

SPIXIANA	35	2	287	München, Dezember 2012	ISSN 0341-8391
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Dear colleagues,

On behalf of the Council for the International Congresses of Dipterology, the ICD8 Organizing Committee and the Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung, I cordially invite you to attend the 8th International Congress of Dipterology in Potsdam, Germany, from 10th to 15th August, 2014.

Organizing Committee: The Organizing Committee includes Marion Kotrba (chair), Netta Dorchin and Frank Menzel. The Scientific Committee headed by Netta Dorchin includes Daniel Bickel, Martin Hauser, Ashley Kirk-Spriggs and Rudolf Meier. The professional company handling the congress organization is pcma (<http://pcma.de/en/>).

Important Dates: Early registration: September 2013 – 1st February 2014; Regular registration: until 1st July 2014; Abstract submission deadline: 1st May 2014.

Venue: All congress sessions will be held at the Kongresshotel Potsdam. The main congress hall seats 500 and simultaneous sessions will take place in adjacent rooms, seating 80 and 45–50 persons. Additional rooms will be available if needed. The congress center offers ample areas for exhibitions, posters, and relaxation as well as two restaurants, a bar and several smaller sites for beverages.

Scientific Program: The scientific program will include theme- and taxon-based symposia and poster sessions. We will cover all major aspects of Dipterology including systematics, morphology, physiology, evolution, biodiversity and conservation, ecology, agriculture and forensics. Suggestions for symposia are welcome. Proposals should include a title, justification, and a list of potential speakers. Please e-mail symposia suggestions to Netta Dorchin at ndorchin@post.tau.ac.il.

Fees: Full registration fee will be approximately 400 € (350 € early; 200 € student), including the reception, lunch and coffee breaks. The Congress Dinner will be booked and charged separately. The Senckenberg Gesellschaft für Naturforschung is supporting the Congress with 30 000 €. We are making special efforts to recruit additional support from exhibitors and sponsors (please refer to our webpage for further information) and will try to reduce the registration fee and/or offer travel grants for students depending on our success in obtaining additional funds.

Accommodation: The hotel rooms adjoin the congress center and can accommodate all congress delegates. The current daily rates, including breakfast, are 85 € (single) and 100 € (double).

Registration of interest: To receive further information about the ICD8 please refer to the Congress website at <http://www.icd8.org>. Assist us in planning ahead for the Congress by submitting the Registration of Interest Form which is provided there.

Looking forward to meeting you in Potsdam 2014!

Yours sincerely,
Marion Kotrba (ICD8 chair)