

Call for co-operation



Dear Phytolith researchers,

the microfossil research group of the ICDP project PASADO is focussing on the microfossil analysis of sediments obtained from Laguna Potrok Aike in Southern Argentina. Aim of the project is the paleoenvironmental and climate reconstruction for southern South America with the multi-proxy analysis of lake sediments. Since 2001 Laguna Potrok Aike is the object of intensive interdisciplinary studies within the frame of several research projects. Therefore, international interdisciplinary co-operation is very well developed and several hundreds of meters of sediment cores are available for research spanning the last 100 ka. Start of the co-operation would be an interdisciplinary research proposal (e.g. phytoliths in combination with diatoms, pollen, charcoal or other proxies already established in PASADO) to tackle striking questions of vegetation dynamics and climate history for this region. The research area is covered with Patagonian grass steppe with an average annual precipitation of about 250 mm. As the actual vegetation units are difficult to separate by palynology we are asking the phytolith community if there is any expert of this field willing and able to establish a co-operation with PASADO. For further information please refer to our web site: www.pasado.uni-bremen.de. In the case of interest in co-operation please contact Michael Wille (mwille0@uni-koeln.de) for a further exchange of ideas.

Sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Frank Schäbitz (PI-PASADO Microfossils)
Dr. Michael Wille
& the PASADO microfossil group

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