 21st Street N.W. Turn right onto 21st St. and continue South to campus. From the **Northwest on I-270** follow arrows toward Maryland, Silver Spring (not Virginia) and exit on Route 355 South. Then follow directions as from Northeast above. From the **South on I-95** take I-395 to Arlington Memorial Bridge, bear left at Lincoln Memorial. Turn left at 23rd Street and continue North for a few blocks to campus. From **West on I-66** go to Route 50 and across the Arlington Memorial Bridge. Bear left at Lincoln Memorial, turn left on 23rd Street and continue several blocks to campus.

By Amtrak- Amtrak trains arrive in Union Station. From there take the Metro (subway) system to GWU campus (Foggy Bottom station).

More detailed directions will be available for those who request them (please email me). The Biology Department is located at 2023 G Street NW- this is four blocks directly west of the Whitehouse. See Foggy Bottom campus map at <http://www.gwu.edu/~map>.

Registration - Quite simple, but important! I need a head count to know the size of rooms needed for Saturday and Sunday, and the number of people to expect for the dinner on Saturday.

1. Please send an email message to Pat Herenden (herenden@gwu.edu) indicating that you will be attending. I will use email addresses from these messages to send additional details so it is important to send me a quick note. Also, please indicate whether you require vegetarian food for the Saturday dinner.

2. Make hotel reservation (details above)

3. If you would like to make a presentation or raise a topic for discussion please send me a title.

4. Complete Travel Authorization form (http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/deeptime/travel_request.pdf) and fax to Chuck Bell (352) 846-2154.

Questions:

Meeting logistics- contact Patrick Herendeen, herenden@gwu.edu; Phone: 202-994-5828

Financial- contact Pam Soltis, psoltis@flmnh.ufl.edu

Travel paperwork- Chuck Bell, cbell@flmnh.ufl.edu

Program (tentative)

Friday, 5 March, 3:30-6:00 PM

Mixer - Department of Biological Sciences, Lisner Hall 335 (Biology Conference Room), 2023 G St. NW.

Saturday, 6 March, 7:30 AM-6:00 PM. Workshop (see below), Group Dinner 7:00 PM (details to follow soon)

Sunday, 7 March, 8:00 AM-1:00 PM. Presentations of Deep Time projects, reports, discussion, plans, etc.

If you are interested in presenting a 15-minute talk on research relevant to the Deep Time goals, please let me know by 23 February. Please also indicate whether you will need overhead projector, slide projector, or LCD projector. If the latter, will you use your own computer or need to have one provided? Also please indicate whether you will use Mac or PC. If possible please send an abstract of your talk.

Deep Time Workshop on Missing Data in Phylogenetic Analysis

Saturday, 6 March, 2004

The George Washington University

(Building and room details to follow soon)

Tentative Schedule

7:30-8:30 **Breakfast & Welcome**

8:30-8:45 **Introduction**

8:45-9:45 **Maureen Kearney** (Field Museum). "Theoretical and analytical issues related to the inclusion of extinct taxa in phylogenetic analyses"

9:45-10:45 **John Wiens** (State University of New York at Stony Brook). Missing data due to incomplete taxa and characters

10:45-11:00 **Coffee break**

11:00-12:00 **Mark Wilkinson** (Natural History Museum, London). Missing data, inapplicable character scoring

12:00-1:00 **Lunch**

1:00-2:00 **John Freudenstein** (Ohio State University). "Missing data in molecular analyses: indels and 'sequence fossils'"

2:00-3:00 **Mark Simmons** (Colorado State University). Methods for scoring indels in alignments of sequence data.

3:00-3:15 **Coffee Break**

3:15-4:15 **Gordon Burleigh** (University of California, Davis). "Optimal filtering of sequence alignments to ameliorate missing data"

4:15-5:15 DETAILS PENDING

5:15-6:00 **Discussion**