

PRESS RELEASE

ZOOLOGICAL RESEARCH
 MUSEUM ALEXANDER
 KOENIG
 LEIBNIZ INSTITUTE FOR
 ANIMAL BIODIVERSITY

92ND ANNUAL MEETING
 OF THE GERMAN SOCIETY
 FOR MAMMALIAN
 BIOLOGY AT MUSEUM
 KOENIG

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92nd Annual Meeting of the German Society for Mammalian Biology at Museum Koenig

Bonn, (14.09.2018) From September 17th to 20th, 2018, the 92nd Annual Meeting of the German Society for Mammalian Biology will take place at the Zoological Research Museum Alexander Koenig - Leibniz Institute for Biodiversity of Animals (ZFMK) in Bonn. 71 Scientists from all over the world will discuss the topics "Mammal Research in Africa", " Conservation and Biogeography" as well as other subjects . Numerous mammal species -from bats to giraffes – will be covered in almost 30 talks that deal with their lifestyle, relationships, and conservation. In addition, 24 scientific posters are presented on further research results.

The Fritz-Frank-Award for excellent scientific work in mammalian biology will be awarded on Thursday, 20th of September 2018, at 10.30 am in the lecture room. The award is endowed with 3,000 Euro, further emphasizing the outstanding importance of this honour in the field of life sciences. This year, two awardees were able to convince the jury with their outstanding dissertations. Representatives of the press are welcome.

This year's meeting is special as we were able to give three stipends to junior researchers from Africa, to enable them to present their work at the conference and work in the scientific mammal collection of Museum Koenig. "This provides an excellent opportunity for international networking, and promotes future collaborative research projects," sais Dr. Eva Bärmann (ZFMK), main organizer of the conference. "This was only made possible through generous donations by Alexander Koenig Gesellschaft and Dr. Hans Riegel-Stiftung."

The awardees are:

Kenneth Otieno Onditi (Kenya): "The *Lophuromys aquilus* species complex"

Ebenezer Kofi Badu (Ghana): "Molecular variation in *Praomys daltoni* complex in Ghana "

Eric Moise Bakwo Fils (Cameroon): "Diversity of bat species on Mount Cameroon of West Africa "

"We are particularly concerned about the sustainable conservation of the less well-known African mammal species" explains Dr. Jan Decher, specialist

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for small mammals at ZFMK who just returned from an expedition to Ghana, the significance of the conference. He adds: "By creating an international platform for the discussion of significant results, we draw attention to mammalian biodiversity and its relevance to the public".

Further information:

<https://www.zfmk.de/de/forschung/tagungen-und-konferenzen/jahrestagung-dgs-2018>

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Zoological Research Museum Alexander Koenig – Leibniz-Institute for Animal Biodiversity (ZFMK) is an independent research institute. The focus of research is on performing an inventory of the zoological species diversity on earth, on the analysis of changes in biodiversity as a result of environmental factors, and on evolutionary processes at the morphological and molecular levels. ZFMK furthermore explores the context of structure and function of ecological systems, advanced scientific methods, and the study of the history of science. The permanent exhibition "Our blue planet – the living network" offers a genuine nature experience based on naturalistic ecosystem displays.

The Leibniz Association combines 93 independent research institutes. Their focus ranges from the natural, engineering, and environmental sciences to the humanities and the business, space, and social sciences. The Leibniz institutes focus on relevant social, economic, and ecological issues. They perform knowledge-oriented and applied research (also among the cross-disciplinary Leibniz research alliances), are or support scientific infrastructures, and offer research-based services.

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Kultur und Wissenschaft
des Landes Nordrhein-Westfalen

