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InBev-Baillet Latour

Antarctica

The Next Generation

Biographies of speakers and moderators



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SESSION 1: HOT ROCKS AND COLD ICE

HUGO DECLEIR (Moderator)

Professor emeritus, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Prof. Hugo Decler is emeritus professor Climatology and Cartography of the Geography Department of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB). He obtained his PhD from the University of Ghent and participated in eight scientific expeditions to Antarctica, including one wintering expedition on the former Belgian Base 'Roi Baudouin', and five expeditions to the Arctic regions (Greenland and the Altai Mountains, Siberia). He was president of the Belgian National Committee on Antarctic Research from 1995 to 2010, co-founder of the International Polar Foundation (IPF) and holder of the 'Richard P. Goldthwait' award, Byrd Polar Center, Ohio State University (1997). Apart from his contributions to polar climatology and glaciology he co-authored a text book on world map projections and edited Roald Amundsen's Belgica Diary.

REINHARD DREWS

InBev-Baillet Latour Antarctica Fellowship Laureate 2012 -14

Post Doctoral Researcher, Laboratoire de Glaciologie, Université Libre de Bruxelles

Reinhard Drews was born in Germany in 1981. He received the Diploma degree in physics from the University of Bremen, Germany, in 2007. He then completed a PhD on the imprints of ice dynamics and atmospheric signals on the internal structure of Antarctic ice as seen via radar at the Alfred Wegener Institute in Germany. His Post-Doctoral research at the Laboratoire de Glaciologie, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium focuses on the combination of satellite and ground-based radar data with numerical ice-sheet models. His research has involved three Antarctic field seasons, two of these as part of the InBev-Baillet Latour Antarctica Fellowship.

STEVEN GODERIS

InBev-Baillet Latour Antarctica Fellowship Laureate 2009 – 11

Post Doctoral Fellow, Earth System Science, Vrije Universiteit Brussel

Steven Goderis is a geo/cosmochemist working at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel and Universiteit Gent where he develops and applies a toolbox of elemental and isotopic proxies to various Earth science questions. Since the completion of his PhD on impact cratering and asteroid showers in 2011, his research now includes early Solar System evolution, meteorite parent body processes, and global changes throughout Earth history. From 2009 on, he has been involved in the recovery of meteorites from the blue ice fields surrounding the Sør Rondane Mountains of Antarctica. Thanks to the InBev-Baillet Latour Antarctica Fellowship, numerous micrometeorites found concentrated at Antarctic mountain tops in 2012 will keep him and the team busy for many years to come!

SESSION 2: HIDDEN LIFE AND CHANGING ATMOSPHERE

ANDRE BERGER (Moderator)

Professor emeritus Université Catholique de Louvain

Prof. André Berger is Emeritus Professor and Senior Researcher at the Université catholique de Louvain (UCL). He has a degree in meteorology from M.I.T. and a Dr Sc. from UCL. He was director of the Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics Georges Lemaître from 1978 to 2001 and is Doctor honoris causa of a few universities. His main scientific contributions are in the astronomical theory of paleoclimates and modelling past climatic variations. He received an Advanced Investigators Grant of the European Research Council aiming to understand the climate of the last 800,000 years in collaboration with Dr Qiuzhen Yin. He was President of the European Geophysical Society and is Honorary President of the European Geo-Sciences Union, member of the Academia Europaea, of the Royal Academy of Belgium, and of the academies of Canada, Serbia, Paris and the Netherlands. He has been chairman of the International Commission on Climate of IUGG, of the Paleoclimate Commission of INQUA, of Climate Commissions of the European Union and NATO and a co-founder of the International Polar Foundation. Besides his research on paleoclimates, he is also an expert in environmental sciences and, as such, was a member of the Scientific Committee of the European Environment Agency, of Gaz de France and of EDF. He has received the Milankovitch Medal from the European Geophysical Society, the Quinquennial Prize from the National Fund for Scientific Research in Belgium and the European Latsis Prize from European Science Foundation. He was ennobled Chevalier by His Majesty Albert II and made Officier de la Légion d'Honneur.

ELIE VERLEYEN

InBev-Baillet Latour Antarctica Fellowship Laureate 2008 – 09

Post Doctoral Researcher, Protistology & Aquatic Ecology, Ghent University

Elie Verleyen was awarded a degree with great distinction in Biology (Botany) in 2000 and a PhD in Sciences-Biology in 2004, both from Ghent University. The title of his PhD thesis was 'A paleolimnological reconstruction of the Late Quaternary environmental history of the Larsemann Hills, East Antarctica'. Since 2004, he has worked in the Department of Biology - the Protistology and Aquatic Ecology Unit, Ghent University, on microbial biodiversity, biogeography and macroecology, the response of aquatic ecosystems to climate changes, the paleoclimatological evolution of regions in Antarctica during the late Quaternary, and the role the Antarctic Ice Sheets played in postglacial sea level rise. He has participated in six Antarctic field campaigns and also teaches bachelor and masters courses. He is secretary of the BELQUA National Committee of the Royal Academies for Science and Arts of Belgium and participated in several international initiatives aimed at reviewing past climate changes in Antarctica and postglacial sea level rise (e.g. ACCE, RAISED).

ALEXANDER MANGOLD

Principal scientist, Belgian Royal Meteorological Institute

Alexander Mangold was born in 1971 in Germany. He studied Environmental Sciences (Geo-Ecology) at the University of Bayreuth and then worked as a research associate at Bayreuth Institute for Terrestrial Ecosystem Research, Germany investigating the deposition processes of ozone, different nitrogen species, sulphur dioxide and aerosols. He then conducted field and laboratory studies on cirrus cloud formation at the Research Centre Jülich, Germany, and was awarded a PhD from the University of Wuppertal, Germany for his work on the microphysics of ice clouds. Since 2005 he has worked at the Royal Meteorological Institute of Belgium and contributed to the EC-FP6 project GEMS (Regional and Global and regional Earth-system Monitoring using Satellite and in-situ data) and is responsible for the BELATMOS project at Princess Elisabeth Station, Antarctica: Monitoring of ozone and related trace gases, UV radiation and aerosol particles.

2014-16 ANTARCTICA FELLOWSHIP LAUREATE

JAN LENAERTS

Post Doctoral Researcher, IMAU, Utrecht University

Jan Lenaerts was born in Sint-Niklaas, Belgium on the 13th of May 1985. From young age onwards, he has been fascinated by weather in general, and more specifically by winter, snow, ice and related phenomena. Driven by this fascination, he decided to leave Belgium, where no specific meteorology study exists, and start the Bachelor Study of Soil, Water and (of course) Atmosphere in Wageningen. After three years of hard work, he received his Bachelor (2006), and he prolonged his stay in Wageningen to get his Master degree as well (2008). During these years, he took the opportunity of follow additional Atmospheric courses at Reading University (UK) and performed his first long research at CNRM (Toulouse, FR). When he read on a PhD vacancy on Antarctic climate, he applied and, fortunately, he was hired to pursue his PhD research in September 2008. During his PhD studies he focussed on regional climate modelling of ice sheet climate. In particular, he has been working on the better understanding of drifting snow processes. His results clearly indicate that mainly on Antarctica, where wind speeds are the highest on Earth, drifting snow processes are important. They effectively remove mass from the ice sheet surface by sublimation and redistribute snow on a regional scale. In February 2013 he successfully defended his PhD thesis. After his PhD, Jan decided to return to his home country Belgium, but remained professionally active in Utrecht as a postdoctoral researcher. During the years to come, his interests remain focussed on ice sheet climates and the interactions with the remainder of the global climate system, using fully coupled climate models. The data that we will retrieve in Antarctica will aid to evaluate and improve these climate models.