

## **XIX International Botanical Congress (IBC 2017)**

On behalf of the Botanical Society of China and the Shenzhen Municipal Government, we are delighted to invite you to Shenzhen, China, for the XIX International Botanical Congress, to be held 23-29 July, 2017.

The Congress will bring together practitioners, researchers and educators from around the world who are engaged in plant sciences and their applications. In the tradition of previous IBC meetings, the program for the XIX Congress will include topics not only from various aspects of the plant sciences, including taxonomy and evolution, ecology, genetics and physiology, molecular biology, genomics, agriculture, and the related fields, but also those from research that bridges disciplines and integrates multiple disciplines.

China is an unique and unparalleled place to any botanist and visitor for exciting experiences! It is the only country with continuous connection of tropical, subtropical, temperate and boreal vegetation. Not only are there numerous relict and recent taxa, but also species rich lineages and a succession of vegetation types that range from tropical rainforest to alpine tundra.

According to a recent study, Shenzhen City ranks first in urban competitiveness in China. It showcases the great success of China during the era of reform and openness. In little more than 30 years, the city has been transformed from a small fishing village to an international metropolis of more than 12 million inhabitants, the majority being immigrants from across the country, bringing with them a diversity of cultures, ideas and cuisines. We hope that you will take part in the Congress and seize the many opportunities to enjoy the rich diversity of Shenzhen and China.

We look forward to greeting you at the XIX International Botanical Congress in 2017.

Additional information about the congress is available at <http://www.ibc2017.cn/>

From the XIX IBC Organizing Committee