

Understanding the Tree of Life Conference Tuesday August 17, 2010

Agenda

Location: Carnegie Museum of Natural History, 4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213.

Tel: 412-622-3280 (Fran Orfino, Assistant to Sam Taylor). **Hotel:** Wyndham Hotel—University Place, 3454 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Tel: 412-683-2040.

Carnegie Museum of Art Theater

9:00–9:10 AM—Welcome and introductory remarks by Sam Taylor, Director of Carnegie Museum of Natural History. Judy Diamond, University of Nebraska State Museum, moderator

9:10–10:00 AM—Joel Cracraft, Lamont Curator and Curator-in-Charge, Department of Ornithology, American Museum of Natural History: *Teaching the tree, or teaching the science of the tree?*

10:00 AM–Noon—Pilot study presentations and panel discussion. Sam Donovan, University of Pittsburgh, moderator

Margaret Evans, University of Michigan: *Tree-thinking: Do pictorial representations of phylogenetic relationships help or hinder museum visitors' understanding of evolution?*

Shaaron Ainsworth, University of Nottingham: *Can children read trees?*

Jeff Dodick, Hebrew University: *Phylogeny exhibits and understanding geological time.*

Camillia Matuk and David Uttal, Northwestern University: *Interpretation, invention, and interaction: How students (mis)understand cladograms.*

Carnegie Museum of Art, Sculpture Court

Noon–1:00 PM—Lunch

Center for Museum Education

1:00–3:15 PM—Tree design working groups. Teresa MacDonald, University of Kansas Natural History Museum, moderator

Group 1: Led by Janis Sacco, Harvard Museum of Natural History (Arthropod Tree of Life)

Group 2: Led by Jane Pickering, Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History (Travels in the Great Tree of Life: A Succulent Convergence)

Group 3: Led by Sam Taylor, Carnegie Museum of Natural History (Dinosaurs in Their Time: *Apatosaurus*)

Group 4: Led by Sam Donovan, University of Pittsburgh (The Circular Tree of Life)

Group 5: Led by Adriana Aquino, American Museum of Natural History (Our Family Tree)

Carnegie Museum of Art Theater, Lobby

3:15–3:45 PM—Break

Carnegie Museum of Art Theater

3:45–5:30 PM—Working group presentations and group discussion. Judy Diamond, University of Nebraska State Museum, moderator

5:30–5:45 PM—Conference evaluation

Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Foster Overlook

6:00–9:00 PM—Dinner and bar. Carnegie Natural History Museum galleries open until 8 PM



The material presented is based upon work supported, in part, by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. 0715287. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.