

Policy session: Is there a future for hybrid EAERE conferences?

## Dinosaurs turned digital

- EAERE's first online conferences

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#### EAERE's first online annual conferences 2020 and 2021

# Dinosaurs Turned Digital — EAERE's First Online Annual Conferences

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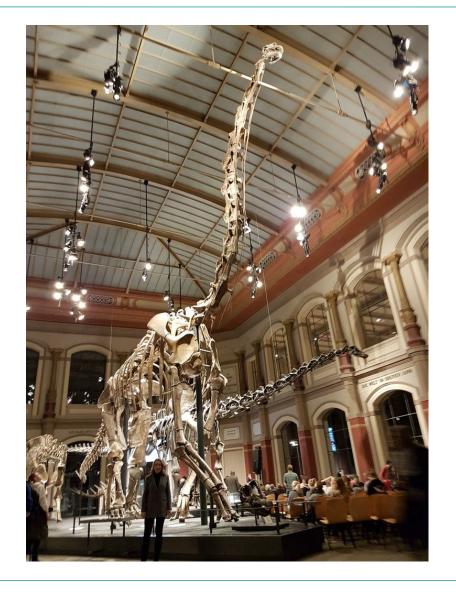
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## **EAERE 2020**

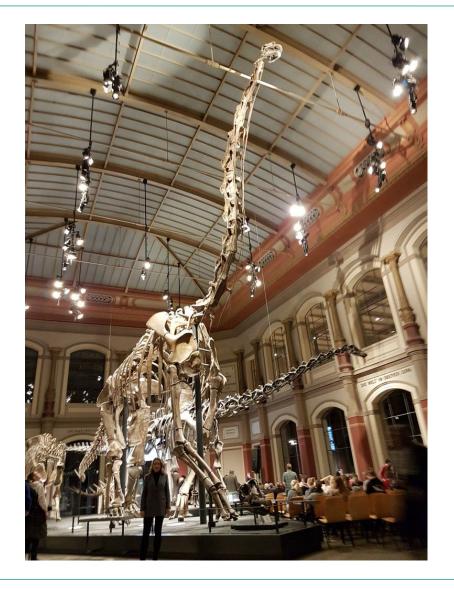
- 2018: Decision to hold annual conference in Berlin : Museum of Natural history ((Dinosaurs))
- First COVID warnings 2019
- 2020: due to pandemic EAERE
   annual conference had to be
   completely online: start of
   experiences with online tools (like
   Zoom etc)





## **EAERE 2020**

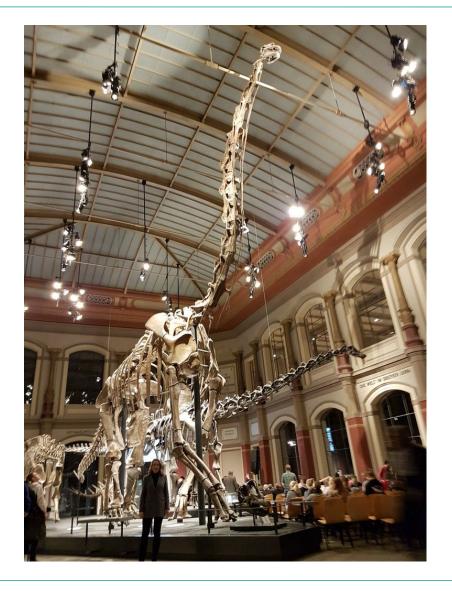
- Cancellation of contracts with exhibitors; financial losses took over by EAERE rainday funds
- Full online: 10 days sequence of parallel sessions
- congress' opening, plenary session and awards ceremony took place on a single, central conference day.
- Interaction platform "Spatial chat"





## EAERE 2020 Feedback

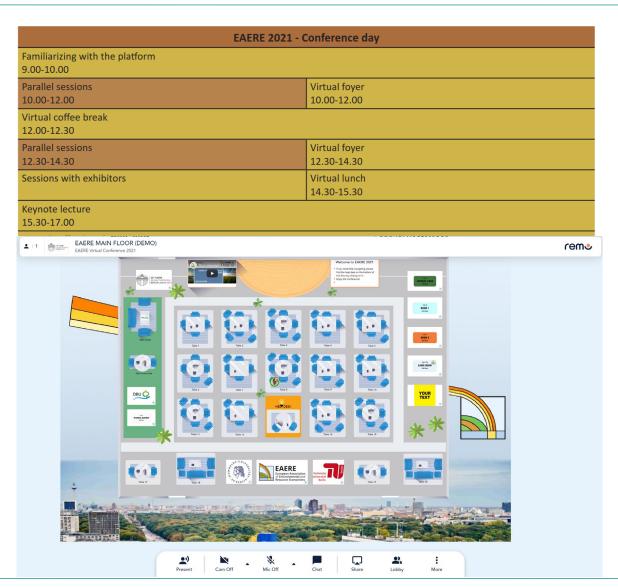
- lack of interaction / networking
- no social events
- **limited focus** (tiresome for eyes
- sources of distraction)
- low engagement / interaction
- no visual feedback from attendees
- as off)
- no informal feedback and discussion
- sessions
- decentral organization





## **EAERE 2021**

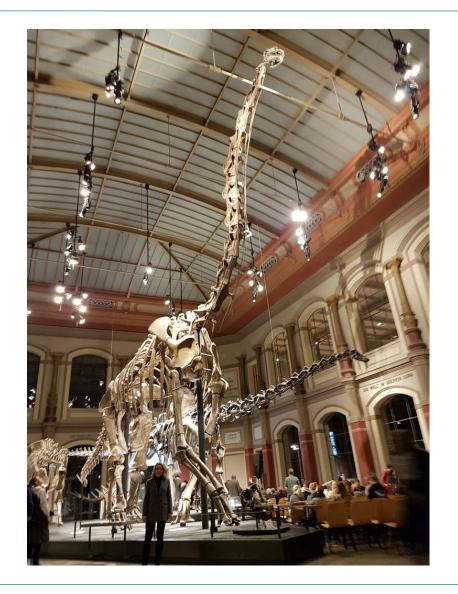
- More inclusive
- More networking options Foyer "environment" (max 8 participants)
- exhibitors' rooms
- presenters on stage,
- attendees on seats and were able to ask questions by using an integrated Q&A tool





## Résumé

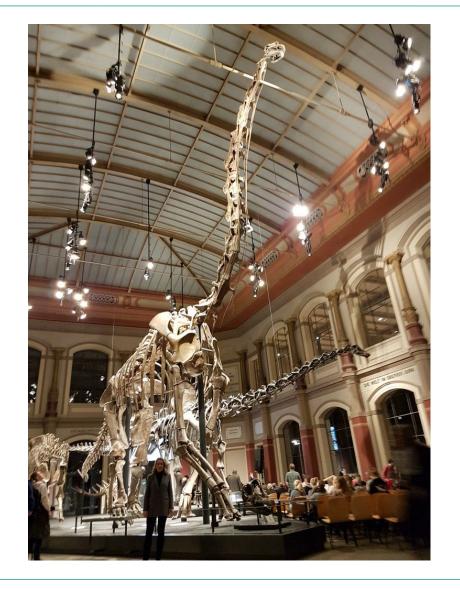
- Labor intensive
- Ok for those who know each other
- More exhausting "Zoom fatique" (non verbal overload)
- problematic for young talents who are new to the scene
- Online stores rather flop
- important: respect netiquette
- Multi- tasking: Participants remain in their working environment





## **Conclusion**

- Dealing with the congress portals
   must be easy (platforms must the
   interlinked)
- Log in procedures must be simple
- "Plan B" if technical difficulties
   /break down
- Informal meeting options desired:
   plenary sessions + social events in
   online format (offering prizes)





### Thanks for your attention.



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