

SILVA Network annual conference

- 1st announcement -

September 21st -23rd, 2016

FOREST SCIENCE EDUCATION:

Self-study and activation of the learner

On behalf of the SILVA Network, the Estonian University of Life Sciences, Institute of Forestry and Rural Engineering will host a conference on Forestry Education. The conference is again co-organized by the IUFRO education group.

Topic

In the trend of moving away from only ex-cathedra teaching to a learner-oriented approach various ways exist to motivate students in their learning effort. One aspect is the strengthening of self-study approaches. This learning-vehicle is classically subdivided in three segments which are *accompanied self-study*, *individual self-study* and *free self-study*. However, it is the idea to not only have a look at E-learning tools (like Massive Open Online Courses, MOOCs), but to consider concepts for self-study in the field. Besides these dedicated instruments the conference in September 2016 focuses also on the general activation of the learner.

Looking back at recent SILVA Network conferences it can be noticed that the trend from teaching to learning was touched several times in various contributions, in particular during the Istanbul meeting in 2013. With a focused approach dedicated to these “learning instruments” the 2016 SILVA Network annual conference wants to highlight and give insight in how to deal with these topics/issues/items under the specific conditions in academic forestry education.

Call for contributions

The programme will comprise two days of indoor conference and a one-day field trip.

We invite you to prepare a presentation in closer or wider connection with the theme of the conference. Student and IFSA participation is encouraged. Please send by E-mail an

abstract of up to 300 words to M. Ziesak (martin.ziesak@bfh.ch) till June 30th, 2016. The committee will decide on contributions and all applicants will be informed as soon as possible.

Venue

The conference will be held at the Institute of Forestry and Rural Engineering in Tartu, Estonia. A field trip will be organized to the Järvelja Forest Experimental Center which is located in the south-east of the country and close to the lake Pihkva (45 km from Tartu).

Fees

The regular participation fee is 170 € (special fees for students: 100 €) which must be paid in cash at the registration. This fee includes coffee breaks, 3 lunches, a conference dinner and the field trip.

Accommodation

Participants have to make their accommodation arrangements themselves, at own cost. We suggest the hotel "Dorpat" (<http://www.dorpat.ee/>) which is 100 m from the Tartu terminal bus station. Transport between hotel "Dorpat" and the Institute will be organized.

Travel arrangements

Participants have to make their travel arrangements themselves, at own cost. Tartu is located 186 km from Tallinn. There is a good bus connection between Tallinn (airport) and Tartu, operating twice per hour.

Further information about accommodation and travel arrangements can be given by the organisation team.

Organisation

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