



ABSTRACT BOOK



FACULDADE DE
CIÊNCIAS E TECNOLOGIA
UNIVERSIDADE NOVA DE LISBOA

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ABOUT THE LOGO

The XVI EAVP Annual Meeting logo is a composite of the skull and part of the anterior neck of the stegosaur *Miragaia longicollum*, superimposed on the outline of the mouth of the Tagus River, the vibrant city of Lisbon, and the Setúbal Peninsula. In this area, several vertebrate fossils have been found from the Late Jurassic, Cretaceous, and Miocene, including bones and footprints.

Miragaia longicollum is a species of stegosaur erected in 2009 after the partial anterior skeleton was excavated from Upper Jurassic Lourinhã Formation rocks near the village of Miragaia. The specimen is now on display in the Museum of Lourinhã. Another more complete specimen of *Miragaia* recently studied, which was found in the Upper Jurassic of Peniche, confirms the validity of *M. longicollum* as distinct from all other species of stegosaurs. This second specimen of *Miragaia* is, to date, not only the most complete dinosaur found in Portugal, but also the most complete stegosaur ever found in Europe. Stored at LNEG (Laboratório Nacional de Energia e Geologia), this new specimen of *Miragaia* has been the main focus of a Master's thesis in Paleontology from FCT-UNL.

The illustration of the XVI EAVP Annual Meeting logo is part of a full body reconstruction of *Miragaia longicollum*, based on the holotype and the above-mentioned new specimen, and is credited to Oliver Demuth (<https://odemuth.wordpress.com>).

Marzola, Mateus and Moreno-Azanza, 2018

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Welcome to EAVP 2018, this year in Caparica, Portugal, hosted by the Faculdade de Ciências e Tecnologia of Universidade Nova de Lisboa.

The Annual Meeting of the European Association of Vertebrate Palaeontology is one of the most important and renowned conferences of its kind. Every year, hundreds of researchers from all over Europe and other continents meet at the Annual EAVP Meeting, with a significant and increasing presence of young researchers in the initial stages of their career.

The Annual EAVP Meeting offers a unique opportunity to all its participants to share knowledge on their latest works and to have it disseminated in a nice, welcoming, and colloquial environment.

In 2018, we are hosting the Annual EAVP Meeting at the FCT Campus in Caparica, in Portugal, surrounded by marvelous fossiliferous sandy beaches and paramount vertebrate fossils from close localities.

This XVI Annual Meeting of the European Association of Vertebrate Palaeontologists is receiving about 190 participants from 23 countries. All abstracts in this volume passed a peer review process, assuring the quality standard required in science.

As in many other countries, the impact and role of science and scientists is increasing in Portugal. Paleontology is no exception, with the addition of new museums, visited fossils sites, geoparks and activities every year. In addition, the Master of Paleontology program hosted by FCT-UNL and Universidade de Évora and other programs of study around the country are contributing to interest in paleontology in Portugal, with a new generation of skilled researchers and multidisciplinary approaches.

The XVI EAVP Meeting is also remarkable for hosting completely free workshops to participants. This year, we offered a workshop on “Photogrammetry basics for paleontologists” (host by Matteo Belvedere and Heinrich Mallison) and one on “First Steps Into Geometric Morphometrics” (host by Soledad De Esteban-Trivigno). Plus, our meeting this year proudly hosts two socially important roundtables: the first “LGBTQIA visibility in science and museum exhibits” (host by João Muchagata, Simão Mateus and Vincent Cheng, Francesc Gascó) and the second edition of the “Women in Palaeontology: addressing gender inequalities and stereotyping in Palaeontology and science in general” (host by Femke Holwerda).

Marco Marzola, Octávio Mateus
and Miguel Moreno-Azanza

Host committee

Dear Delegates

On behalf of the Board of the European Association of Vertebrate Palaeontologists, it gives us great pleasure to welcome you all to this meeting. We have been planning to hold our annual meeting in Portugal for more than five years, so it is most satisfying to finally see you all here. Portugal has a proud heritage of vertebrate palaeontology, and it is a privilege for this to be the venue for our 16th assembly. We look forward to three days of provocative presentations and stimulating networking in this beautiful setting.

Welcome All!

Eberhard 'Dino' Frey, EAVP President

Jeff Listn, EAVP Vice President

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RELATIVE SIZE VARIATIONS OF MICROTUS ARVALIS AND MICROTUS AGRESTIS AS CLIMATIC PROXY: THE CASE OF GROTTA FUMANE

E. Luzi^{1,2,*}, J.M. López-García¹ and M. Peresani²

¹IPHES – Institut Català de Paleoecologia Humana i Evolució Social, Tarragona, Spain

²Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici, Sezione di Scienze Preistoriche e Antropologiche, Università di Ferrara, Ferrara, Italy

*elisa.luzi@urv.cat

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Fumane cave (350 m a.s.l.) is located in the Veneto Pre-Alps, north-eastern Italy. It presents one of the most important and well-dated Palaeolithic sequence of Late Pleistocene of the Italian Peninsula. Here we analysed the relative size variations of the first lower molar (m1) of *Microtus arvalis* and *Microtus agrestis* from Fumane cave during Marine Isotope Stages (MIS) 3-2, quantifying these variations with the L_{agr}/L_{arv} index, L_{agr} being the mean value of L (total length of m1) in *M. agrestis* and L_{arv} the mean value of L in *M. arvalis*.

We compared our results with previous studies of palaeoclimatic and palaeoenvironmental reconstructions based on small mammals, large mammals and birds to investigate the efficacy of the index as proxy for climatic oscillations through the sequence of the site. We observed that, while *Microtus arvalis* showed an increase in size during arid periods, *Microtus agrestis* became larger during humid pulses.

The L_{agr}/L_{arv} index proved to be an excellent indicator of the general level of humidity in the surrounding of Fumane cave (presence/absence of surface water resources, increase/decrease of open humid environment), although it is not directly correlated with the mean annual precipitation calculated for the site, but probably related with the annual distribution of rainfalls. Comparing the values of the L_{agr}/L_{arv} index of Fumane cave with those of other sites of the Italy, northern Spain, Croatia, Hungary and Belgium, we analysed the responses of the two species to the climatic oscillations of MIS 3-2 in different geographic and climatic areas.