**North-Central Section - 50th Annual Meeting (18–19 April 2016)**

Paper No. 17-4

Presentation Time: 1:30 PM-5:30 PM

**DIATOMS FROM AFAR: NOVEL SPECIES OF BACILLARIOPHYCEAE (DIATOMS) FROM THE PLIOCENE HADAR FORMATION, ETHIOPIA**

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A paleoecological study of the Pliocene Hadar Formation in the Afar Region, Ethiopia has unearthed several novel species of Bacillariophyceae (diatoms). The Hadar Formation diatom assemblage allows for previously unknown water conditions in Paleolake Hadar to be deciphered. The Hadar Formation assemblage also represents a newly revealed excerpt from the evolutionary history of freshwater diatoms in East Africa during the Piacenᴢian age. The samples were collected from rock cores that were extracted as part of the Hominin Sites and Paleolakes Drilling Project. The Hadar Formation diatom assemblage is compared to previously reported diatoms from Lake Malawi as well as extant species.

Session No. 17--Booth# 4

[Paleontology (Posters)](https://gsa.confex.com/gsa/2016NC/webprogram/Session40581.html)

Monday, 18 April 2016: 1:30 PM-5:30 PM