VIRTUAL BIOLOGY COLLOQUIUM

Friday, 11 Mar 2022 | 7 pm | Online Zoom Session

Hosted by Dr Amy Choong

3F Initiative: Including Mycological Language in Global Conversation Efforts

By Giuliana Furci

Dame, Order of the Star of Italy, Chief Executive Director & Foundress, Fungi Foundation - Fundación Fungi

Thanks to the leadership of the Fungi Foundation, both wild and the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) announced their commitment to use "mycologically inclusive" language in their internal and public-facing communications ("fauna, flora and funga" and "animals, fungi and plants") and to incorporate fungi in conservation strategies with rare and endangered plants and animals.

Although fungi underpin life on Earth, they have been overlooked and underappreciated, and largely excluded from conservation strategies and environmental laws. There would be no life on Earth without fungi: the yeasts, molds, and mushrooms that are critical to decomposition and forest regeneration, mammalian digestion, carbon sequestration, the global nutrient cycle, antibiotic medication, and the bread, beer, and chocolate we consume. Trees would not be able to live on land without fungi.



About the Speaker

Giuliana Furci is foundress and CEO of the Fungi Foundation. She is a Harvard University Associate, Dame of the Order of the Star of Italy, Co-Chair of the IUCN Fungal Conservation Committee, and author of several titles including a series of field guides to Chilean fungi and co-author of titles such as the 1st State of the World's Fungi (Kew, 2018). Giuliana has held consulting positions in U.S. philanthropic foundations as well as full-time positions in international and Chilean marine conservation non-profits. She sits on the Board of Fundación Acción Fauna, and on the Advisory Board of Myco-Medica Life Sciences and of the Society for the Protection of Underground Networks (SPUN).

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