



**FIRST CIRCULAR**  
**FOURTH INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON**  
**MESOZOIC FISHES - SYSTEMATICS,**  
**HOMOLOGY, AND CHARACTER DEFINITION**  
MIRAFLORES DE LA SIERRA, MADRID, SPAIN  
AUGUST 2005

**Dear friends,**

this is the first circular for the next meeting on Mesozoic Fishes. It will be already the fourth one!! We have been growing throughout the years, and this is something important. Although attendants are more numerous every time, we will still try to keep our characteristic "familiar" type of meeting.

We do hope to see you all in Mesozoic Fishes IV.

**WHEN**

As most of you probably recall, we voted among several dates for the meeting, all during the summer 2005, "and the winner was" the second week August. The very exact dates will largely depend on the number of oral communications, so we shall let you know in the second circular. If we sum up the arrival, 3-5 days of sessions, plus the field trip, the whole **second week of August, 2005**, will be totally or nearly covered.

If you are planning some holidays around Spain before or after the meeting, remember that it will be the very highest season, so you will need to make your reservations well ahead.

## WHERE

With the purpose of keeping the “familiar” ambiance of the meeting that we all like about it, it will take place in a single facility (a “Residencia”) that includes lodging, conference rooms, and, of course, restaurant and bar, so that we can talk and interact during the full time the meeting lasts. This facility is isolated in the mountains near Madrid, and is provided, to a very low price, by the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid.

However, the number of rooms, although large, is limited, and we will reserve a number of them for the scientific committee and for students with limited funding for assistance. **The rest of the rooms will be assigned in strict order of inscription arrival.** Once the rooms at the Residencia are completely booked, those who send the inscription will have to lodge in a hotel in a nearby village, although lunch and dinner can be arranged at the Residencia. Rooms at the Residencia are twin-bedded, with complete bathroom.

One reservation per person (not per room) is requested, so accompanying persons need to send their own inscription form (indicating your “roommate choice” in “Comments and suggestions” at the bottom of the inscription form).

So, if you are **seriously** planning to attend, and want to lodge in the Residencia, please **E-mail back your inscriptions before June, the 30th.**

## MONOGRAPHIC THEMES

Every “Mesozoic Fishes Meeting” has had suggested monographic themes, in addition to our traditional “Systematics”. For the fourth one, we would like to propose “**Homology and Character Definition**”. This may include posters, standard oral communication, invited oral presentations, and round tables, depending on your response. We will be dealing with them from all possible viewpoints: from the very specific and applied to the very general and theoretical; from specific problems concerning homologies of particular

structures among certain fish taxa to the different concepts of homology; from discussions on the interpretation and problematic of precise characters in fossil fishes to general guidelines for the accurate definition of characters. If enough communications are proposed, monographic sessions and round tables will be held (all suggestions welcome). If you think that your communication is somehow related with the monographic themes, please indicate it in "Comments and suggestions", at the bottom of the inscription form.

Needless to say, contributions dealing with all aspects related with the palaeobiology of Mesozoic Fishes will be welcome, including ichthyofaunas from more recent times if they are relevant for their study.

## FUNDS

At present, we cannot provide any definitive information concerning funds for assistance to the meeting. The applications need to be done next year. We intend to offer, in addition to reasonably-priced inscription, lodging and meals, some funds that may eventually cover part or the whole of them, and, if possible, some travel support.

In order to arrange a fair distribution of the eventual funds, it will be necessary for **funds applicants to submit both the abstract and the manuscript before the general deadlines**. This will ensure that only those who actually submit their works will receive the financial support. We need to be strict about this, because several participants that received financial support to attend previous "Mesozoic Fishes Meetings" did not submit any manuscript at all. So, if you are planning to apply for eventual support to attend the meeting, please pay special attention to the different deadlines.

We ask you to apply for funds only if you will really be unable to attend the meeting otherwise. We also ask applicants and submit both the abstract manuscript in due time, and, of course, to commit themselves to attend the meeting.

## IMPORTANT: DEADLINES INFORMATION

### DEADLINE FOR INSCRIPTION

We need to know, as precisely as we can, the number of attendants and presentations in order to prepare applications for funds, so **the deadline to send back this inscription is September, the 30<sup>th</sup>**. Don't forget it!!

### OTHER DEADLINES

**ROOM BOOKING: JUNE 30<sup>th</sup>, 2003** (in less than two months from now!)

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION (GENERAL): DECEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>, 2004**

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSION (FUND APLICCANTS): JUNE 10<sup>th</sup>, 2004**

**MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION (GENERAL): DURING THE MEETING**

**MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION (FUND APLICCANTS): APRIL 10<sup>th</sup>, 2005**

ANY QUESTIONS?

SEND AN E-MAIL TO:

[francisco.poyato@uam.es](mailto:francisco.poyato@uam.es)

**FOURTH INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON MESOZOIC FISHES,  
MADRID, SPAIN, 2005: INSCRIPTION FORM**

**IMPORTANT: PLEASE, FILL, COPY, AND PASTE IN THE MAIN BODY OF YOUR E-MAIL MESSAGE. THIS WILL GREATLY SIMPLYFY THE PROCESS FOR US. THANK YOU VERY MUCH IN ADVANCE.**

LAST NAME

FIRST NAME

INSTITUTION

COUNTRY

E-MAIL ADDRESS

TYPE (AND EVENTUALLY NUMBER) OF PRESENTATION(S)

ORAL:

POSTER:

AUTHORS (IF MORE THAN ONE):

TITLE(S):

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BOOK A PLACE AT THE RESIDENCIA?

DO YOU WISH TO APPLY FOR FUNDS, IF AVAILABLE?:

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS:

**PLEASE, FILL, COPY, AND PASTE IN THE MAIN BODY OF AN E-MAIL MESSAGE TO: [francisco.poyato@uam.es](mailto:francisco.poyato@uam.es)**