

Conferences and Events

Celebrating Darwin: An anniversary conference of 10 years of the South African Society for Systematic Biology, as well as a celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Darwin, and 150th anniversary of the publication of “On the Origin of Species” will be held in 25-27 July 2009 at the School of Biological and Conservation Sciences University of Kwazulu-Natal. For more information or request, please contact: organizing committee, Rob Slotow via e-mail: slotow@ukzn.ac.za.

The EDIT Summer School. The EDIT Summer Schools are an initiative of Work Package 8 (“Training and Public Awareness”) and Work Package 7 (“Applying taxonomy to Conservation”) of the European Network of Excellence “EDIT” (European Distributed Institute of Taxonomy). The purpose of the Summer Schools is to train students in “Best Practice” of field sampling and various aspects of taxonomic research to be applied in biodiversity and conservation biology research. The Summer Schools focus on disseminating practical taxonomic experience with theory lectures to give an in-depth understanding of the current state of taxonomic research and its broad applicability in other scientific disciplines and non-scientific initiatives. The EDIT Summer Schools are open to students that have recently finished their MSc. level or are in an early stage of their PhD research in a biological discipline. The Summer Schools are closely coupled EDIT “All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory and Monitoring (ATBI+M)” initiatives. ATBI+M activities are part of a global research effort to document spatio-temporal dynamics in biodiversity of conservation priority areas. The Summer School of Taxonomy provides a unique chance for students to meet with professional taxonomists and experience firsthand the challenges and rewards of field work in an inspirational setting. For more information, please go to: <http://atbi.eu/summerschool/>.

International Conference on Agro-

biotechnology, Biosafety and Seed Systems in Developing Countries: Optimizing Agro-Biotech Potential while Ensuring Biosafety amidst Seed Production and Distribution Challenges will be held in Imperial Resort Beach Hotel, Entebbe, Uganda, between 08 and 12 March 2010. For more information, please go to: <http://atbi.eu/summerschool/>.

The conference Island Invasives: Eradication and Management will be held at Tamaki Campus, University of Auckland, New Zealand, from 8 to 12 February 2010, hosted by the Centre for Biodiversity and Biosecurity (University of Auckland & Landcare Research), in collaboration with the IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group. The conference will continue, and expand on, the theme of the very successful one held in 2001 – *Eradication of Island Invasives*. For more information, please contact Dick Veitch via e-mail: dveitch@kiwilink.co.nz or go to: <http://www.cbb.org.nz/conferences.asp>.

A multi-disciplinary international conference to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Darwin’s publication of Origin of Species. 150 Years after The Origin of Species: Biological, Historical, and Philosophical Perspectives will be held between 21 to 24 November 2009 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. For more information, please go to: <http://www.hps.utoronto.ca/darwin.htm>.

10th International Congress of Ecology will be held between 16 to 21 August 2009 in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. For more information, please go to: <http://www.intecol10.org/default.asp>.

An EMBL Workshop on Visualizing Biological Data (VizBi) will be held between 3 to 5 March 2010 in Heidelberg, Germany. For more information, please go to: http://www-db.embl.de/jss/EmblGroupsOrg/conf_128.