



1 – 3 March 2011, SCONTRONE (L'AQUILA), ITALY

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## *Second Circular*

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### *General Information*

*Congress homepage*

*<http://www.comune.scontrone.aq.it/>*

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*The Organizing Committee is pleased to invite you to attend the International Scientific Conference "NEOGENE PARK – Vertebrate Migration in the Mediterranean and Paratethys" to be held in Scontrone (L'Aquila), Italy from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2011 under the auspices of the*

*Universities of Pisa, Florence and Chieti*

*Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici dell'Abruzzo*

*and Municipality of Scontrone*

## *Participation*

*Congress venue: The conference will be held in Scontrone. Scontrone, with its noteworthy wildlife, nature and human culture, will offer the participants an enchanting, peaceful atmosphere. Castel di Sangro (few km from Scontrone) offers a variety of accommodations which are easily reachable by car, rail and bus from Naples, Pescara and Rome.*

<i>Registration fees</i>	<i>Before 31.10.2010</i>	<i>After 31.10.2010</i>
	<i>300 €</i>	<i>400 €</i>

*The registration fees include hotel accommodation, lunch, dinner, pick-up service, and transfer from hotel to Conference hall and are to be paid via bank transfer (see registration form). Registration will be confirmed only when payment is received.*

*Accompanying persons are welcome to participate in all congress activities and to subscribe for the excursion(s).*

*Payment of registration fee and scientific excursions can be made **only** through bank transfer to the following account:*

*Name of account: **Comune di Scontrone***  
*Bank Name: **Banca di Credito Cooperativo di Roma - agenzia di Castel di Sangro***  
***Via Sangro, 12 I-67031 Castel di Sangro (AQ), Italy***  
*Bank coordinates: **IBAN: IT 04 L 08327 40520 000000008061***  
***SWIFT – BIC: ROMA ITRRXXX***  
*Specify: **NEOGENE PARK 2011***

*Hotel accommodation: Please see the registration form.*

*Third circular: The third circular with detailed information about the Scientific Programme is scheduled for December 2010.*

*Correspondence: All correspondence concerning the conference and the excursions should be sent to general secretary of the organizing committee:*

*Dr. Giorgio Carnevale*

*Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra  
Università di Pisa  
Via Santa Maria, 53*

*I-56126 Pisa, Italia  
e-mail: [neogene@dst.unipi.it](mailto:neogene@dst.unipi.it)  
Tel: xx39-050-2215841  
Fax: xx39-050-2215700*

## ***Scientific Programme***

*The conference intends to promote an interdisciplinary discussion between palaeontologists, eco/ethologists, zoologists and geneticists focused on Neogene vertebrate migrations in the Mediterranean and Paratethys as well as stratigraphers, sedimentologists and regional geologists involved with paleogeographic reconstructions and palinspastic restorations of these regions within the same time span. More specifically, the goals of the meeting are: 1) taxonomic assessment of the fossil remains, 2) mammalian biochronology, 3) major dispersal events of the past vertebrate populations, 4) integrated stratigraphy and facies analysis of the vertebrate-bearing depositional sequences, 5) paleobiogeographic studies and paleoecologic reconstructions, 6) palinspastic restorations and paleogeographic reconstructions of the Mediterranean and Paratethys regions, 7) movement rates of vertebrates in fragmented landscapes, 8) behavioural mechanisms underlying individual or collective movements and reproductive success of vertebrate in restricted environments, 9) population dynamics/population densities and evolutionary dynamics in settings equivalent to the Mediterranean and Paratethys during the Neogene.*

## ***Publications***

*All written material to be published will be in English. Official publications of the conference will be the volume of Abstracts and the Excursion Guidebook. These volumes will be given at the opening of the conference to all attendants.*

*Abstract: The abstract should not exceed 3 printed pages (Times New Roman, 10 point, 1.5 lines). Please submit your abstract digitally (attachment, word file) to the general secretary by October 31, 2010. **No poster session is planned.** All abstracts should be submitted in English.*

*Proceedings volume: Publication of a Proceedings volume is being considered. It will appear in book form to be published by a major international journal as a special volume. Details are currently being negotiated.*

## Congress Schedule

The general schedule of the conference is reported in the following tables.

Tue 1	Wed 2	Thu 3	Fri 4	Sat 5
Scientific conference in SCONTRONE	Scientific conference in SCONTRONE	Scientific conference in SCONTRONE	Post-conference excursion A	Post-conference excursion B

<b>MONDAY 28TH</b>
17.00 REGISTRATION
18.30 WELCOME RECEPTION

<b>TUESDAY 1ST</b>
8.30 REGISTRATION
9.30 OPENING CEREMONY
11.00 INTRODUCTION LECTURES
13.00 LUNCH
15.00 SCIENTIFIC SESSION
20.00 DINNER

<b>WEDNESDAY 2ND</b>
9:00 SCIENTIFIC SESSION
13.00 LUNCH
15.00 SCIENTIFIC SESSION
20.00 GALA DINNER

<b>THURSDAY 3RD</b>
9.00 SCIENTIFIC SESSION
13.00 LUNCH
15.00 ROUND TABLE
18.00 CONFERENCE CLOSURE
20.00 DINNER

## *Presentations*

*Speakers are invited to present their talk in English. 20 minutes will be allocated for each speaker, including 5 minutes for questions and discussions. The conference hall is provided with all commonly used facilities. Standard presentations are intended through Power Point. Speakers are requested to provide their files in a CD or USB memory device.*

## *Post-congress Scientific Excursions*

*A rich vertebrate fossil fauna (chelonians, crocodiles and land mammals, the latter including the giant insectivore *Deinogalerix* and the problematic genus *Hoplitomeryx*) has been recovered from peritidal carbonates cropping out in the outskirts of Scontrone. The Scontrone vertebrates display close similarities to a well-known fossil assemblage discovered in the Gargano region (Apulia) in the early seventies of the last century. The two faunal assemblages share remarkable endemic characters indicative of a common paleobioprovince isolated from the nearest mainland areas. The land vertebrates of Scontrone are embedded in coastal-tidal-flat carbonate deposits attributed to the Tortonian while the macromammal fauna of Gargano is contained in karstic fissure fillings dated in the current literature to the Messinian or to the early Pliocene. In order to illustrate the available geological constraints on stratigraphic position, facies and age of the Scontrone bonebeds, two excursions have been planned, the first dedicated to the analysis of the Miocene deposits in the outskirts of the village and the second dedicated to the analysis of the entire upper Oligocene-Messinian stratigraphic sequence at the regional scale.*

*Excursion A – 4 March: Visit to the Scontrone fossil site; detailed sections in the Miocene carbonate deposits of the Lithothamnium Limestone Formation in the Scontrone area. Excursion fees include accommodation and meals.*

*Excursion B – 5 March: Upper Oligocene-Messinian deposits of Majella (Bolognano Group, Gessoso-Solfifera Formation and Congeria Marl) and Porrara (Capo di Fiume section). The excursion is planned to end with a visit to the Alto-Aventino Geopaleontological Museum in Palena. Excursion fees include accommodation and meals.*

## *Organizing Committee*

**Silvano Agostini** (*Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici dell’Abruzzo, Chieti*)

**Giorgio Carnevale** (*Department of Earth Sciences and Natural History Museum, University of Pisa*)

**Uberto Crescenti** (*Dipartimento di Geotecnologie per l’Ambiente ed il Territorio, G. D’Annunzio University, Chieti*)

**Paul Mazza** (*Department of Earth Sciences, University of Florence*)

**Patrizia Melone** (*Mayor of Scontrone, L’Aquila*)

**Etta Patacca** (*Department of Earth Sciences, University of Pisa*)

**Maria Adelaide Rossi** (*Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici dell’Abruzzo, Chieti*)

**Paolo Scandone** (*Department of Earth Sciences, University of Pisa*)

## *Scientific Committee*

**Silvano Agostini** (*Soprintendenza per i Beni Archeologici dell’Abruzzo, Chieti*)

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**Laura Corda** (*Department of Earth Sciences, University of Rome “La Sapienza”*)

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**Matthijs Freudenthal** (*Departamento de Estratigrafía y Paleontología, Universidad de Granada*)

**Sanjin Grandić** (*Zagreb, Croatia*)

**Anastassios Kotsakis** (*Department of Earth Sciences, University of Rome “Roma 3”*)

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**Michele Morsilli** (*Department of Earth Sciences, University of Ferrara*)

**Etta Patacca** (*Department of Earth Sciences, University of Pisa*)

**Werner Piller** (*Institute of Earth Sciences-Geology and Palaeontology, University of Graz*)

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