

 INAF

5th Workshop of the Italian Astrobiology Society

Life in a Cosmic Context

15-17 September 2015, Trieste, Italy



Announcement

Four centuries after the Earth was displaced from the centre of the universe by the Copernican revolution, times are ripe for terrestrial life to be set in a cosmic context. This task is felt as a priority by a growing number of scientists working on life's origins and Solar System exploration. The discovery of thousands of exoplanets is giving birth to new, life-oriented fields, such as planetary habitability and the search for atmospheric biomarkers. The Fifth Workshop of the Italian Astrobiology Society will bring together scientists with widely different backgrounds with the aim of discussing fresh results obtained in the above mentioned fields.

The workshop is an ideal continuation of previous astrobiology meetings organized in the Trieste area. The Third Workshop of the Italian Astrobiology Society "When Darwin meets Copernicus" was held at the Duino Castle in 2010. Seven Conferences on the Chemical Evolution and the Origin of Life were held at the International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) between 1992 and 2003. The Trieste area hosts scientific and technological institutions famous at the national and international level. Exploring the astrobiological potential of the Trieste area is a specific aim of the workshop.

Dates and location

September 15-17, 2015

SISSA - Via Bonomea, 265 - Trieste, Italy

Main topics

Organic and prebiotic material in meteorites, comets, protoplanetary disks, and diffuse interstellar medium. Laboratory experiments of prebiotic chemistry. Origin, and major evolutionary steps of terrestrial life. Extremophilic organisms and chemical/physical limits of life. Search for life and biomarkers in the Solar System. Life in space missions. Planetary climate and habitability. Observational search for habitable exoplanets and atmospheric biosignatures. Galactic habitability.

Invited Speakers

Ernesto di Mauro (Univ. "La Sapienza", Roma), Antonio Lazcano (UNAM, Mexico), Rocco Mancinelli (BAER Inst., NASA Ames, USA), Mauro Mandrioli (Unimore, Modena-Reggio Emilia), Isabella Pagano (INAF-OACT, Catania), Sandra Pizzarello (Arizona State Univ., Tempe, USA), Alessandro Sozzetti (INAF-OATo, Torino), Serena Viti (Univ. College London, UK), Giuseppe Galletta (Univ. Padova), Giuseppe Murante (INAF-OATs, Trieste).