



Geosciences Working Group 2017

The Geosciences Working Group of the Faculty 5 of the University of Bremen offers an introduction to geology, palaeontology and mineralogy to the public every second Thursday of the month at 7:20 pm. These meetings give the chance to discuss with each other and to get advice from a scientist. The meetings include a generally comprehensible talk on geoscientific topics. Further information can be found on our homepage: www.geosammlung.uni-bremen.de

12th January 2017

Lecturer: Martin Krogmann Topic: Preparation of microstructures of fossils



How to reveal fossils from the rock? Technican Martin Krogmann talks about novel and old techniques of fossil preparation. A low-destructive method of preparation is aimed. The main topic of this talk is to prepare microstructures of echinoids from the marlstone pits near Hannover in Germany. An evaluation of the quality of preparation is possible by interpreting Scanning Electron Microscope images.

09th February 2017

Lecturer: Werner Liebenberg **Topic:** On the geological stairs into Earth's history - Escarpments



Southern Germany's escarpment landscapes of the Franconian- and Swabian Alb is compared to the Grand Causses Escarpment in France. This talk focusses on the geological structure and the origin of Southern Germany's escarpment landscape and searches for analogies.

9th March 2017

Lecturers: PD Dr. Jens Lehmann & Dieter von Bargen **Topic:** Alstätte – A long-term research project about the early Cretaceous in North Germany



During the Cretaceous period there have been several times with a lowered oxygen content in the seas and oceans. Sedimentation of sapropels is known nowadays as dark claystone, also called black shale. This talk reports about the ongoing research in Westphalia of the Geosciences Collection that is focusing on one of these events, taking place about 120 million years before present.

6th April 2017

Lecturer: Jürgen Reinhardt

Topic: Malta - Geology and history of a Mediterranean island - Part 1



The isle of Malta is a great place to flew from the coldness of central Europe during wintertime. Malta's history is exciting and covers the megalithic culture as well as the history of the Templar and the Maltese Order. Additionally, the natural history of Malta is a rich field. Cenozoic sediments crop out in a large area of the isle and contain shark teeth, echinoids and mussels that are evident for a warm climate already in Earth history.

11th May 2017

Lecturer: Dr. Martina Pätzold **Topic:** Geoscience for kids and youngsters – ununsual pathways



Since the year 2001 the MARUM UNISchullabor is teaching geoscientific topics to kids and youngsters. This work is often using unusual methods to reach each person at its individual stand. This talk exemplifies that it is possible to explain geoscience as a complex science very well. Learn more about Science Theatre, Scientific Graffiti and other exciting things.

8th Juny 2017

Lecturer: Dr. Barbara Donner **Topic:** Life at the limit – Oases of life in the deep sea



The ongoing research of the past thirty years did show that extreme habitats are much more common on our planet then previously thought. The deep sea with its permanent darkness and chill is such an environment. It is surprising in its unique ecosystems that survive completely without light. Individual cut scenes and fascinating shots illustrate this particular habitat and clarifies that life under extreme circumstances is based on chemosymbiosis.

14th September 2017

Lecturer: Alan Marsh

Topic: Malta – Geology and history of a Mediterranean island – Part2



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NASA

12th October 2017

Lecturer: Hartmut Benthien **Topic:** An excursion to Solnhofen – a balance



An excursion of the "Arbeitskreis-Paläontologie Hannover" was leading into the famous Plattenkalk-Lagerstaetten of the Late Jurassic, Tithonian, in southern Germany. The Plattenkalks are thinly-bedded rocks with an age of about 150 million years. The talk introduces various excursion stopps, like the new amateur guarry in the Solnhofen district, the museum's quarry of Langenaltheim, tie guarry at Painten near Kelheim. Highlights were the visit of the Bürgermeister-Müller Museum in Solnhofen and ist excavation site. At last the talk focusses on the early birds Archaeopteryx - a topic that cannot be missed during an evening about Solnhofen.

9th November 2017

Lecturer: Dieter Siebert Topic: Diatomite from the Luneburg Heath



Diatomite is a light powder-like rock that consists almost exclusively of the shells of diatoms. The diatoms are made of biogenic opal, thus the silicon dioxide is not crystalline but amorphous. This makes the rock light and porose and it easily disaggregates. In North Germany there are many fossils lakes where diatomite has been formed a few hundred thousand years ago – during interglacials.

14th December 2017

Lecturer: all

Topic: "Weser Geo-highlight 2017" award & Christmas celebration



Many Bremen citizens collected rocks, fossils and minerals during 2017. Therefore, to add to the general warmth of the Christmas celebration, a prize is given for the "Exhibit of the year". The most interesting, most pretty or best prepared specimen is voted as the "Weser Geo-highlight 2017" and honored with a prize - no matter if the find originates from the Bremen area, distant regions in Europe or even from overseas. In addition, the Geo-collection is presenting its new acquisitions of the year and the lecture programme for the year 2018 is released.