

# Life and the Planet

*New perspectives in Earth system science*

5th and 6th May 2011

**The Geological Society of London, Burlington House**

Launch of the NERC Long-term Co-evolution of Life and the Planet Programme

**Convenors:**

Professor Tim Lenton, *University of East Anglia*

Dr Graham Shields, *University College London*

Professor Andrew Watson, *University of East Anglia*

**Keynote speakers include:**

Dr James Lovelock, *Independent scientist*

Professor Lynn Margulis, *University of Massachusetts*

The Earth that sustains us today was born out of a few remarkable revolutions, started by evolutionary innovations and marked by global environmental consequences, including abrupt rises in oxygen and extreme glaciations. The coupled evolution of life and the planet has continued up to the present, and now includes the planet-reshaping activities of our species.

This two-day discussion meeting will showcase recent progress in understanding the development of the Earth as a system. The meeting will outline how new science can help in tying down critical uncertainties, regarding the nature and timing of past events. Finally, it will explore how an improved understanding of life and the planet in the past can help us achieve future sustainability.

## Call for posters

Conference poster contributions are welcome. Please email your poster abstract to Georgina Worrall.

For further information about the conference, or to submit a poster abstract, please contact:

Georgina Worrall

The Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BG

T: 020 434 9944 F: 020 7494 0579

E: [georgina.worrall@geolsoc.org.uk](mailto:georgina.worrall@geolsoc.org.uk) W: [www.geolsoc.org.uk/events](http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/events)