Kirkham Conference Attracts Soil Physics Leaders to Israel

The 2016 Kirkham Conference, “The Root Zone: Soil Physics and Beyond,” will take place 10–14 April at the Sede Boqer campus of Ben-Gurion University in Israel. The event highlights the root zone and features some of the leading soil, root, and plant scientists who will be speaking on the following themes: water flow and uptake, root and soil respiration and aeration, nutrient uptake by roots, root morphology, architecture and growth, root-soil interface and noninvasive measurements, rhizosphere heat regime, and rhizosphere microbiome.

Held once every four years, Kirkham Conferences are meetings in which informal discussions encourage scientists to make seminal, in-depth explorations of disciplinary and interdisciplinary subjects of soil physics. Generally attended by less than 60 people, they provide timely development of newly emerging research ideas.

One of the primary goals of a Kirkham Conference is to inspire graduate students and early career members to study soil physics by providing opportunities for them to meet and discuss their ideas with leaders in an informal setting.

The conference is supported by funding from the Agronomic Science Foundation’s Lena and Maria van der Ploeg Fund and the Kirkham Fund.

Questions about the 2016 Kirkham Conference can be directed to: kirkham2016@gmail.com. For more information on the 2016 Kirkham Conference, including the program, accommodation information, and a listing of the invited speakers, visit: http://bit.ly/1OkgsE8.

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Travel Grants Awarded

Fifteen travel grants have been awarded to the following SSSA graduate students and early career members who have been invited to present a research poster at the 2016 Kirkham Conference:

- Nathaniel Bogie, University of California–Berkeley
- Gaochao Cai, Jülich Research Centre
- Valentin Couvreur, Catholic Universite of Louvain
- Sarah Garre, Universite de Liege Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech
- Jessie Godfrey, University of California–Davis
- Travis Goron, University of Guelph
- Nele Richter-Harder, Georg-August University of Göttingen
- Nicolai Koebernick, University of Southampton
- Fabio Mallmann, University of California–Riverside
- Rachel Neurath, University of California–Berkeley
- Harini Rangarajan, Pennsylvania State University
- Laura Satkowski, University of Missouri
- Hannah Schneider, Jülich Research Centre
- Nimrod Schwartz, Catholic Universite of Louvain
- Yong Zhou, Texas A&M University

The travel grants are supported by the Agronomic Science Foundation’s Lena and Maria van der Ploeg Fund and the Kirkham Fund.

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