

National Museum of Egyptian Civilisation organises a Workshop to Support the Establishment of and Archaeobotanical Research Unit

Cairo, A.R.E., on 11 February, 2016. The National Museum of Egyptian Civilization (NMEC) in collaboration with the American Research Centre in Egypt (ARCE) is organising a workshop entitled "Egyptian Archaeobotany: Current Views and Future Perspectives" on 11th and 12th of February 2016, under the auspices of H.E. Professor Mamdouh El Damaty, the Minister of Antiquities. The workshop comes in tandem with NMEC's plans to establish and develop an Archaeobotanical Research Unit (ARU).

The planned Archaeobotanical Research Unit is to be the first unit specialized in the analysis of archaeobotanical remains within the Ministry of Antiquities. Not only will it undertake its own archaeobotanical research, but it will also provide services to the archaeobotanical community in Egypt to support their work, and will promote the study of and sampling for archaeobotanical research.

Using the collective experience of Egyptian and international archaeobotanists, and specialists in closely related disciplines, is a foundation for strengthening the mission, objectives, and activities of the planned Archaeobotanical Research Unit. By providing a forum for this small group of experts to present their individual research, experiences and needs, information on the challenges and possible solutions will be made available to the ARU in its start-up phase that will enable it to support and promote scientific research in Egypt.

About archaeobotany: Archaeobotanical analysis is the study of plant remains that have survived in archaeological contexts. It is a well-established, albeit small field, within Egyptian archaeology. The study of archaeobotanical remains aids scientists and archaeologists in understanding the relationship between humans and plants in the past and their exploitation of the natural landscape, and the reconstruction of ancient environment.

The workshop is generously sponsored by the American Research Centre in Egypt and UNESCO.

To learn more about the workshop or archaeobotany, please contact:

Mennat-Allah El Dorry (organizer): m.eldorry@gmail.com