



Mollusca 2014

The Meeting of the Americas

UNAM Campus, Mexico City

22-27 June 2014

The American Malacological Society, the Asociación Latinoamericana de Malacología, the Sociedad de Malacología de México, and the Western Society of Malacologists cordially invite you to attend the first ever malacological Meeting of the Americas!

Mollusca 2014 will be the first joint meeting of the four host mollusk societies of the Americas. It will be held at the Library Complex Amoxcalli in the Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City.

Updated information will be available at:



<http://www.mollusca2014.unam.mx>

or

<https://www.facebook.com/Mollusca2014>



DEADLINES

End of reduced registration fees: 31 March 2014

End of abstract submission: 15 April 2014

General Information

The Schedule

Mollusca 2014 will start with an opening public lecture and private reception on Sunday, 22 June 2014 (5:00 – 7:30 pm) at a famous local venue. The conference sessions will be organized in parallel sessions beginning on Monday, 23 June and extending through Friday, 27 June. Sessions will be held at Amoxcalli Library Complex in the Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico City. Lunches will be on your own at the many nearby campus cafeterias (maps will be provided in the campus packet). The poster session will be on Tuesday evening, 24 June. An auction hosted by the AMS and WSM will be on Wednesday evening, 25 June. The final conference dinner will be on Thursday, 26 June, at the Fonda Mexicana. Friday is a fieldtrip day where participants will be able to explore Mexico City. A choice of fieldtrip activities, not included in the registration fee, will be made available by our travel agency, including a trip to the ancient pyramids and city of Teotihuacan.

Scientific Sessions

We have an exciting and stimulating group of sessions planned at Mollusca 2014. This is the opportunity for malacologists of the Americas and throughout the world to share their research and ongoing projects, as well as to inspire new collaborations. We will have specialized symposia, contributed papers and a poster session. The following symposia are planned:

Bivalvia of the Americas

While the bivalves of the Americas have been studied for over two centuries, we have only within the last decade begun strong partnerships between North and South American scientists who center their research on this diverse class of mollusks. By focusing on contemporary and future research projects, this symposium will address the state of art of bivalves in the Americas, highlighting our current knowledge of bivalve ecology, reproduction, culture, phylogeny, biogeography, and biodiversity, and potential ventures for future collaborations amongst bivalve researchers.

Contacts: Diego Zelaya, Departamento Biodiversidad y Biología Experimental, Facultad de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales, UBA Ciudad Universitaria, Pab. 2, 4to piso, lab. 31 C1428EHA, Capital Federal Argentina, dzelaya@bg.fcen.uba.ar; Paul Valentich-Scott, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 2559 Puesta del Sol, Santa Barbara, CA 93105 USA, pvscott@sbnature2.org.

Mollusks and Archaeology

Mollusks have played an important role in the history of humans, including their collection as a food source, their use as ornaments and jewelry, and as burial goods, among other uses.

Recently, molluscan archaeology has become important in documenting and understanding the complex relationships humans have maintained with their environment and the impact of their activities. To this end, many researchers have used geochemical techniques, such as oxygen isotope analysis and paleo-environmental reconstructions among other methods. This symposium will focus on interdisciplinary topics that highlight the importance of mollusks in human societies, as well as their role in palaeoecological, chronological, environmental, cultural and taphonomic interpretations of archaeological sites, and prospects for conservation of this cultural heritage, particularly with shell midden sites.

Contacts: Miguel Téllez (mtellez@uabc.edu.mx), Carlos Figueroa (carlosfigueroa@gmail.com), and Hans Bertsch (hansmarvida@sbcglobal.net)

Let's talk about Opisthobranchia

Poster and oral presentations on topics related to opisthobranchs including biology, taxonomy and systematics, phylogeny and evolution, ecology, embryology, physiology, histology, and biochemistry. A keynote address will be given by Dr. Terrence Gosliner.

Contacts: Andrea Zamora Silva (andrea.zamora@bm.uib.no), Ángel A. Valdés (aavaldes@csupomona.edu), Deneb Ortigosa (jazmin.ortigosa@gmail.com).

Cephalopods of the Americas

Cephalopods present high variations on population dynamics (e.g. abundance fluctuations, expansion/contraction of geographical distribution) because of the high influence of environmental variables on key stages of their ontogeny. These fluctuations affect significantly both ecosystems and human activities. It is well known that cephalopods represent an important part of the marine food webs and variations in population abundances will influence other trophic levels directly (e.g. predation) and indirectly (e.g. competition). Many cephalopod species hold relevant fisheries in America. With many fish stocks currently being overexploited, cephalopods have become an even more important resource, so much so that untraditional deep-sea cephalopods are being considered for exploitation. Without proper management overexploitation may lead not only to a collapse of the cephalopod fishery but also to a negative impact on marine ecosystem.

This multi-disciplinary symposium will provide a forum for oral and poster presentations focused on the many roles cephalopods play in experimental biology, as well as the natural environment. The session will cover a wide range of topics, including ecology and evolution, genetics, fisheries, aquaculture, experimental biology, management and climate change.

Contacts: Carlos Rosas Vázquez (crv@ciencias.unam.mx) and Unai Marcaida (umarkaida@ecosur.mx)

Aquaculture of Mollusks

In recent years, molluscan aquaculture has become a reality. There is a large need for more aquatic species to be cultured for human consumption. We invite all malacologists who are developing new procedures, improving techniques, or developing new pathways for mollusk aquaculture to participate in this symposium.

Contacts: Fabiola Lafarga (flafarga@cicese.mx) and Miguel Angel del Río (mdelrio@cicese.mx)

Molluscan Genomics

The development and reduced cost of new sequencing techniques has allowed the analysis of non-model molluscan species and the development of new molecular markers, the development of genome, transcriptome and proteomic analysis, as well as the functional genomics and population genetics. We invite all researchers working on molluscan genomics to participate in this symposium.

Contacts: Fabiola Lafarga (flafarga@cicese.mx) and Miguel Angel del Río (mdelrio@cicese.mx)

The Future of Malacology: A Perspective from Malacology Students

This symposium will solicit oral presentations from active students and recent graduates to express their views on trends in malacological research. They are encouraged to propose guidelines to develop research on mollusks, to innovate methodologies, to identify emerging research directions, to promote discussions on controversial ideas, to address deficiencies in malacological research, and to identify urgent issues to the molluscan community.

Contacts: Martha Reguero (reguero@cmarl.unam.mx), Edgar Heimer (heimer@unam.mx)

Terrestrial Mollusks of the Americas: Diversity and Relationships in Vanishing Habitats

The symposium will focus on diversity and relationships of terrestrial mollusks on both American continents and the islands in between. Relationships will include biogeography and phylogeny. As one of the most threatened groups of animals, the consequences of the nearly omnipresent loss of terrestrial mollusk habitat will be a primary topic, as well as destroyed type localities and lost diversity. Therefore, a wide range of topics from more academic questions to related aspects of conservation will be addressed.

Contacts: Ira Richling (ira@helicina.de), Stuttgart State Museum of Natural History, Germany

Invasive Mollusks in the Americas

This symposium will examine molluscan invasions in the Americas, from current occurrences and distributions, to genetics of introduced populations. In addition, the symposium will examine impacts, control, and potential mitigations of introduced molluscan species.

Contacts: Gustavo Darrigran (gdarrigran@malacologia.com.ar), La Plata Museum, School of Nature Science and Museum. La Plata. Argentina. Carlos Eduardo Belz (belzocéanos@gmail.com), Federal University of Parana – Marine Study Center – CEM - Curitiba, Parana, Brazil, and Otto Samuel Mäder Netto, Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais, Brazil.

Accommodations

The primary conference hotel will be the Hotel El Diplomático (<http://www.eldiplomatico.com.mx/>), not far from the conference venue. The rooms are very nice and the price is reasonable. There will be daily bus service provided from the El Diplomático to the conference venue (once in the morning before sessions, once at night after the final session).

If you would like additional recommendations for hotels please contact see the Mollusca 2014 website at: <http://www.mollusca2014.unam.mx/>

There is no housing on campus, but there are many options for students at local hostels. Below is a brief list of hostels fairly near the conference venue. Most are in the US \$15-20 range per night.

Hostels (see the Mollusca 2014 website for more ideas):

Cenote Azul: http://www.elcenoteazul.com/cenote_azul.html

Hostelhome: <http://www.hostelhome.com.mx/hosteles.html>

Hostal Catedral: <http://www.hostelworld.com/hosteldetails.php/Hostel-Cathedral/Mexico-City/881>

México City Hostel: <http://www.mexicocityhostel.com/>

Mollusca 2014 will NOT coordinate travelling or hotel accommodation.

Registration

The conference registration will occur at the Hotel El Diplomático, from 12:00-4:00 pm on Sunday, 22 June. Buses will leave the hotel at 4:30 pm to proceed to the opening reception at a nearby venue. On Monday, 23 June registration will be open at the Library Complex Amoxcalli on the UNAM campus, starting at 8:00 am. **Please bring your presentation (PDF or Powerpoint only, must run on Windows PC) with you to the registration on Monday, 23 June**, so we may load it onto the conference computers.

At registration check-in all participants will receive the conference program, abstracts, maps and additional information. Please wear your name badge to all Mollusca 2014 events. There will also be a travel agent available during the meeting for planning a trip during our fieldtrip day.

Registration fees (all prices in Mexican pesos – currently about 13 pesos per \$1 US):

| | |
|--|-------|
| Full registration (member in host society, <u>before 31 March</u> 2014)..... | 3,400 |
| Full registration (non-member, <u>before 31 March</u> 2014) | 3,700 |
| Late registration (members and non-members, after 31 March 2014) | 3,800 |

| | |
|--|-------|
| Student registration (member in host society, <u>before 31 March 2014</u>)..... | 1,250 |
| Late student registration (members and non-members, after 31 March 2014)..... | 1,600 |
| Social events only for partner/family of registrants (including dinner) | 1,000 |

Fees include the opening reception, registration, conference program, abstract book, snacks and coffee at breaks, daily buses to the conference, the congress dinner, and other social events.

To assist in making payment in Mexican pesos we have set up a **PayPal** account for the meeting. This is a safe and secure way to make payments. Paypal will deduct funds from your checking account to the Mollusca 2014 conference and automatically convert from your currency (\$US, €, etc.) to pesos. It is easiest to set up a PayPal account first to use this service (www.paypal.com). It is also possible (but expensive) to make a direct bank transfer from your bank to the Mollusca 2014 conference banking account. Please contact Paul Valentich-Scott, AMS President (pjscott@sbnature2.org), if you would like details on completing a bank transfer.

Travel Information

Mexico City is a major international airline hub, accessible from almost any major airport in the world. Benito Juárez International Airport (MEX) is modern and efficient. The commentary below is abstracted from www.tripadvisor.com, and provides much useful information.

International visitors will be given an arrivals card (FMT) and a customs form on board their flight. Once in the terminal, go to the correct immigration area. There are two separate areas: one for arrivals from North America, Europe, Middle East and Asia, and the other for arrivals from the Caribbean and Latin America. Present your FMT with your passport. Be sure to keep the portion of the FMT the officer returns to you as you will need to present this on departure and will be fined if you don't have it.

Once you have collected your bags, hand over your customs form and then place your bags in the x-ray machine and press the button indicated: a green light means you can go straight through to the arrivals hall, a red light will entail a visual inspection of your bags. In the arrivals hall, there are plenty of ATMs and exchange booths issuing pesos cash. In Terminal 1, baggage carts are free and cannot be taken past the Arrivals Hall, but there are plenty of porters available. In Terminal 2, there is a nominal fee for a baggage cart and it can be taken to the taxi rank or parking lot.

Authorized Airport Taxis companies: [Nueva Imagen](#), [Porto Taxi](#), [Yellow Cab Aeropuerto](#), Sitio 300, Comfort. HOWEVER, the people at the booth will often try to sell you a more expensive ticket (normally, for a large van). DO NOT FALL FOR THIS. Say you want a sedán (SAY-DAN) and

any of the above taxis to Hotel El Diplomático (Zone 5) should be UNDER 300 Mexican pesos. Hotels that are further than Zone 5, will cost more. We recommend that you print out the address of the El Diplomático Hotel (Insurgentes Sur 1105, Colonia Nochebuena, Ciudad de México, C.P. 03720), and hand it to one of the taxis above.

Preliminary Schedule

All events taking place at the Amoxcalli Library Complex, unless otherwise indicated

Sunday, 22 June

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 12:00 – 4:00 pm | Registration at the El Diplomático Hotel |
| 4:00 pm | Take buses from El Diplomático Hotel to opening reception venue |
| 5:00-6:00 pm | Public Keynote address by Dr. José Leal at opening reception venue |
| 6:00-7:30 pm | Private opening reception for all registered Mollusca 2014 participants |
| 7:30 pm | Return bus trip to the El Diplomático Hotel |
| 8:00 pm | Dinner on your own |

Monday, 23 June

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 8:00 am | Buses leave El Diplomático Hotel to Amoxcalli Library Complex |
| 8:00-9:00 am | Registration at Amoxcalli Library Complex |
| 9:00 am – 6:00 pm | Scientific sessions |
| 6:30 pm | Buses leave Amoxcalli Library Complex to El Diplomático Hotel |
| 8:00 pm | Dinner on your own |

Tuesday, 24 June

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 8:00 am | Buses leave El Diplomático Hotel to Amoxcalli Library Complex |
| 8:00-9:00 am | Registration at Amoxcalli Library Complex |
| 9:00 am – 5:00 pm | Scientific sessions |
| 5:00 – 7:00 pm | Poster session |
| 7:30 pm | Buses leave Amoxcalli Library Complex to El Diplomático Hotel |

8:00 pm Dinner on your own

Wednesday, 25 June

8:00 am Buses leave El Diplomático Hotel to Amoxcalli Library Complex

8:00-9:00 am Registration at Amoxcalli Library Complex

9:00 am – 6:00 pm Scientific sessions

6:30 pm Buses leave Amoxcalli Library Complex to El Diplomático Hotel

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm AMS/WSM Auction (with snacks, but dinner on your own) – venue to be determined

Thursday, 26 June

8:00 am Buses leave El Diplomático Hotel to Amoxcalli Library Complex

8:00-9:00 am Registration at Amoxcalli Library Complex

9:00 am – 5:00 pm Scientific sessions

5:30 pm Buses leave Amoxcalli Library Complex to El Diplomático Hotel

6:30 pm Buses leave El Diplomático Hotel to final dinner

Friday, 27 June

All day Fieldtrips arranged by travel agent or free day to explore the city and surrounding areas (including archeological sites)

Contact information: For further information on the meeting contact the society presidents.

Edna Naranjo Garcia - naranjo@unam.mx

Paul Valentich-Scott – pvscott@sbnature2.org

We look forward to seeing you in Mexico City!!



Registration Form

Surname (last name): _____

First name: _____

(These names will be used on your Mollusca 2014 name badge. Make sure they are legible.)

Email: _____

(Email is our primary source of contact with you. Please let us know if your email changes!)

Cell phone or office phone: (include country code) _____

Institution: _____

Mailing address: _____

If you **do NOT wish to have your name**, address and details to be included in the list of delegates, please tick here

I plan to **arrive** to the conference on (circle one): Sunday , Monday , Tuesday , Wednesday , Thursday

I plan to **leave** to the conference on (circle one): Monday , Tuesday , Wednesday , Thursday , Friday

I have the following **special requirements** (diet/allergies or medical/wheel chair) _____

Are you a member of the following host societies? If yes, please tick all of your memberships: American Malacological Society , Asociación Latinoamericana de Malacología , Sociedad de Malacología de México , or Western Society of Malacologists .

Name of accompanying person(s): (not attending conference, but attending social events): _____

Do you plan an oral presentation or poster (circle one). Please give us the preliminary title of your presentation. _____

If you wish to be considered for the student presentation competition please provide the name, university, and email address of your advisor. _____

Mollusca 2014 Registration Fees (all figures in Mexican pesos)

| | before 31 March 2014 | after 31 March 2014 | Total |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--|-------|
| Member of host societies | \$3,400.00 | \$3,700.00 | |
| Non-society member | \$3,700.00 | \$3,800.00 | |
| Student | \$1,250.00 | \$1,600.00 | |
| Social Events only (partner) | \$1,000.00 | \$1,000.00 | |
| Mollusca 2014 T-Shirt | S, M, L, XL, XXL | \$150.00 | |
| | | Registration Total (Mexican pesos) | |

If you would like a vegetarian main dish at the conference dinner please tick here

Return this form no later than 15 May 2014 to: sugerencias@smmac.org.mx

PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS

Payment can be done by **PayPal**, or via bank transfer

Via Paypal

1. Go to <https://www.paypal.com/webapps/mpp/send-money-online> (or link from webpage)
2. Type in your email address
3. Type in this email address for Mollusca 2014 (pagos@smmac.org.mx)
4. Type in Amount of your registration fees (above)
5. Continue and add your banking information.

If you wish to do the expensive bank transfer, contact Paul Valentich-Scott at pvscott@sbnature2.org, for instructions.