

The fourth annual BIFoR Community Meeting

29 and 30 January 2020, Writer's Suite, Edgbaston Park Hotel and Conference Centre

Day One

Welcome, Prof Jeremy Pritchard, Director of Education for College of Life and Environmental Sciences and Director of BIFoR, University of Birmingham

Key note speech, Prof Rob Jackson, University of Birmingham, Chair of Tree Pathology

Using coniferous resources from the BIFoR FACE facility to investigate the evolution of seed-plant reproduction, Dr Andrew Plackett, Royal Society University Research Fellow, University of Birmingham

Forests and the methane cycle, a global perspective, Prof Vincent Gauci, University of Birmingham

From plant conservation planning to implementation: a European perspective, Prof Nigel Maxted, Chair in Plant Genetic Conservation, University of Birmingham

Introduction to the Leverhulme Trust Doctoral Scholarship Scheme (DSP) Forest Edge, Dr Simon Dixon

Poster session and lunch

Hear about wider forest related research and of that coming through from our Forest Edge doctoral research programme now in its second year. Our doctoral researchers will be sharing their research covering a wide range of areas including forests & flooding & young people's experiences in urban woodlands.

The afternoon session will be joint with Action Oak www.actionoak.org . Action Oak is an initiative to protect our oak trees. Delegates will hear more about the programme of activities which the Action Oak Partnership has identified to protect oak trees which includes:

- Working with owners and managers of oak trees and woodlands to help to protect the trees from a range of threats
- Funding research to improve our understanding of the threats to our oak trees and to inform best management practices
- Using established professional and citizen science networks to record changes in the distribution, age and health of our oak trees to identify priority areas for action
- Encouraging organisations to join the Action Oak Partnership and people to support Action Oak

Conference closes

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Day Two

Welcome, TBC Prof Laura Green University of Birmingham

Key note: Draft title "Challenges and opportunities in assessment of forest response to elevated atmospheric CO₂", Prof Richard Norby, Corporate Research Fellow, Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Institute of Advanced Studies Distinguished visiting fellow at the University of Birmingham

Early results and information about the BIFoR FACE facility, Liam Crowley & Angeliki Kourmouli,, University of Birmingham

Assessing the effects of elevated CO₂ on fungal communities in a temperate forest, Aileen Baird, University of Birmingham

Xylem sapflow at BIFoR FACE: early results of tree-soil water relations 2017-2019, Sue Quick, University of Birmingham

Title to be confirmed, Prof David Johnson, University of Birmingham

A representation of phosphorus cycle in Joint UK Land Environment Simulator (JULES-PM), Dr Andre (Mahdi) Nakhavali, University of Exeter

Poster session and lunch

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Title to be confirmed, Professor Jonathan Silvertown, Ecological Continuity Trust, University of Edinburgh

Title to be confirmed, Large-eddy simulation of wind flow around a small forest, Edward Bannister, University of Birmingham

Title to be confirmed, Weighing trees non-destructively from terrestrial LIDAR point-cloud data Dr Eric Casella, Forest Research

Title to be confirmed, Active DTS for spatio-temporal soil moisture monitoring, Dr Giulio Curioni, University of Birmingham

Title to be confirmed, Leaf Waxes: tracking past climate and plant metabolism, Bridget Warren, University of Birmingham

Tea and coffee break

Panel Discussion

Conference closes