



Forthcoming paleo-fire activities

The paleo-record provides ideal opportunities for evaluating components of Earth system models. Charcoal records from sedimentary contexts provide a way of documenting and exploring past changes in fire regimes. Global syntheses of charcoal data can be used to derive benchmarks for the evaluation of state-of-art coupled vegetation-fire models.

Paleo-FIRE activities will be carried forward through a series of workshops. These workshops will be designed to allow specific tasks to be carried out (e.g. data collection and analysis, evaluation of model output, writing). Earlier experience in FIRE FTI shows that it is possible to achieve concrete products in workshop mode. The workshops will be complemented by using more conventional opportunities to present/discuss fire-related research at conferences, and by organizing symposia or sessions of paleofire at major international conferences (e.g. EGU, AGU, INQUA).

The first workshop will be held in Dartington Hall, Totnes, UK, in October 2007

Workshop theme: Kick-off meeting for the new phase of paleoworking group activities. This workshop will assess the status of the data synthesis and develop concrete plans for ongoing data collection; it will explore and prioritise new analyses of the data; it will also focus on evaluation of new paleofire simulations using the charcoal data.

Please contact Mitchell Power (Mitch.Power@ed.ac.uk) or Sandy Harrison (Mitch.Power@ed.ac.uk) for more detailed workshop information.