

WHAT IS THE EARTH ASKING OF US?

A series of colloquia building upon the October 2020 Natural Science Section conference at the Goetheanum, “The CLIMATE needs our CHANGE.”

*For the English-speaking world, we are pleased to offer voice-over interpretation of talks originally given in German at the climate conference held at the Goetheanum in October 2020. The conference program was published in our newsletter ([here](#) pp. 4-9). These talks will interest a **broad audience**, encompassing matters social, pedagogical, economic, psychological, and spiritual, as well as scientific.*

Online Colloquium: Saturday, Mar. 27th (11 am PDT, 2 pm EDT, 18:00 GMT, Beware of time changes such as 3/28/21 in Europe).

Register once for the series [here](#). See series schedule [here](#).

Colloquium Preparation:

Reminder: we will not be viewing the recordings of these two presentations during our colloquium. A link to the recordings of Dr. Kümmell’s and Dr. Simon’s talks on our YouTube channel will be sent to those who have registered. You are to view these **at your convenience prior to the colloquium**. A Zoom link for the scheduled colloquium will also be sent upon registration. *These links are not to be shared.*

There will be an opening opportunity for clarifying questions with Drs. Simon and Kümmell. The colloquium conversation will begin with a Panel discussion between our guests and Drs. Judyth Sassoon and Mark Riegner. Questions will be taken from audience members to further the dialogue.

Featured Guests:



Susanna Kümmell *Waldorf school Bochum-Langendreer, studies of geology/paleontology in Bonn and Waldorf teacher training in Stuttgart. Currently working in the Institute for Evolutionary Biology at the University of Witten/Herdecke. Research focuses on evolutionary trends and patterns in limb development in mammalian forerunners. A special interest is also for a long time the issues of climate change and the urgency of this issue.*

The organismic character of the earth's climate - a look into the past

The earth can largely regulate its climate over long periods. It differs e.g., from our neighboring planets Venus and Mars. Greenhouse gases play a major role in regulation. In the past, they contributed to the development of a balanced climate, with only “minor” global fluctuations. Without the greenhouse gases, we would have a very uncomfortable, icy climate on Earth. With such a regulation of its climate, our earth has an organismic character. However, crises occurred again and again, in which global climate changes made life on earth difficult.



Meinhard Simon *Born 1953, studies of biology and hydrology in Constance and Freiburg. Since 1997 at the University of Oldenburg worked as a professor for Marine Microbiology and Biological Oceanography. He has undertaken research cruises in the Southern Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and busied himself for some time with issues of climate change and its impact, especially on the seas. He is a member of the Section Collegium of the Natural Science Section at the Goetheanum.*

Climate and the human being - a shared history under the responsibility of mankind today

In the course of the history of the earth, the mean annual temperature has leveled off to around 15°C and reached great constancy in the late tertiary, roughly when the first human ancestors appeared. This is a signature of the earth's homeostasis and individuality, which is comparable to the human being's ego existence. This homeostasis was only possible through the ‘anabolic’ and ‘catabolic’ life processes of the entire biosphere, plants, animals, and especially, microorganisms. Man has been part of nature over this long period of his presence on earth.

Look for further announcements from this collaboration of the Natural Science Section of the Anthroposophical Society in America, the Natural Science & Math Group of Great Britain, and the Natural Science Section at the Goetheanum.