

## **LichenScapes: lichen landscapes from miniature to global**

Session chairs: Robert Lücking<sup>1</sup> & Klara Scharnagl<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Evolution & Biodiversity, Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany

<sup>2</sup>Tucker Curator of Lichenology, University & Jepson Herbaria, University of California at Berkeley, USA

Lichens are found in almost all terrestrial and some aquatic and marine ecosystems. In some ecosystems they represent the dominant life form, whereas in others they form characteristic and often diagnostic elements of associations dominated by plants or other organisms. In this symposium, we address diverse questions on the importance of lichens and on patterns of biodiversity and community composition at various scales, from global to local. The symposium presents new and critically reviewed, quantitative evidence on "lichenscapes", from the global to the miniature scale, addresses questions such as: Does the often claimed figure of 8% of the terrestrial surface area being covered by lichens hold? Which lichens are diagnostic for biomes, ecosystems, and communities, and at what scales? What role does biogeography play in creating "lichenscapes"? Which biodiversity gradients exist at what scales? How does proper recognition of "lichenscapes" aid in their conservation?