

The fourth annual BIFoR Community Meeting

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

Day One

- 10:45 **Welcome**, Prof Jeremy Pritchard, Director of Education for College of Life and Environmental Sciences and Director of BIFoR, University of Birmingham
- 11:00 **Bacterial diseases of trees: exploring the challenges of studying them and improving tree health**, 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
- 12:30 - 14:00 **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.
- 14:00 **Key Note Speaker: Lynne Boddy – Cardiff University**
- 14:30-15:30 **Survival Of Acute Oak Decline Associated Bacteria, In Rainwater And Forest Soil**
Bethany Pettifor, Bangor University
- Mortality of young plantation oak in England: A multi-omic analysis of a serious bark disease**, Andrew Griffiths, Bangor University
- Title TBC**, Louise Gathercole, RBG Kew and Queen Marys University London
- Dendrochronology and AOD: looking for evidence of predisposition**, Katy Reed, Forest Research
- Questions for the speakers
- 15:30 – 16:00 Refreshment break
- Exploiting the oak immune system for resistance against powdery mildew**, Estrella Luna Diez, University of Birmingham, BIFoR
- Host-pathobiome-insect interactions in Acute Oak Decline**, James McDonald, Bangor University
- Monitoring oak tree health using metabolomics**, Jasen Finch, Aberystwyth University
- Questions for the speakers
- 17:00 Conference closes

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Day Two

- 10:45 **Welcome**, Prof Laura Green University of Birmingham
- 11:00 **Key note:** "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
- Disentangling mechanisms of co-adaptation between trees and soil food webs in response to environmental perturbations**, 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
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- 14:30 **The importance of long-term ecological experiments**, Professor Jonathan Silvertown, Ecological Continuity Trust, University of Edinburgh
- Quantifying long-term effects of free-air CO₂ enrichment on the growth of temperate woodlands from terrestrial laser scans**, Dr Eric Casella, Forest Research
- If the wind blows in a forest, and no one's around to measure it, how does it move around?** Edward Bannister, University of Birmingham
- Active Distributed Temperature Sensing for spatio-temporal monitoring of soil moisture**, Dr Giulio Curioni, University of Birmingham
- Impact of elevated CO₂ on leaf wax $\delta_{13}C$** , Bridget Warren, University of Birmingham
- 15:50 **Tea and coffee break**
- Panel Discussion**
- 16:30 Conference closes