

### **3rd International Symposium of Integrative Zoology and Darwin 200 a big success in Beijing**

The 3rd International Symposium of Integrative Zoology was held at the Olympic Village Science Park in Beijing from 8 – 10 July 2009 under the auspices of the International Society of Zoological Sciences (ISZS); International Union of Biological Science (IUBS); and United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). In addition, the symposium was supported by the China Zoological Society; Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chinese Academy of Sciences and China Association for Science and Technology.

The theme of the symposium was chosen as Biological Consequences of Global Change to closely align with an ISZS international research program looking into the biological consequences of global climate change. The symposium also featured a formal IUBS Darwin 200 event to celebrate the life and work of Charles Darwin. Darwin 200 events are also being held in New Zealand, Italy, Uruguay, Costa Rica and the Republic of South Africa.

Over 130 researchers from 22 countries attended the symposium. High level representatives from the ISZS, IUBS and Costa Rican and US embassies in Beijing attended, as did Chinese officials from the National Natural Science Foundation of China, Chinese Academy of Science, and China Association of Science and Technology, Ministry of Environment Protection, State Bureau of Forestry, Ministry of Science and Technology.

Over 80 talks covering climate change, marine environments, amphibians, biodiversity, species invasion and infectious disease were delivered. A special discussion was also held on the ISZS international research program and now the ISZS is calling for more scientists, including social scientists, to integrate into the program. The program aims to address the growing biological consequences of global climate change by fostering collaboration and establishing monitoring sites.

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#### **Additional information:**

ISZS: [www.globalzoology.org](http://www.globalzoology.org)

ISZS Research program: [www.globalzoology.org/index-new/ISZS\\_Call\\_for\\_Expressions\\_of\\_Interest090309.pdf](http://www.globalzoology.org/index-new/ISZS_Call_for_Expressions_of_Interest090309.pdf)

IUBS: [www.iubs.org](http://www.iubs.org)

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