

Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to invite you for the **1st Conference on Wild and Domesticated Mammal hair and fur (WDMH)**. This conference will be addressed to biologists, wildlife biologists, conservation biologists, wildlife forensic experts, hunters, palaeontologists, archaeologists, anthropologists, museologists dealing with the mammal hair. I would like to encourage you to attend and share your knowledge on this very exciting, perspective discipline. Your presence at the conference will be much appreciated.

The conference would include, but not limited to, the main topics listed below:

- Evolution of the mammal hair
- Paleontological, archaeological aspects
- Domestication
- Adaptive patterns (e.g. life strategy, accommodation, colour patterns)
- Taxonomy and phylogenetic aspects (molecular and/or morphological studies on hair)
- Identification of hair and fur: nomenclature, morphological and/or molecular possibilities as tool for illegal fur trade and forensic wildlife
- Methodology in the laboratory (e.g. microscopic techniques, SEM, preparation, DNA extraction, etc.)
- Methodology - field techniques (e.g. hair trapping, bird nest analysis, camera trap on fur patterns, etc.) as tools in conservation biology and faunistical monitoring, etc.

The aim of this announcement is to get relevant information about the number of interest on the basis of your answers. Your reflections will serve the basic data to calculate the necessary financial frames; after all we can apply for the available grants and/or sponsorship and start to organise every steps ensure the success of the event.

The potential date of the conference: **April or May in 2019.**

The place (city and institute) of the conference depend on the number of participants and the grants and sponsorship, but will be held most probably in Budapest or a city close to the capital of Hungary.

Let me introduce myself as the initiator and chief organizer of the conference. I am a biologist-mammalogist, dealing with the microscopic characters of the mammal hairs and the species specific patterns of their fur for more than a decade. My latest publication is a book, the Hair and Fur Atlas of the Central European Mammals which was published in the end of 2017 and might serve as invitation for the conference, too.

<http://www.hairatlas.hu>

If you agree that to establish a platform is important for those scientists and PhD students who deal with this research area, as it is very important to fill the gap between the morphological and molecular world and share the new results concerning with the information content of the mammal hairs, **please, confirm your interest no later than 9th April 2018** for my e-mail: maria.tothronkay@gmail.com and **indicate your preferred topic.**

I would like to ask you to distribute the announcement within your colleagues who might be interested in the topics of the planned conference.

In case of interest, the official homepage of the conference will be activated in May 2018 and the scientific committee will start its job.

With all best regards,

Budapest, 22.03.2018.

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