

# Report

## Report of the 18<sup>th</sup> International Young Geomorphologists' Meeting, Wanderheim Belchenblick (Neuenweg), Southern Black Forest, Germany

Following the successful meeting in Berlin (Wannsee) last year,

the Young Geomorphologists held the 18<sup>th</sup> International Young Geomorphologists Meeting at the Wanderheim Belchenblick in Neuenweg, located right at the foot of the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest peak (the "Belchen") of the Black Forest, from May 23-27, 2024. The event featured an additional excursion about the Pleistocene Glaciation of the Black Forest, supported by the DEUQUA (German Quaternary Association), on May 24<sup>th</sup>. With participants working in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland, the event welcomed a diverse group of 35 early-career professionals and students, ranging from Bachelor's to post-doc level, while representing a total of 13 different institutions.

The meeting's program was thoughtfully designed to encompass diverse academic topics and activities, ensuring a rewarding and enriching experience for all attendees. It featured five sessions of oral presentations with short discussions, an evening poster session, an inspiring keynote talk on the crossroads of geomorphology and Quaternary geochronology, and a candid panel discussion centered on academic life. During an exciting workshop, the participants had the opportunity to gain insight into the principles of risk assessment and fieldwork safety, as well as the chance to reflect on themselves and their working group with regard to these topics.

### Proceedings

Most of the participants at this year's meeting arrived on Thursday evening. As the meeting location was somewhat more remote than in previous years, a shuttle transfer was organized from Bad Krozingen train station to bring all participants together. The scenic drive along smaller roads in the Black Forest was a good first opportunity to get to know each other. Dinner was followed by a short welcome and an enjoyable icebreaker, where participants had to search for their own name-badge on the neck of other participants. It provided a fantastic opportunity for everyone to introduce themselves. Afterwards, we then delved into a YGM pub quiz, creating a friendly atmosphere and encouraging personal conversations that extended beyond the boundaries of research topics.

Friday morning began with breakfast with a nice view down into the valley. We then started the excursion with our host Dr. Felix Martin Hofmann (University of Freiburg). After a short introduction to the geology and the glacial geomorphology of the region near our stay, we walked through beautiful glacial landscapes, which we discussed at some sites. We had lunch at the Fischerhütte and then continued at the Nonnenmattweiher, the remainder of a glacial cirque. Here Martin was supported by his master's student Lena Carduck and they introduced the group to the art of equilibrium altitude line reconstruction and 3D-modelling of glaciers. We enjoyed the most beautiful view of the day from the Köhlgarten directly above the Nonnenmattweiher, from where we had a nice view over the former glacier landscape up to the Belchen. On our way back it started raining heavily, so everybody enjoyed the warm showers and the dinner in the evening. After dinner, we had the privilege of hosting a captivating panel discussion featuring Dr. Claire Rambeau from the University of Strasbourg and Jun.-Prof. Dr. Jan Blöthe from the University of Freiburg. They talked about their inspiring academic careers in the fields of geomorphology and Quaternary geology and gave insights into the compatibility of family life and scientific career as well as the challenges of long absence from home. The discussion highlighted the importance of having a life outside academia, networking and building meaningful connections with colleagues and researchers, as well as the passion for academia. The day ended with a relaxed gathering in and outside the Wanderheim.



*Impressions from the excursion and the Nonnenmattweiher*

Saturday began with an enlightening keynote talk by Prof. Dr. Gilles Rixhon (University of Strasbourg), exploring the crossroads between (fluvial) geomorphology and Quaternary geochronology. The talk highlighted that absolute dating (geochronology) always goes hand in hand with geomorphological understanding of a landscape. The talk provided inspiring insights into the interplay between dating and fieldwork with a particular focus on observing processes as a geomorphologist.

The day continued with engaging sessions about absolute dating methods in Quaternary Science in the “Luminescence applications – shine brighter than a diamond” session which was followed by talks focused on sediment storage and storm flood reconstruction in the “Sediment records – Rolling in the deep” session. After lunch, we listened to additional presentations on river long profile modeling, remote sensing, and a presentation on satellite image sonification during the last session of the day “Remote Sensing/Modeling - Nerdy about nature”.

Afterwards the “30 seconds poster madness” started, which added a dynamic element to the event, giving each presenter 30 seconds to introduce his or her work and poster. The ensuing poster session around the house featured 9 diverse and captivating posters, generating stimulating discussions and allowing participants to exchange ideas. It was impressive to witness the wide range of topics covered, from geoaarchaeological investigations in Egypt to geomorphological mapping on Iceland.

Before dinner, the board used the chance to present the work of the Young Geomorphologists and the “duties” of the board. We also shortly presented the DGGM as our mother organization, and the DEUQUA, as the sponsor of our one-day field trip. We also wanted to emphasize that the young geomorphologists are more than just the representative board but rather include all participants of the meetings. In order to involve more people in upcoming decision-making processes, we created a questionnaire in which we asked for their opinions on the disciplines covered, the meetings, the name of the group, and so on. We hope to share the results of this survey soon. After dinner, we had our 2<sup>nd</sup> “Failure Session”, which we introduced last year with great success. The session's aim is to openly share the struggles and inevitable failures that all researchers encounter during their journeys. As last year, we want to help others avoid similar pitfalls and gain valuable insights as well as to embrace the normalcy of failure in our endeavors. This year, the session was again a valuable addition to the conference, as it included a variety of anecdotes about field trips and the laboratory as well as fieldwork, while creating an encouraging atmosphere. The day ended with participants discussing both scientific and personal aspects of their research and studies.

On the final day, Sunday, we gathered for our last two sessions, which focused on “(Rock) glacier dynamics and mountain environments – Ice Ice baby” and the human influence on fluvial systems as well as infrastructure in the “Human influence – Homo faux pas” session. After our last shared lunch together, it was time to say goodbye for a majority of the participants and leave some feedback for next year, while some participants stayed for the “Fieldwork safety workshop” with Floreana Miesen (University of Lausanne) about risk assessment and (team) safety during fieldwork. About 10 people including most of the board stayed overnight and cleaned up the Wanderheim.



## Feedback

We were delighted to receive an overwhelming amount of positive feedback for this year's meeting, particularly regarding the program and the remote setting in the lovely mountains of the black forest. The panel discussion, the "Failure Session" and the long excursion beforehand were very well received, also because people get to know each other very quickly and easily.

Overall, the 18<sup>th</sup> International Young Geomorphologists' Meeting in the Wanderheim Belchenblick proved to be an inspiring, intellectually stimulating, and socially rewarding experience. We depart with cherished memories, strengthened connections, and a renewed passion for the field of geomorphology.

With warm regards from the board of the Young Geomorphologists,  
Andreas, Bastian, Dennis, Isabel, Lars, Laura, Linda, Lisa and Salome



Supported by:

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geomorphologie e.V.



# Programme

## Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>

**Afternoon:** Arrival + Shuttle service (shuttle service times are approximate, please refer to the time you booked during registration)

**7:30 PM:** Dinner

**Evening:** Get together, games

## Friday 24<sup>th</sup>

**9 AM:** Arrival + Shuttle service


**10 AM – 5 PM:** Dr. Martin Hofmann

Guided geomorphological DEUQUA excursion in the surrounding Black Forest with a focus on glaciation of the region

**5 PM:** Arrival + Shuttle service

**6:30 PM:** Dinner

**Evening:** Welcome (Basti+Salome)

**8 PM:** Panel discussion with Dr. Claire Rambeau and Jun.-Prof. Dr. Jan Blöthe (convener: Lisa+Isa) 






## Saturday 25<sup>th</sup>

**Morning:** Breakfast

**10 AM:** Keynote lecture by Prof. Dr. Gilles Rixhon (convener: Dennis)

**11-11:30 AM:** Coffee break

**11:30-12:15 AM:** Session I: Luminescence applications – Shine brighter than a diamond (convener: Basti+Dennis)

-  Oehler, Salome: Measuring the past from Norway to Uganda: a new type of thermometer
-  Perchanok, Faye: Using a Portable luminescence reader to quantify fluvial sediment transport: insights from an Arctic, Glacial River
-  Kögler, Laura: First chronology of the Baza basin: Importance of cooperation between field and laboratory work.

**12:15-12:45 AM: Session II: Sediment records – Rolling in the deep** (convener: Lisa+Lars)

💡 Boesmeier, Annette Sophie: Estimating sediment storage in Black Forest valleys from morphometric parameters and borehole information

💬 Heß, Katharina: Varying seasonal patterns of NE Atlantic storm flooding inferred from a 1500-years sediment record on the Shetland Islands (UK)

**1 PM: Lunch**

**2:30 PM: Afternoon Session III: Remote sensing/modelling – Nerdy about nature** (convener: Laura+Isa)

💬 Ruby, Andreas: River long-profile modelling since the Mid-Pleistocene for the Río Santa Cruz, Southern Patagonia, Argentina.

💬 Dörwald, Lukas: Dune Field Density - Potential new method to analyze dune field processes over time with remote sensing

💬 Profe, Jörn: Soundscapes

**3:30 PM: Poster Session**

**5:30 PM: Questionnaire, Introduction DGGM & DEUQUA** (convener: Basti+Salome)

**6:30 PM: Dinner**

**Evening: Failure Session** (convener: Andi)

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Morning: Breakfast**

**10 -10:45 AM: Session I: (Rock) Glacier dynamics and mountain environments – Ice ice baby**

(convener: Lisa+Salome)

💬 Wapenhans, Isabel: Late Cenozoic spatio-temporal patterns of Alpine glacial topographic changes

💬 Götz, Lucia: Improving the detection of vertical changes on rock glacier surfaces in remote sensing data

💬 Gong, Lingxiao: Drainage rearrangement in an intra-continental mountain belt: 1-D river profile modelling and a case study from the eastern Kyrgyz Tian Shan

**10:45-11:15 AM: Coffee Break**





**11:15-12:00 AM: Session II: Human influence – Homo faux pas** (convener: Andi+Laura)

☀ Wenzel, Till: Impact of geomorphic hazards on road infrastructure at the Brenner Pass, Austria

🗨 Grimm, Bastian: Late Holocene sedimentary floodplain architecture & human interaction of the Wiesent River (Bavaria, SE-Germany)

☀ Engelmann, Charlotte: Tracing human impact on floodplains of the Kinzig river.

**12:15 AM: Lunch**

**2 PM: Shuttle service + Departure**

**Afternoon:** Fieldwork safety workshop with Floreana Miesen (convener: Salome)

**6 PM: Shuttle service + Departure**

**Evening:** Dinner

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Morning:** Breakfast

**10 AM:** Shuttle service + Departure



### Poster contributions:

Garbe, Philipp: Lost and potentially found: the location of the "Temple of Hermes" at ancient Bubastis in the Nile Delta.

Geis, Anna-Lena: Chronology of the Riedstadt-Erfelden drill core: Preliminary results from multi-method luminescence dating

Kara, Diana-Eileen: Investigations on the dynamics of sediment transport in alpine streams under changing meteorological forcing

Pauly, Niklas: OSL dating of fluvial deposits of the Wiesent River in the Northern Franconian Alb (Bavaria, Germany) – first insights

Schönfeld, Jannik: Unraveling the Geomorphic Story: Mapping and Chronological Evolution of a Hanging Valley in the Lötschental, Swiss Alps

Turturici, Vincent: Sedimentology & lithostratigraphy of fluvial deposits of the Wiesent River (NE-Bavaria, Germany): The Muggendorf site

Vogel, Reinhard: Rock moisture modelling with WUFI in the Dammkar

Wagner, Katharina: A geomorphological mapping of the valley Fremri-Grjótárdalur (Tröllaskagi, north of Iceland)

Supported by:

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geomorphologie e.V.



# List of participants

No	Name	First Name	Affiliation
1	Dörwald	Lukas	RWTH Aachen
2	Pauly	Niklas	Justus-Liebig University Gießen
3	Vinnepand	Matthias	LIAG Hannover
4	Profe	Jörn	Justus-Liebig University Gießen
5	Engelmann	Charlotte	University of Freiburg
6	Schmieg	Silvan	University of Würzburg
7	Turturici	Vincent	Justus-Liebig University Gießen
8	Buchelt	Sebastian	University of Würzburg
9	Garbe	Philipp	University of Würzburg
10	Vogel	Reinhard	University of Bayreuth
11	Füller	Franziska	University of Würzburg
12	Geis	Anna-Lena	Justus-Liebig University Gießen
13	Kattinger	Lena	University of Würzburg
14	Boesmeier	Annette Sophie	University of Freiburg
15	Götz	Lucia	University of Freiburg
16	Heß	Katharina	Heidelberg University
17	Kara	Diana- Eileen	University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt
18	Wenzel	Till	University of Vienna
19	Gong	Lingxiao	University of Potsdam
20	Schönfeld	Jannik	University of Würzburg
21	Hiemenz	Henry	University of Würzburg
22	Perchanok	Faye	University of Lausanne
23	Böhrkircher	Larissa	RWTH Aachen
24	Wagner	Katharina	University of Würzburg
25	Verheyen	Antje	University of Würzburg
26	Hofmann	Martin	University of Freiburg
27	Wolf	Dennis	RWTH Aachen
28	Ruby	Andreas	GFZ Potsdam
29	Engelmann	Lars	Trier University
30	Grimm	Bastian	Justus-Liebig University Gießen
31	Wapenhans	Isabel	University of Potsdam
32	Kögler	Laura	Justus-Liebig University Gießen
33	Rehn	Lisa	University of Freiburg/Lund University
34	Oehler	Salome	University of Lausanne
Invited speakers:			
35	Rambeau	Claire	University of Strasbourg
36	Blöthe	Jan	University of Freiburg
37	Rhixon	Gilles	University of Strasbourg