

NAVARINO ENVIRONMENTAL OBSERVATORY

NEO Management

Monday, 12 May 2014

NEO NEA #12 (January - March, 2014)

NEO stands for Navarino Environmental Observatory. But NEO in Greek (νέο) means news as well and NEA is its plural. So this is our news!

Foreword

Greetings from NEO!

The winter season has passed! As during previous years this has been a rather calm and quiet period at NEO with only few visits. But this does not mean that nothing has happened! Our Station Manager Giorgos Maneas, together with Dionisis Dimitrakopoulos, has devoted most of his time to finalize the first NEO documentary in a series of two, a video that is now available on YouTube! This is a nicely artistically designed video focusing on educational activities taking place at NEO. The video voice – in Greek – and the subtitles – in English – really ensure that the video can be widely appreciated in Greece, Sweden and elsewhere!

A research process involves not only field activities! Much of the NEO-related research takes place in university laboratories and in the NEO-researchers offices. I am therefore happy to see that two new scientific papers have been published during this period and I am looking forward to all activities that are planned for the months to come!

Activities

Past

Research

Scientific Publications

The first two, NEO related publications, for 2014 are published:

Finné M., Bar-Matthews M., **Holmgren K.**, **Sundqvist H. S.**, Liakopoulos I., Zhang Q., 2014. Speleothem evidence for late Holocene climate variability and floods in Southern Greece, *Quaternary Research*, 81, 2, 181-392, 2014.

Zerefos C. S., Tetsis P., **Kazantzidis A.**, Amiridis V., Zerefos S. C., Luterbacher J., Eleftheratos K., **Gerasopoulos E.**, Kazadzis S., and Papayannis A., 2014. Further evidence of important environmental information content in red-to-green ratios as depicted in paintings by great masters. *Atmos. Chem. Phys.*, 14, 1–29, 2014. doi:10.5194/acp-14-1-2014

Education

Courses

- **“Course in Physical Geography”**
Bachelor students’ course, Stockholm University (March 7-13)

The fourth Physical Geography course at NEO took place on March 7–13. Sara Cousins, Ingmar Borgström, Martin Finné and Uwe Ring were the instructors of the field course and 35 students from Stockholm University attended the course. During the excursion they visited a number of different sites mainly in Messinia. Among them, the Gialova/Navarino Bay area, Artemisia, Verga, Loussios River, Kapsia Cave, Mesochori, Methoni and Finikounda.



Figure 1: Student and teachers from Stockholm University during fieldwork on Taygetos Mountain.

Dissemination

- **Interview**
NEO station, March 10.

On March 10, NEO Station Manager gave an interview to Mrs Natasha Blatsiou, Journalist at Kathimerini, a Greek national newspaper who was interested about the 'Astronomy nights' events which is held on a weekly basis at Costa Navarino by NEO.

- *NEO film, March 2014*

Our first documentary about NEO activities, focusing on education, is published!

Please enjoy the video and chose 1080p in Youtube: <http://youtu.be/CZT61RxQgRk>

Upcoming

Research

- PhD student, Ruben Fritzon (Stockholm University) will visit Messinia (Kalamata) in order to do fieldwork on fault scarps in the region. Professor Alasdair Skelton will also join the fieldwork for a few days. A portable X-ray fluorescence (XRF) analyzer will be used to identify paleoseismic information, such as number and magnitude of slips, from normal fault surfaces.

- Radovan Krejci, Peter Tunved and Tabea Hennig from the ITM department of Stockholm University, will visit NEO in order to add new parts at the atmospheric station operating at Methoni.
- Karin Holmgren and Meighan Boyd will meet with the Greek-American team of archaeologists, lead by Takis Karkanas, at Alepotrypa Cave in June-July.

Education

- The third Masters course "Plant Biodiversity and evolution - a global perspective" will be held at NEO on May 3–10, 2014.
- A new course on Biology-Earth sciences will be held at NEO on May 10-17, 2014.
- A new internship from University of Patras will be held at NEO during the period April – July.

Events

- On April 3, the NEO Director, Karin Holmgren was invited to give a lecture on "**Climate, environment and past societies. What do we want to know - and why?**" and present NEO at the Swedish Institute in Athens for representatives for all Swedish Institutes in the Mediterranean Region.
- The International Workshop entitled '**Mediterranean Holocene Climate and Human Societies**' will be held at NEO on April 22-26.

Dissemination

- The **Café-NEO** meetings, organized by Navarino Environmental Observatory, will take place at several coffee shops in the Peloponnese as well as at University canteens, with a range of topics such as "Why Messinia? From Homer to Spielberg" or "How to educate your kids to respect nature".
- A second video about NEO activities, focusing on fieldwork, is coming soon!

Visits to and from NEO

- NEO Director, Karin Holmgren, will be at NEO from March 29 - April 26.