

The Autonomous Organization of Museums and Centers (OAMC) and Society for the Promotion of Persons with Disabilities (SINPROMI) offered a basic course open to all of the public about meteorites that took place in the Museum of Nature and Man on October 26-28, 2010.

A very innovative aspect of this conference consisted of theoretic content and practices accessible to people with sensory and physical disabilities. For example, the course utilized sign language and tactile elements that allowed participation of the visually disabled.

The conference, directed by Jesús Martínez Frías, planetary geologist of the Center of Astrobiology (CSIC/INTA) of Madrid, with the collaboration of Dr. José A. Rodríguez Losada, geologist and professor at the University of La Laguna, Dr. Antonio Manuel Eff-Darwich Peña, research associate of the Institute of Astrophysics of the Canary Islands, Dr. Francisco García-Talavera, geologist, paleontologist, and president of Autonomous Organization of Museums and Centers, and D. Lázaro Sánchez-Pinto, a biologist and director of Museum of Natural History of Tenerife (OAMC).

The meteorites are unique examples that contribute essential information about the age and formation of the Earth and other planetary bodies of the solar system, which played a fundamental role in the geological and biological co-evolution of our planet, and they could have also been involved in the origin of life on the Earth, contributing to water and other inorganic and organic compounds.