

# FIRST CIRCULAR

## International Workshop on Evolution of Cambrian Arthropods

### —*Taxonomy, Ontogeny and Phylogeny*

1-6 SEP 2017, XIAN, CHINA



### Sponsors:

- Shaanxi Key Laboratory of Early Life and Environments, Northwest University (NWU), Xi'an, China
- State Key Laboratory of Continental Dynamics, NWU, Xi'an, China
- Yunnan Key Laboratory for Palaeobiology, Yunnan University, Kunming, China
- State Key Laboratory of Palaeobiology and Stratigraphy, Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, China
- Shaanxi Paleontological Society (SPS), China

### Host city

Xi'an is a very old city, records the great changes of the Chinese nation just like a living history book, called "Chang'an" in ancient times. The connotation of this name is permanent peace. Xian is one of the birthplaces of the ancient civilization in the Yellow River Basin area of the country. During Xi'an's 3,100 year development, 13 dynasties such as Western Zhou (11th century BC - 771 BC), Qin (221 BC - 206 BC), Western Han (206 BC - 24 AD) and Tang (618 - 907) placed their capitals here. So far, Xi'an enjoys equal fame with Athens, Cairo, and Rome as one of the four

major ancient civilization capitals. Xi'an is the capital of Shaanxi province, located in the southern part of the Guanzhong Plain. With the Qinling Mountains to the south and the Weihe River to the north, it is in a favorable geographical location surrounded by water and hills. It has a semi-moist monsoon climate and there is a clear distinction between the four seasons. Except the colder winter, any season is relatively suitable for traveling.



The cultural and historical significance of the area, as well as the abundant relics and sites, help Xi'an enjoy the laudatory title of 'Natural History Museum'. The Museum of Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses is praised as 'the eighth major miracle of the world', Mausoleum of Emperor Qin Shi Huang is listed on the World Heritage List, and the City Wall of the Ming Dynasty (1368 - 1644) is the largest and most intact Ming Dynasty castle in the world. In the city, there is the 3,000 year old Banpo Village Remains from the Neolithic Age (approximately from 8000 BC to 5000 BC), and the Forest of Stone Steles that holds 3,000 stone steles of different periods from the Han Dynasty to the Qing Dynasty. Around Xi'an, the Famen Temple enjoys the reputation of being the 'forefather of pagodas and temples in Central Shaanxi,' because it holds the finger bones of Sakyamuni -- the founder of Buddhism. The Bell Tower is the geographical center of Xi'an and the four main streets are respectively Dong Dajie, Xi Dajie, Nan Dajie and Bei Dajie which are also the main commercial streets.

## Organising Committee

Dr. Dongjing Fu (Associate Professor) - Northwest University, China

Dr. Tao Dai - Northwest University, China

Dr. Yu Liu (Professor) - Yunnan University, Kunming, China

Dr. Fangchen Zhao (Associate Professor) - Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, China

## Scientific Committee

Professor Xingliang Zhang - Northwest University, China

Professor Xianguang Hou - Yunnan University, Kunming, China

Professor Xiguang Zhang - Yunnan University, Kunming, China

Professor Maoyan Zhu - Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, China

## Venue

XIAN: Northwest University Hotel, Taibaibeilu 229, Xian 710069, China.

## Registration fee, Travel and Accommodation

- 1) There is **no registration fee** for all the delegates. The ice breaker, conference sessions, morning and afternoon refreshments, conference feast and souvenir are funded by the sponsor.
- 2) Accommodation and buffet at the hotel will be arranged and funded by the sponsor.
- 3) **Some financial support of the round-trip flight ticket is available for delegates who** show interest in the form below. (first-come first served)
- 4) Costs for field trip will be ca. US \$600 per person. Optional
- 5) One-day city tour will be arranged for all delegates. Further information on options will be provided in a subsequent circular.

## Provisional programme

- August 31th: ice breaker
- September 1st–2nd: conference  
Oral presentation will be no longer than **25 minutes** each (plus 10 min discussion). Poster sessions will also be available. Talks and posters are to be presented in English.
- September 2nd evening: Round Table Meeting and FEAST
- September 3rd: one optional leisure/tourist excursion will be offered. Activities such as visiting the Museum of Terra Cotta Warriors and Horses, walking tours of Ancient City Wall, and tours of nearby cultural and historical significance of the area.
- September 4th–6th: field excursion(s)

Further specific themes will be announced based on responses to this First Circular.

## Field excursions

A three-day post-conference field excursion may be arranged to several localities of the Chengjiang Lagerstätte in Yunnan, and the Precambrian-Cambrian boundary, at Meishucun, Jinning, Yunnan. Costs: US \$600 per person (transportation, accommodation, and meals during

the excursion period will be covered). The itinerary will be finalised based on the numbers of interested participants.

## **Contacts**

To receive subsequent circulars, interested persons should complete the accompanying Expression of Interest form and e-mail it to Dr. Dongjing Fu <djfu@nwu.edu.cn> or Dr. Yu Liu <yu.liu@ynu.edu.cn> as soon as possible, and **no later than 15 February 2017**.

## **Important dates**

First Circular and Expression of Interest	February 15th 2017
Second Circular	March 2017
Third Circular with programme	August 2017
Deadline for abstract submission	August 2017
Deadline for final payment of excursion fees	31 August 2017

**PLEASE FILL IN THE FORM BELOW**

**WORKSHOP OF CAMBRIAN ARTHROPOD EVOLUTION – EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**

\*Title \_\_\_\_\_ \*First name \_\_\_\_\_ \*Surname \_\_\_\_\_

\*Institution, city, country \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(\*: this information will appear on the conference badge)

Contact postal address (including country)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Contact e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I am [if applicable] and/or interested in the following workshop themes

☐ a full-time student (institution, name of supervisor) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

☐ need full support of international rounded trip fee

☐ one day post-conference city tour

☐ post-conference field excursions

☐ I am bringing an accompanying delegate and Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Vegetarian

I would like to contribute the following talk/poster [indicate which] with provisional title

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed form to Dr. Dongjing Fu <djfu@nwu.edu.cn>