

## **SILVA Network annual conference**

**- 1<sup>st</sup> announcement -**

June 26<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### **FOREST SCIENCE EDUCATION: Forests for university education: examples and experiences**

On behalf of the SILVA Network, the Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences at the Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague will host a conference on Forestry and Forest Science Education. The conference is co-organized by the IUFRO education group.

#### **Topic**

In academic forestry education, at both universities and universities of applied sciences, the importance to incorporate in the curricula in-forest teaching was recognized rather early. Hence, it has a long tradition and is a firm component in all forest science syllabi. From this tradition at many academic institutions the access to forests was seen as so important, that very often specific regulations for “university forests” were established. As a result there exists a very wide range, on how these teaching forests are legally linked to the university: direct ownership, long-lasting land-lease contracts or comparatively loose management regulations. In any case, the 2017 SILVA Network meeting wants to address all aspects of these forests with their special meaning for university teaching, education and sometimes also research.

Typical questions to be raised under this topic cover a very wide range. From organizational matters, over managerial aspects to questions in our core field of interest, the pure educational questions, everything may be considered. The idea is to share specific knowledge around these “university forests”, which should help to avoid typical pitfalls and gain the maximum for forestry education from these forests.

A specific appeal is addressed to the SILVA community as to share typical individual in-field curricula, as adapted to the utilization at some university forests. It is expected that a shared insight into such syllabi is giving extra value to this symposium.

## 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](mailto:martin.ziesak@bfh.ch)) till May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The SILVA Board will decide on contributions and all applicants will be informed as soon as possible. A registration form for all participants will be made available with the 2<sup>nd</sup> call.

## Venue

The conference will be held at the Faculty of Forestry and Wood Sciences in Prague, Czech Republic. A field trip will be organized to visit the University Forest Enterprise (30 km from Prague).

## 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 "Galaxie (Wienna)" ([http://www.hotele.cz/suchdol-hotel-wienna\\_detail-c-wienna.en.html?locale=en\\_GB](http://www.hotele.cz/suchdol-hotel-wienna_detail-c-wienna.en.html?locale=en_GB)) which is very close to the university campus (5 minutes walking distance).

## Travel arrangements

Participants have to make their travel arrangements themselves, at own cost. Prague is pretty well connected by plane, train and highways.

If needed further information about accommodation and travel arrangements can be given by the organisation team.

## Organisation:

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## Information about the SILVA Network

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