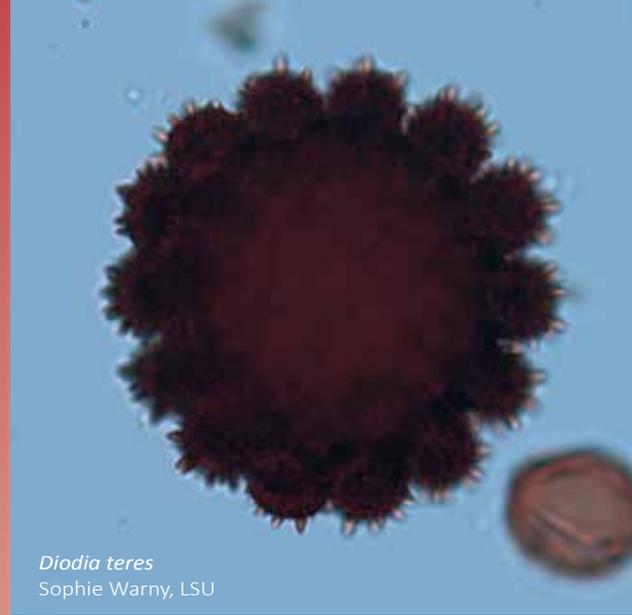


# AASP- THE PALYNOLOGICAL SOCIETY



*Diodia teres*  
Sophie Warny, LSU

## NEWSLETTER



**September 2014**  
**Volume 47, Number 3**



# AASP-TPS NEWSLETTER

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Published Quarterly by AASP - The Palynological Society

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September 2014  
Volume 47, Number 3

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# A.A.S.P.

## The Palynological Society

The American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, Inc. - AASP-The Palynological Society - was established in 1967 by a group of 31 founding members to promote the science of palynology. Today AASP has a world-wide membership of about 500 and is run by an executive comprising an elected Board of Directors and subsidiary boards and committees. AASP welcomes new members.

The AASP Foundation publishes the journal *Palynology* (biannually), the *AASP Newsletter* (quarterly), and the *AASP Contributions Series* (mostly monographs, issued irregularly), as well as several books and miscellaneous items. AASP organises an Annual Meeting which usually includes a field trip, a business luncheon, social events, and technical sessions where research results are presented on all aspects of palynology.

### AASP Scientific Medal recipients

Professor William R. Evitt (awarded 1982)  
Professor William G. Chaloner (awarded 1984)  
Dr. Lewis E. Stover (awarded 1988)  
Dr. Graham Lee Williams (awarded 1996)  
Dr. Hans Gocht (awarded 1996)  
Professor Svein B. Manum (awarded 2002)  
Professor Barrie Dale (awarded 2004)  
Dr. David Wall (awarded 2004)  
Dr. Robin Helby (awarded 2005)  
Dr. Satish K. Srivastava (awarded 2006)  
Professor Estella B. Leopold (awarded 2013)

### AASP Honorary Members

Professor Dr. Alfred Eisenack (elected 1975)  
Dr. William S. Hoffmeister (elected 1975)  
Professor Leonard R. Wilson (elected 1975)  
Professor Knut Faegri (elected 1977)  
Professor Charles Downie (elected 1982)  
Professor William R. Evitt (elected 1989)  
Professor Lucy M. Cranwell (elected 1989)  
Dr. Tamara F. Vozzhennikova (elected 1990)  
Professor Aural T. Cross (elected 1991)  
Dr. Robert T. Clarke (awarded 2002)  
Professor Vaughn Bryant (awarded 2005)  
Professor Alfred Traverse (awarded 2005)  
Professor Bernard Owens (awarded 2011)  
Dr. John E. Williams (awarded 2013)  
Mr. Paul W. Nygreen (awarded 2013)

### AASP Board of Directors Award recipient

Dr. Robert T. Clarke (awarded 1994)

### Teaching medal recipients

Professor Aural T. Cross (awarded 1999)  
Professor Alfred Traverse (awarded 2001)  
Professor Bill Evitt (awarded 2006)  
Professor Vaughn M. Bryant (awarded 2013)

### AASP Distinguished Service Award recipients

Dr. Robert T. Clarke (awarded 1978)  
Dr. Norman J. Norton (awarded 1978)  
Dr. Jack D. Burgess (awarded 1982)  
Dr. Richard W. Hedlund (awarded 1982)  
Dr. John A. Clendening (awarded 1987)  
Dr. Kenneth M. Piel (awarded 1990)  
Dr. Gordon D. Wood (awarded 1993)  
Dr. Jan Jansonius (awarded 1995)  
Dr. D. Colin McGregor (awarded 1995)  
Professor John H. Wrenn (awarded 1998)  
Professor Vaughn M. Bryant (awarded 1999)  
Dr. Donald W. Engelhardt (awarded 2000)  
Dr. David T. Pocknall (awarded 2005)  
Dr. David K. Goodman (awarded 2005)  
Professor Owen K. Davis (awarded 2005)  
Dr. Thomas Demchuk (awarded 2009)



# AASP-TPS NEWSLETTER

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Sophie Warny, Editor

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**POSITION OPEN - PLEASE SEND LETTER OF INTEREST TO SWARNY@LSU.EDU**

## AASP WEBMASTER

Mohamed Zobaa, [mohamed.zobaa@fsc.bu.edu.eg](mailto:mohamed.zobaa@fsc.bu.edu.eg), website: <http://www.palynology.org>

## AASP NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Sophie Warny, [swarny@lsu.edu](mailto:swarny@lsu.edu), Department of Geology and Geophysics & Museum of Natural Science, Louisiana State University, E235 Howe Russell Geoscience Complex, Baton Rouge, LA 70803, USA.

The AASP-TPS Newsletter is published four times annually. Members are encouraged to submit articles, "letters to the editor," technical notes, meetings reports, information about "members in the news," new websites and information about job openings. Every effort will be made to publish all information received from our membership. Contributions which include photographs should be submitted two weeks before the deadline.

Deadline for submission for the next issue of the newsletter is **NOVEMBER 15**. All information should be sent by email. If possible, please illustrate your contribution with art, line drawings, eye-catching logos, black & white photos, colour photos, etc. **We DO look forward to contributions from our membership.**

## A message from our president Dr. Lanny Fisk



My last President's Message? No! I refuse to leave! How time flies, when you're having fun. Yes, it has been fun, but all good things seem to eventually come to an end. My short time as AASP-TPS President will abruptly come to an end at the Business Meeting in **Mendoza** when I officially and ceremoniously hand the gavel to Jen O'Keefe as the new President. Jen will bring youth and enthusiasm to the organization.

And, speaking about **Mendoza**...I hope that you plan to be there! What a great opportunity to hold our 47th annual meeting in conjunction with the International Palaeontological Conference and expose thousands of other paleontologists to our brand of the science. We need you to be there. We want you to be there. We're counting on you to be there, and every person counts. It's sure to include a helluva lot of professional science, education, camaraderie, entertainment, and just plain fun. And, in Argentina! What an opportunity! Hope that you can be there. You'll be sorry if you don't!

Staying on the theme of planning for the future, in my acceptance speech in San Francisco at the 46th Annual Meeting, I stated as one of my goals to start planning for our 50th anniversary meeting, which I proposed have as a theme *Back to the Future*. I think that we should celebrate for a whole year. Our organization dates back to 1967, but our first annual meeting was in 1968. Therefore, it would be appropriate to kick

off our celebration in 2016 at the 49th Annual Meeting and continue celebrating until the end of the 50th Annual Meeting in 2017. Where the 49th and 50th meetings will be held is a closely guarded secret, until after the out-going and in-coming Board Meetings in Mendoza. I'm sure that you will hear lots about the planned celebrations later. We have another two years to get ready for the party!

Finally, I want to again thank all those that do the hard work behind the scenes for this Society. There are some members who put in incredible amounts of time to keep this organization rolling along smoothly. Some of them have done so for years and years...and years. Without their efforts, it would be a bumpy road. It's like they listened to the song "Hotel California" too many times and believed those lines "You can check out any time you like, but you can never leave." After the Business Meeting in Mendoza, I plan to check out. But, I do not have plans to leave. I hope that I can continue to participate and contribute to AASP-TPS for many years to come.

**Thank you all for the pleasure of serving as your President this past year. Adios hasta Mendoza... or something like that!**

# Palynology Managing Editor's Report

The journal impact factors for 2013 were released at the end of July 2014. The figure for *Palynology* has unfortunately decreased to 0.949. The math here was that we had 37 cites during 2013 to our papers published in 2011 and 2012, and this was divided by the number of items published in that period which was 39. The cites to recent items (37) divided by the number of recent items (39) therefore gives a figure of 0.949. This represents a decline in our impact factor from 1.348 in the previous year, and largely reflects the fact that the papers published during 2012 have not been especially well cited as yet. We published significantly more papers in 2012 because a Supplement was issued, and this has clearly had a bearing. We are very confident that this is merely an anomaly, and the very strong indications are that our impact factor will bounce back significantly this time next year. I am very relaxed about this situation; it is one of the principal aims of the Association to publish scientific articles on palynology. If, by dint of being productive, the impact factor takes a temporary hit, then so be it. I absolutely do not make editorial decisions based on the likely effect on our impact factor. If we receive highly impactful (is that a word?) manuscripts, that is great. However, you can still have fantastic papers which do not attract many cites as a consequence of there being relatively few active publishers in the (shall we say) more esoteric aspects of our science.

The content of *Palynology*, Volume 38, Part 2 has recently been finalised, and is reproduced below; this issue will be published in December this year. If you have an accepted paper which is not mentioned here, please do not worry, it will go into the next volume. There will not be long to wait because, in 2015, we switch from two to three issues annually and *Palynology*, Volume 39, Part 1 will be published three months later, during next March. Volume 39 will have a very classy glossy cream-white cover with an exquisite SEM image of a pollen grain of the modern lettuce plant *Lactuca sativa* (Family Asteraceae). The photograph was generously supplied by Tom Hill of the Natural History Museum in London. If anyone reading has an especially beautiful poster palynomorph suitable for the 2016 volume, please get in contact with me. I was wondering about using a Devonian or Carboniferous spore.

Manuscript submission rates are fairly good as I write, but please persuade your friends to send their high-quality papers to *Palynology*! The current processing time now is very rapid. If your manuscript is good scientifically, is well-written, if the reviewers work fast and the authors resubmit efficiently, it can be published online in only a few short months. If you have any questions about any aspect of the publication process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

James B. Riding  
Managing Editor – AASP – The Palynological Society  
British Geological Survey  
Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5GG, United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0)115 9363447      E-mail: [jbri@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:jbri@bgs.ac.uk)

## Papers to be published in *Palynology* Volume 38, Part 2 (December 2014)

1. Borges, R.L.B., Jesus, M.C., Camargo, R.C.R. and Santos, F.A.R. Pollen content of marmeleiro (*Croton* spp., Euphorbiaceae) honey from Piauí State, Brazil.
2. Jeffers, D. and Willis, K.J. Vegetation response to climate change during the Last Interglacial–Last Glacial transition in the southern Bekaa Valley, Lebanon.
3. Sajwani, A., Farooq, S.A. and Bryant, V.M. Studies of bee foraging plants and analysis of pollen pellets from hives in Oman.
4. Shah, S.A. and Ahmad, M. Reassessing palynological characters in the subfamilies Periplocoideae and Asclepiadoideae (Apocynaceae): taxonomic and evolutionary implications.
5. Choudhary, N., Siddiqui, M.B., Bi, S. and Khatoon, S. Effects of seasonality and time after anthesis on the viability and longevity of *Cannabis sativa* pollen.
6. Jones, G.D. and Bryant, V.M. Pollen studies of honey from East Texas, USA.
7. Willumsen, P.S., Dale, B., Jolley, D.W. and Laursen, G.V. Palynostratigraphy and palaeoenvironmental shifts in Oligocene and Miocene strata from offshore Angola, west-central Africa.
8. Langgut, D., Neumann, F.H., Stein, M., Wagner, A., Kagan, E.J., Boaretto, E. and Finkelstein, I. Dead Sea pollen record and history of human activity in the Judean Highlands (Israel) from the Intermediate Bronze into the Iron Ages (~2500-500 BCE).
9. Amenábar, C.R., Candel, M.S. and Guerstein, G.R. Small Antarctic Late Cretaceous chorate dinoflagellate cysts: biological and palaeoenvironmental affinities.
10. Basumatary, S.K., Tripathi, S., Bera, S.K. and Kumar, S. Pollen morphology of *Nepenthes khasiana* Hook. f. (Nepenthaceae), an endemic insectivorous plant from India.
11. Riding, J.B. The literature on Triassic, Jurassic and earliest Cretaceous dinoflagellate cysts: supplement 2.



Are you planning to present your research?

## Early Announcement for Student Travel Support Other than the Annual Meeting

The Society will entertain applications for student travel support with a deadline of:

**December 1, 2014**

for 2015 meetings other than the Annual Meeting.

This opportunity allows students to request support for any meeting at which they are presenting their palynological results.

The application should include the following:

- 1) one paragraph justification for the request with a description of the research to be presented (plus the abstract submitted for the presentation, if available)
- 2) outline of the requested amount and how the funds would be used;
- 3) applicant's email and postal addresses;
- 4) all of these to be forwarded by the applicant's advisor who includes a brief explanation of how attendance at this particular meeting will benefit the student.

Application materials should be sent by email to the Chair of the AASP Awards Committee:

Martin Farley  
mbfarley@sigmaxi.net

Geology, Old Main 213  
University of North Carolina at Pembroke

There will be a separate opportunity for travel support to the Annual Meeting during 2015.

# AN OVERVIEW OF AASP-TPS AWARDS

By Martin Farley, University of North Carolina at Pembroke



AASP has a number of awards that recognize accomplishments of palynologists. Here I deal only with awards not directly associated with society officers or students (omitting officer service and Board of Directors Award) or awards at the Annual Meeting.

**The deadline is March 1 of each year** for submission of nominations to the Awards Committee. The basic nomination procedure is similar for most awards (main letter of nomination accompanied by letters of support, these to include documentation of accomplishment). Details on the procedures for each award can be found at <http://www.palynology.org/content/awardproced.html>, while a complete list of the people who have received these awards in the past can be found on the second page of this newsletter.

## Distinguished Service Award

This award recognizes individuals who have generously supported the society with their work and resources over a number of years and whose efforts have advanced the society. Typically, recipients have held society office, participated in committees, or dealt with publications or meetings. There have been 16 recipients of this award, most recently Thomas Demchuk in 2009.

## Honorary Life Membership

This is actually the oldest AASP award with the first awards dating to 1975. This award is given either to people making fundamental contributions to the science of palynology or people who have given the AASP devoted service or both. Honorary Life Membership has been awarded to 15 individuals, most recently to John Williams and Paul Nygreen in 2013.

## Medal for Excellence in Education

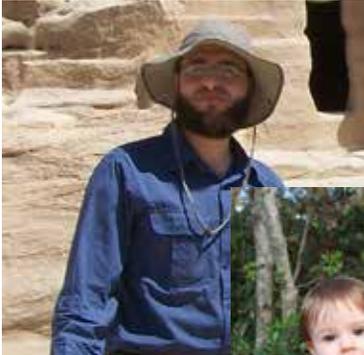
This medal recognizes leaders in palynological instruction. Nominees are expected to have considerable experience and accomplishment in all aspects of academic education involving palynology, including training of new scientists for the field. The medal has been awarded four times, most recently to Vaughn Bryant in 2013.

## Medal for Scientific Excellence

The society's highest award for achievement in the science of palynology is the Medal for Scientific Excellence. The official description lists "fundamental contributions to the development of the science of palynology" as the main criterion. Recipients should have a substantial research history in the field. The medal has been awarded 11 times in the history of the society, most recently to Estella Leopold in 2013.

**Yearly  
deadline:  
March 1**

# Your 2014-2015 board members



The Ballot Committee would like to present and congratulate our new additions to the board of directors and thank those rotating off of the board in Mendoza for their service!

President Elect: Guy Harrington  
Secretary: Stephen Stukins  
Treasurer: Thomas Demchuk  
Managing Editor: James Riding  
Webmaster: Mohamed Zobaa  
Newsletter Editor: Sophie Warny  
Director-at-large: Kara Bogus  
Student Director-at-large: Kimberly Bell

Special congratulations go to our managing editor and newsletter editor for their UNANIMOUS re-election this year. Jobs well done, Jim and Sophie!

The election was conducted electronically via SurveyMonkey and the ballot distributed to all members paid through 2014. If you did not receive a ballot or an e-mail encouraging you to request a "paper" (e-mailed) ballot, and believe you should have, please contact the newly elected secretary, Stephen Stukins, to make sure that your e-mail address and/or membership is up-to-date.

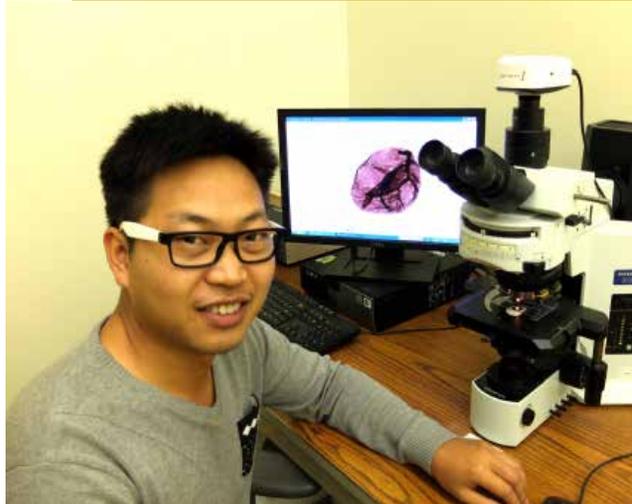
Thank you to the 163 members who voted. This represents 41% of the 2014 membership. I encourage all of you who did not vote this year to do so next year – your voices and opinions matter!

Jen O'Keefe, AASP president-elect

# CONGRATULATIONS TO QING AND TEGAN! AASP-TPS STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS

Thanks are extended to Martin Farley and the Awards Committee for their tremendous work.

## Student: Qing Tang



[qingt@vt.edu](mailto:qingt@vt.edu)

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, U.S.

I started my BSc in Geology at Northwest University, China in 2006. And I soon found my interest in geology, because I really enjoyed all the geological field courses. We could go outdoor, touching various mountains and waters throughout the country, looking for ancient rocks and fabulous fossils. Upon graduation, I had to make a difficult decision to decline a job offer from an oil company. Instead, I chose to study for my Master's Degree in paleontology and stratigraphy at Nanjing Institute of Geology and Paleontology, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, because I enjoyed in discovering the history of our planet.

During my time in Nanjing from 2010 to 2013, I had the opportunity to work with several wonderful professors who sparked my interest in palynological research. My co-advisors, Dr. Xunlai Yuan and Dr. Shuhai Xiao, taught me how to pick a project and how to design a research plan. Within a year into my Master's program, I began to work on a research project on early Neoproterozoic acritarchs in the North China Block. The project aimed at characterizing the eukaryote biodiversity prior to the Cryogenian glaciations in order to better understand biological evolution through global ice ages and to test the biostratigraphic significance of acritarchs. We designed and tested new maceration techniques to extract fragile acritarchs from fine-grained siliciclastic rocks, and recovered abundant well-preserved organic-walled species, one of which is a potential early Neoproterozoic index fossil. The data, published in a research article in *Precambrian Research* in 2013, adds to the growing diversity of early Neoproterozoic fossils and strengthens the basis for improved biostratigraphic correlation of early Neoproterozoic strata.

For my Ph. D. program which started in 2014, I will continue study Neoproterozoic acritarchs under the supervision of Prof. Shuhai Xiao at Virginia Tech. My research project is focused on acritarch biostratigraphy and paleobiology. I will apply a modified low-manipulation extraction technique to isolate acritarchs from shales, and will examine these acritarchs using a combined light and electric microscopic analysis. Integrating paleobiological, sedimentological, and geochemical data collected from strata deposited before and after Cryogenian glaciations, I hope to develop a better understanding of eukaryote survivorship through some of the most severe ice ages in Earth history.

**Student: Tegan McGillivray**

mcgillivray@wisc.edu

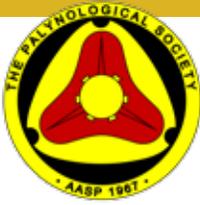
University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA

I received my BA from the University of Colorado, Boulder in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and Anthropology. I came to botany in the last year of my undergraduate career, as a way to fulfill the last credits of my EBIO major that I put off in favor of archaeology classes. After one class, I fell in love with botany and spent my final semester taking all the botany courses offered. After graduation I worked in both ecology and botany laboratories under Dr. Nicole Barger and Dr. William Friedman. I also spent part of the summers working on an archaeological field school and a few hours each week during the academic year supervising students in archaeological laboratory analyses and cataloging.

In August 2011 I started my Anthropology PhD research at the University of Wisconsin-Madison under Dr. Nam Kim. I received my MA from that institution in December 2013. My research focuses on the introduction and intensification of wet rice (*Oryza sativa var. japonica*) agriculture in Northern Vietnam, allowing me to pull together my love of archaeology and plants. My project aims to address the gap in academic knowledge about the role of wet rice agriculture in the development of early state level societies in Northern Vietnam during the Bronze and Iron Age (1,800BC–AD200). I focus on Co Loa, a 600 hectare Iron Age settlement that holds national significance and is integral to the Vietnamese national identity. Archaeological evidence suggests continuous human settlement from the first agricultural communities of the Bronze Age through the present. The environmental history of the site remains unclear, although the monumental construction of its three walls and hypothesized population suggest large-scale landscape transformation for agricultural purposes beginning around 300BC.

I first collected soil samples in 2012, during excavations of the northern portions of the middle wall. This coming summer I will return to collect cores from around the site and from excavations of the inner wall. I plan to correlate palynological data with existing archaeological records via radiocarbon dating. Dr. John Williams (UW-Madison, Dept. of Geography) will supervise the palynological portion of my research. My research will explore long-term environmental changes, agricultural intensification, and changes in agricultural production at Co Loa. I hope the data from this study will add a new dynamic to the ongoing discussion of social complexity and the formation of early states and will provide a much-needed ecological backdrop for continuing research.





## Advice for Student Presentations for Wilson Award for Mendoza!

Martin Farley with assistance from Reed Wicander

Here is some advice on making effective oral presentations, in other words, how to communicate effectively.

Give a talk on only a few main points. It is unlikely that you can discuss effectively the results of an entire thesis in a single talk. Creating an effective talk is often a process of throwing out material that cannot be covered. Figure out what the important points are (3 to 4 at most) that you want the audience to take away from your presentation.

An effective way to begin a talk is to give the conclusions first (or at least very early). This means you are not giving a mystery presentation during which the audience has to guess what point you are trying to make. You then repeat the conclusions at the end. This idea has a history dating back at least to an essay by Eugene Shinn in the 1986 edition of AAPG's advice on making presentations "Figuratively Speaking," although knowledge of it is not widespread. (The 2000 edition of this book, if available, has many helpful suggestions on design of illustrations for talks.)

Generic advice to speakers often suggests making eye contact with the audience. In a completely dark room, this is impossible. In some venues, you can start your talk with the lights up, make some eye contact, and then have the lights turned off. However, you can still partially face the audience as you speak, and look away from the screen occasionally. You should always avoid talking directly to the screen, rather than your audience, particularly if you are using a laser pointer to highlight items on the screen. Make some contact with the audience during your talk, even if you can't see them.

Make illustrations on slides as large as possible, particularly if there are some details within the image. If this means dispensing with space devoted to organizational logos, then you should do so. Powerpoint allows you to move titles to the side, change their color so they're visible over unimportant parts of the illustration, or otherwise alter them to give the illustration importance. Landscape orientation illustrations work best. Figures with labeling suitable for paper publication are almost always too small to read on a slide.

Avoid busy slide backgrounds. This includes most of the canned versions supplied with presentation programs like Powerpoint. These distract the audience.

You can make a very simple master slide with a uniform dark blue background and then put your text and illustrations on top of that.

Don't fill slides with text that you read aloud. The audience can read faster than you can speak, will reach the end of the slide before you do, and quickly lose interest in your talk. Outline the points you want to make on the slide and expand on them verbally.

Avoid fancy slide transitions. Although they may seem fun, they distract the audience from concentrating on your talk.

Use scale bars for photomicrographs, so the scale estimation remains the same no matter the size of the projected image.

Never apologize for the quality of an illustration. It draws attention to the issue and many people would never notice. It also makes it look like you waited until the last minute to prepare your talk, and shows lack of respect to the audience. I once had a poster up all day at AAPG with an obvious boundary fault in it and I was ready to explain at some length why it was there. However, even though hundreds of people looked at the poster, not a single one mentioned it.

If you have time for acknowledgments, you shouldn't thank anyone who is a co-author on the paper (e.g., your advisor). You present on behalf of all the authors on the abstract and as you would not thank yourself for your own help, you do not acknowledge the help of co-authors either.

Formally, in an oral session, the session chair is in charge. The chair decides if there is time for questions at the end of a talk. Therefore, you should not end your talk by asking "Any questions?" because that presumes you control the session. There may be no time for questions through no fault of yours, for example, if the session is running behind schedule. A good phrase to end a talk with is "Thank you."

Practice your talk more than once. Leave some time to allow for pauses. For example, you may have to stop talking to twist around to aim the laser pointer at a screen located in the most inconvenient possible place from the speaker's point of view. You will not be able to know this until you see the venue.

# AASP-TPS UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS



## AASP Undergraduate Student Awards

In order to support the teaching of palynology at the undergraduate level, and to encourage and reward student engagement and achievement in this field, the AASP-The Palynological Society announces the AASP Undergraduate Student Award.

The awards are made annually to students nominated by faculty members teaching courses with significant palynological content. One student recipient, with meritorious achievement in some aspect of the course, can be nominated per year per institution.

A faculty member, who is a member in good standing of AASP, and who teaches an appropriate course, may nominate the course using the Registration Form below. Upon approval by the Awards Committee, faculty teaching approved courses may nominate a student to receive the award at any time of the year on the basis of their qualifying criteria. The faculty member will then report the name and address of the recipient to the Awards Committee Chair. The Chair will notify the Secretary, who will provide the membership benefits, and will collate a list of recipients each year for presentation at the Society's Annual Meeting, in the Newsletter, and on the website.

Each award consists of one year's free membership in the Society to include all issues of the Society's publications for that year, the journal *Palynology* and the quarterly newsletter, discounts on other AASP publications, discounted registration fees at Society meetings, and eligibility for Society awards.

Information for faculty members: To register a course at your institution, please fill in the form below and submit it electronically for approval by the Awards Committee. You only need to do this once unless the course has changed or you wish to nominate a different course for the award.

## AASP Undergraduate Student Award – Course Registration Form

Nominating faculty member:

University/Higher Education Institution:

Course Name:

Course Description and level:

Average number of students registered in the course annually:

Number of hours of palynological instruction:

Lectures -

Laboratory classes -

Criteria used to determine the winning student:

Date:

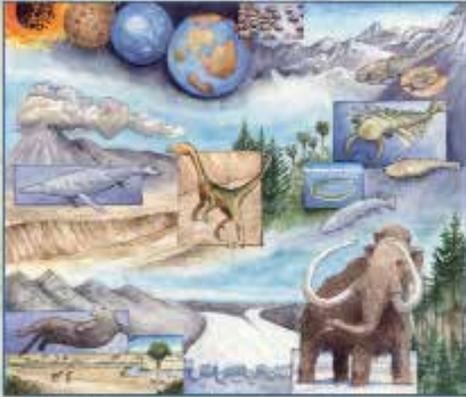
**Please return via  
email to Awards  
Committee Chair:  
Martin Farley  
([mbfarley@  
sigmaxi.net](mailto:mbfarley@sigmaxi.net))**

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# PUBLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT

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**Proposed By-Law Amendments**  
**As voted upon by the Board-of-Directors, May 10, 2014**

ARTICLE TWO  
MEMBERS

Classes of Members

**2.01** Membership shall be open to all persons and organizations interested in the science of palynology and the corporation shall have four classes of members. The designation of such classes and the qualifications and rights of the members of such classes shall be as follows:

(a) Individual Members - Individual members shall be persons who are or have been engaged in the science or practice of palynology; who are or have been engaged in the gathering and dissemination of palynological information; or who are engaged in paleontological, botanical, geological, or other pursuits compatible with the objectives of the association.

(b) Institutional Members - Institutional members shall be those firms, institutions of higher learning, or other organizations interested in fostering the science of palynology. Institutional members shall have the right to appoint a person as their designated representative. Such person shall enjoy all the privileges of the association except that they, or their representatives, shall not hold office or vote. Notwithstanding any of the above limitations, a designated representative of an institutional member, who is also an individual member, may so continue to exercise his/her membership rights and privileges on his/her own behalf.

(c) Honorary Members - Honorary membership will be awarded on a majority vote of the Board of Directors to persons, members or non-members of AASP, who have made distinguished contributions to the science of palynology. Such persons will enjoy all privileges of active membership, but will not be required to pay annual dues.

(d) Retired Members - Retired members shall be persons who are retired from professional activities in palynology. Retired members will pay annual dues to AASP at a rate to be established by the Board of Directors, and will enjoy all privileges of active membership, with the exception of receiving the journal Palynology. A retired member can revert to full individual membership at any time.

***NEW WORDING:***

***2.01*** Membership shall be open to all persons and organizations interested in the science of palynology and the corporation shall have four classes of members. The designation of such classes and the qualifications and rights of the members of such classes shall be as follows:

*(a) Individual Members - Individual members shall be persons who are or have been engaged in the science or practice of palynology; who are or have been engaged in the gathering and dissemination of palynological information; or who are engaged in paleontological, botanical, geological, or other pursuits compatible with the objectives of the association.*

*(b) Student Members - Student members shall be persons who are registered full-time students at an Institution of higher-learning. Student members will pay annual dues at a rate to be established by the Board of Directors, and will enjoy all privileges of active membership. Student members may become full Individual members at any time.*

*(c) Retired Members - Retired members shall be persons who are retired from professional activities in palynology. Retired members will pay annual dues to AASP at a rate to be established by the Board of Directors, and will enjoy all privileges of active membership excepting receipt of Palynology. A retired member can revert to full individual membership at any time.*

*(d) Honorary Members - Honorary membership will be awarded on a majority vote of the Board of Directors to persons, members or non-members of AASP, who have made distinguished contributions to the science of palynology. Such persons will enjoy all privileges of active membership, but will not be required to pay annual dues.*

## Election of Members

**2.02** Persons, firms, institutions or organizations desiring membership shall submit their applications, accompanied by their first year's annual dues (in US dollars) to the Secretary-Treasurer.

### **NEW WORDING:**

**2.01** *Persons desiring membership shall submit their applications, accompanied by their first year's annual dues (in US dollars) to the Secretary and Treasurer.*

## Resignation

**2.05** Any member may resign by filing a written resignation with the Secretary-Treasurer, but such resignation shall not relieve the member so resigning of the obligation to pay any dues, assessments, or other charges theretofore accrued and unpaid.

### **NEW WORDING:**

**2.05** *Any member may resign by filing a written resignation with the Secretary, but such resignation shall not relieve the member so resigning of the obligation to pay any dues, assessments, or other charges theretofore accrued and unpaid.*

## ARTICLE THREE MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

### Special Meeting

**3.02** A special business meeting of the corporation may be called by the President, the Board of Directors, or not less than a majority of the members by petition. Prior to calling such a special meeting, the Secretary-Treasurer must be informed sixty (60) days before the meeting. The Secretary-Treasurer will then notify the general membership at least thirty (30) days before the special meeting.

### **NEW WORDING:**

**3.02** *A special business meeting of the corporation may be called by the President, the Board of Directors, or not less than a majority of the members by petition. Prior to calling such a special meeting, the Secretary must be informed sixty (60) days before the meeting. The Secretary will then notify the general membership at least thirty (30) days before the special meeting.*

### Notice of Meeting

**3.04** Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of any regularly scheduled meeting of members shall be delivered, either personally, by mail, or electronically to each member, not less than ten (10) days before the date of such meeting, by or at the direction of the President, or the Secretary-Treasurer, or the officers or persons calling the meeting. In case of a special meeting, or when required by statute or these by-laws, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be stated in the notice. If mailed, the notice of a meeting shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the mail and addressed to the member at his or her address as it appears on the record of the corporation, with postage thereon prepaid. If sent electronically, it shall be deemed to be delivered when confirmation of the message being sent is noted on the sending device.

### **NEW WORDING:**

**3.04** *Written or printed notice stating the place, day and hour of any regularly scheduled meeting of members shall be delivered, either personally, by mail, or electronically to each member, not less than ten (10) days before the date of such meeting, by or at the direction of the President, or the Secretary, or the officers or persons calling the meeting. In case of a special meeting, or when required by statute or these by-laws, the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called shall be stated in the notice. If mailed, the notice of a meeting shall be deemed to be delivered when deposited in the mail and addressed to the member at his or her address as it appears on the record of the corporation, with postage thereon prepaid. If sent electronically, it shall be deemed to be delivered when confirmation of the message being sent is noted on the sending device.*

ARTICLE FOUR  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Numbers and Tenure

**4.02** The number of Directors shall be **twelve**. Each Director shall hold office until his or her successor shall have been elected and until the next annual meeting of the members. The new constituted Board of Directors shall take office at the end of the annual business meeting provided for in Article 3.01.

**NEW WORDING:**

**4.02** *The number of Directors shall be **nine**. Each Director shall hold office until his or her successor shall have been elected and until the next annual meeting of the members. The newly constituted Board of Directors shall take office at the end of the annual business meeting provided for in Article 3.01.*

ARTICLE FIVE  
OFFICERS

Officers

**5.01** The officers of the corporation shall be a President, President-Elect, Past-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Managing Editor, Webmaster, Newsletter Editor, and four (4) Directors-at-Large, all twelve (12) of whom shall be members of and constitute the Board of Directors.

**NEW WORDING:**

**5.01.** *The officers of the corporation shall be a President, President-Elect, Past-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Managing Editor, and three (3) Directors-at-Large, all nine of whom shall be members of and constitute the Board of Directors.*

Election and Term of Office

**5.02** The officers of the corporation shall be appointed annually by the Board of Directors after the annual election of the Board of Directors, and after the newly constituted Board of Directors shall have taken office at the end of the annual business meeting. Further, the Board of Directors shall appoint officers to each office of the corporation as determined by the vote of the membership. Such vote by the membership shall be held in conjunction with the annual election of the Board of Directors. Except as stated in the Article 5.03, each officer shall hold office until his or her successor shall have been duly elected. The President, President-Elect, Past-President, and the Directors-at-Large shall not succeed themselves. The Secretary, Treasurer, Managing Editor and Webmaster may succeed themselves in office.

**NEW WORDING:**

**5.02** *The officers of the corporation shall be appointed annually by the Board of Directors after the annual election of the Board of Directors, and after the newly constituted Board of Directors shall have taken office at the end of the annual business meeting. Further, the Board of Directors shall appoint officers to each office of the corporation as determined by the vote of the membership. Such vote by the membership shall be held in conjunction with the annual election of the Board of Directors. Except as stated in the Article 5.03, each officer shall hold office until his or her successor shall have been duly elected. The President, President-Elect, Past-President and Directors-at-Large shall not succeed themselves. The Secretary, Treasurer, and Managing Editor may succeed themselves in office.*

**Articles 5.10 Webmaster and Article 5.11 Newsletter Editor will be deleted.**

Directors-at-Large

**5.12** The Board of Directors shall include four (4) Directors-at-Large who shall be elected for two (2) year terms with two (2) Directors-at-Large to be elected annually.

**NEW WORDING:**

**5.10** *The Board of Directors shall include three (3) Directors-at-Large who shall be elected for two (2) year terms. Two*

Directors-at-Large will consist of Individual members in good-standing each of whom shall serve a two-year term, and will be elected in alternating years. One Director-at-Large shall consist of a Student member in good standing, who shall be elected to a two (2) year term.

## ARTICLE SIX

### General

#### Permanent Committees

**6.06** The following committees are permanent committees established by these by-laws and are to be conducted within the following guidelines:

a. Nominating Committee

1. The Nomination Committee shall consist of five members in good standing who are not current corporation officers or officers of AASP Foundation.
2. The Nominating Committee and its chairman shall be appointed by the incoming Board during the annual meeting. Members of the Nominating Committee shall serve for one term.
3. Persons nominated by the Committee shall be contacted by telephone to determine:
  - a) That they are members in good standing. (Affirmative answers should be confirmed by the Secretary-Treasurer prior to candidate selection).
  - b) That they are willing to be nominated for a particular office, and that they will serve if selected and subsequently elected.
  - c) That they will be able to attend the mid-year and annual executive meetings during the tenure of their office.
4. Following his or her verbal acceptance, the nominee should be sent a form letter of acceptance to sign and return to the Chairman. The Nominating Committee Chairman is responsible for drafting, sending, and receiving these letters.
5. Candidates for each office should be selected from among the nominees by majority vote of the members of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee Chairman has the responsibility for informing each candidate of his or her selection and the office for which he or she is a candidate.
6. The list of candidates, their biographies, and their letters of acceptance constitute the final report of the Nominating Committee. The report must be sent to the Board of Directors by February 15 by the Secretary-Treasurer. Except for obvious errors, the report should be accepted by the Board of Directors without alteration. The Board of Directors will resolve any problems and present a ratified list to the President by March 1. Following presentation, a copy of the ratified report will be given to the Ballot Committee Chairman, who will have been selected from among the Directors-at-Large at the preceding annual meeting.
7. The final list of candidates may be augmented by petition, as provided for in Article 7.03 of the AASP by-laws.

- b. Ballot Committee - the Ballot Committee shall be appointed during the annual meeting by the incoming Board of Directors. The committee shall consist of one member of the Directors-at-Large as Chairman, and two other members in good standing. The Ballot Committee shall be charged with preparation, distribution, receiving and counting ballots cast in elections or other matters requiring a vote by the members. The Ballot Committee shall hold all ballots until the specified closing date, at which time ballots shall be opened and counted and the results reported to the Board of Directors through the Secretary-Treasurer. The President shall notify all candidates of the election results.

#### NEW WORDING:

**6.06** *The following committees are permanent committees established by these by-laws and are to be conducted within the following guidelines:*

a. Nominating Committee

1. *The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members in good standing, at least three of whom are not current corporation officers or officers of AASP Foundation.*
2. *The Nominating Committee and its chairman shall be appointed by the incoming Board during the*

*annual meeting. Members of the Nominating Committee shall serve for one term.*

3. *Persons nominated by the Committee shall be contacted by telephone or electronically to determine:
  - a. That they are members in good standing. (Affirmative answers should be confirmed by the Secretary and Treasurer prior to candidate selection).
  - b. *That they are willing to be nominated for a particular office, and that they will serve if selected and subsequently elected.*
  - c. *That they will be able to attend the mid-year and annual executive meetings during the tenure of their office, either in person or electronically.**
4. *Following his or her verbal acceptance, the nominee should be sent a form letter of acceptance to sign and return to the Chairman. The Nominating Committee Chairman is responsible for drafting, sending, and receiving these letters.*
5. *Candidates for each office should be selected from among the nominees by majority vote of the members of the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee Chairman has the responsibility for informing each candidate of his or her selection and the office for which he or she is a candidate.*
6. *The list of candidates, their biographies, and their letters of acceptance constitute the final report of the Nominating Committee. The report must be sent to the Board of Directors by February 15 by the Secretary. Except for obvious errors, the report should be accepted by the Board of Directors without alteration. The Board of Directors will resolve any problems and present a ratified list to the President by March 1. Following presentation, a copy of the ratified report will be given to the Ballot Committee Chairman, who will have been selected from among the Directors-at-Large or President-elect at the preceding annual meeting.*
7. *The final list of candidates may be augmented by petition, as provided for in Article 7.03 of the AASP by-laws.*

b. Ballot Committee - *the Ballot Committee shall be appointed during the annual meeting by the incoming Board of Directors. The committee shall consist of one member of the Directors-at-Large or the President-elect as Chairman, and one other member in good standing. The Ballot Committee shall be charged with preparation, distribution, receiving, and counting ballots cast in elections or other matters requiring a vote by the members. The Ballot Committee shall hold all ballots until the specified closing date, at which time ballots shall be opened and counted and the results communicated to the President and Secretary, then reported to the Board of Directors through the Secretary. The President shall notify all candidates of the election results.*

g. Branding and Web Presence Committee – *the Branding and Web Presence Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least once every five years to 1) review the security of the society's web presence (website, etc.) and oversee necessary changes, and 2) review the quality and value of the society's display & marketing materials. The committee shall consist of the webmaster, secretary, treasurer, and at least one additional society member at a minimum.*

#### Ex-Officio Board Members

**6.07** *The following are permanent non-voting, non-elected board member roles established by the by-laws and are to be conducted within the following guidelines.*

- a. *The Newsletter Editor. The Newsletter Editor shall be appointed and approved by the Board of Directors and will be under the guidance of the Secretary. The Newsletter Editor may be replaced upon their resignation or at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The Newsletter Editor shall be responsible for publishing the quarterly AASP Newsletter in a timely manner; and shall routinely distribute news and technical information of interest to the membership. He/She shall solicit pertinent material for publication in the Newsletter; and provide services as the Board of Directors may from time to time direct. The Newsletter editor may be invited to attend the annual board meetings by the Board of Directors.*
- b. *The Webmaster. The Webmaster shall be appointed and approved by the Board of Directors and will be under the guidance of both the Secretary and Treasurer. The Webmaster may be replaced upon their*

*resignation or at the discretion of the Board of Directors. The Webmaster shall be responsible for managing the AASP website. This includes 1) routinely distributing news and technical information among the membership through this electronic medium, including information about the Annual Meeting, Newsletter, Journal, and other publications, 2) facilitating collection of annual dues and other online payments, 3) facilitating the on-line membership database, 4) making routine updates to the content on the website, and 5) providing similar electronic services as the Board of Directors may from time to time direct. The Webmaster may be invited to attend the annual board meetings by the Board of Directors.*

## ARTICLE SEVEN

### NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Procedure

**7.01** The Nominating Committee shall propose no more than two (2) candidates for each Board membership. The Nominating Committee shall submit to the Secretary-Treasurer by February 15 of each year a list of nominees, together with a statement that all submitted nominees will accept the positions upon election. Not later than May 1, the names of candidates for the Board as submitted by the Nominating Committee shall be mailed or sent electronically to the membership. This communication may quote Article 7.02. (These dates assume a fall Annual Meeting. Deadlines stated in this Article may be altered as need be to meet Annual Meeting dates).

**7.02** Additional nominations may be made by any member in good standing by submitting a petition, signed by at least nine (9) other members in good standing, to the Secretary-Treasurer by June 15.

**7.03** The Ballot Committee shall arrange for the preparation and distribution of the ballots to members on or before July 1. Ballots returned to the Ballot Committee prior to the final closing date of August 15 shall be valid; abstaining votes and ballots received later than the closing date shall not be valid. A plurality vote shall be necessary and sufficient for election. In the event of a tie vote, a runoff election will be held. The Ballot Committee shall count all valid ballots and report the results to the Board of Directors through the Secretary-Treasurer.

#### ***NEW WORDING:***

**7.01** *The Nominating Committee shall propose no more than three (3) candidates for each Board membership position. The Nominating Committee shall submit to the Secretary by February 15 of each year a list of nominees, together with a statement that all submitted nominees will accept the positions upon election. Not later than May 1 the names of candidates for the Board as submitted by the Nominating Committee shall be mailed or sent electronically to the membership. This communication may quote Article 7.02. (These dates assume a fall Annual Meeting. Deadlines stated in this Article may be altered as need be to meet Annual Meeting dates).*

**7.02** *Additional nominations may be made by any member in good standing by submitting a petition, signed by at least nine (9) other members in good standing, to the Secretary by June 15.*

**7.03** *The Ballot Committee shall arrange for the preparation and distribution of the ballots to members on or before July 15. Ballots returned to the Ballot Committee prior to the final closing date of August 15 shall be valid; abstaining votes and ballots received later than the closing date shall not be valid. A plurality vote shall be necessary and sufficient for election. In the event of a tie vote, a runoff election will be held. The Ballot Committee shall count all valid ballots and report the results to the Board of Directors through the Secretary.*

## ARTICLE EIGHT

### CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS, AND FUNDS

#### Checks and Drafts

**8.02** All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the corporation shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents of the corporation and in such manner as set

forth in Article 5.06 of these by-laws or as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors. In the absence of such determined by the Board of Directors, such checks, drafts, or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the corporation shall be signed by the Secretary-Treasurer, and countersigned by the President or President-Elect of the corporation.

**NEW WORDING:**

*8.02 All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the corporation shall be signed by such officer or officers, agent or agents of the corporation and in such manner as set forth in Article 5.06 of these by-laws or as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Board of Directors. In the absence of such determined by the Board of Directors, such checks, drafts, or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the corporation shall be signed by the Treasurer, and countersigned by the President or President-Elect of the corporation where necessary.*

ARTICLE FOURTEEN  
AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

**14.01** Amendments to these by-laws may be proposed by the (1) Board of Directors or, (2) submitted to the Secretary-Treasurer by petition and signed by at least ten (10) members in good standing. The Board of Directors shall review each proposed amendment for clarity of meaning and to insure compatibility with other parts of the by-laws. Proposed amendments, if approved by the Board of Directors, and with the approval of the petitioners, shall (1) be submitted to the members together with a mail or electronic ballot which shall state a closing date for ballots to be received by the Ballot Committee, such date to be not less than forty-five (45) days after ballots are sent or, (2) the amendment(s) may be voted who have executed proxies in writing or by their duly authorized attorneys-in-fact as prescribed in Article 3.07 of these by-laws, and in either case shall be passed by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members voting. "Members" as used in this Article refers to members in good standing as defined in Article 2.08 of these by-laws.

Proposed by-law amendments shall be published in the AASP Newsletter at least six (6) months prior to being put to the membership for vote to insure that adequate time for discussion and communication with the By-laws Committee is available to the membership.

Ballots shall be returned to the Ballot Committee and counted and reported as provided for in these by-laws.

Results of voting on amendments to the by-laws shall be reported to the membership in a publication of the corporation.

**NEW WORDING:**

*14.01 Amendments to these by-laws may be proposed by the (1) Board of Directors or, (2) submitted to the Secretary by petition and signed by at least ten (10) members in good standing. The Board of Directors shall review each proposed amendment for clarity of meaning and to insure compatibility with other parts of the by-laws. Proposed amendments, if approved by the Board of Directors, and with the approval of the petitioners, shall (1) be submitted to the members together with a mail or electronic ballot which shall state a closing date for ballots to be received by the Ballot Committee, such date to be not less than thirty (30) days after ballots are sent or, (2) the amendment(s) may be voted who have executed proxies in writing or by their duly authorized attorneys-in-fact as prescribed in Article 3.07 of these by-laws, and in either case shall be passed by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members voting. "Members" as used in this Article refers to members in good standing as defined in Article 2.08 of these by-laws.*

*Proposed by-law amendments shall be published in the AASP Newsletter at least six (6) months prior to being put to the membership for vote to insure that adequate time for discussion and communication with the By-laws Committee is available to the membership.*

*Ballots shall be returned to the Ballot Committee and counted and reported as provided for in these by-laws.*

*Results of voting on amendments to the by-laws shall be reported to the membership in a publication of the corporation.*

# CONSIDER HELPING OUR MISSION

## AASP Foundation Century Club

### WHAT ?

The Century Club of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists Foundation is an organization founded by the Trustees of the Foundation in order to provide persons with the opportunity to support the publishing activities of the AASP Foundation.

### WHY ?

1. To develop an established level of giving that will continue to provide a solid financial base for the Foundation.
2. To provide unrestricted funds to support the various publishing activities of the Foundation.
3. To provide a meaningful organization and method of recognition of dedicated “friends” of the AASP Foundation.

### HOW ?

Your tax-deductible contribution of \$100 or more to the AASP Foundation entitles you to belong to the Century Club. The **2014** “membership” drive is on now. Your contribution may be made by personal check or by a pledge which is *payable on or before DECEMBER 2014*.

### JOIN !

To join the Century Club just complete the attached Contribution/Pledge Form and mail to the address listed below.

The AASP Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit, public organization. That means that contributions to the AASP Foundation are fully tax-deductible from your U.S. Federal income tax return. Also, many employers have a matching gift program whereby they match your personal gift to not-for-profit organizations. It is well worth the effort to explore this possibility concerning your gift to the AASP Foundation.

## 2014 AASP Foundation Century Club Contribution Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Robert T. Clarke, Treas.

AASP Foundation

725 Sam Hill St.

Irving, Texas 75062-7548

Contribution enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ I wish to pledge: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# OBITUARY - HANS GOCHT (1930–2014)

by James B. Riding<sup>1</sup>, Susanne Feist-Burkhardt<sup>2</sup>, Robert A. Fensome<sup>3</sup>, Ian C. Harding<sup>4</sup> and Jörg Pross<sup>5</sup>

It is with immense sadness that we report the passing of Dr. Hans Gocht of Tübingen, Germany, on Thursday 24 July 2014; he was 83 years old. Hans was one of the leading researchers on fossil dinoflagellate cysts and broke much new ground, especially in dinoflagellate cyst morphology, during an extremely distinguished research career of over 40 years. He was furthermore incredibly (almost to a fault!) modest, polite and unassuming.

Like that of his mentor, Alfred Eisenack, Hans' career path was not a smooth one, and he had several major obstacles to overcome that would have surely defeated most other individuals. His passing means that we have lost one of our last tangible links to the first generation of fossil dinoflagellate workers, notably Georges Deflandre and Eisenack.

Hans is survived by his wife Erika, and their two daughters, Irene and Marlene.

Hans Gocht was born on 16 December 1930 at Ilmenau, in Thuringia, central-eastern Germany. Unfortunately, his schooling coincided with World War II; Hans was only 8 when the hostilities began. When he left school in the *Deutsche Demokratische Republik* (DDR - the old East Germany), Hans had few formal qualifications and was not allowed to undertake higher education, probably because of the disruption caused by World War II. His first job was an apprentice

porcelain painter in Ilmenau starting during August 1945. Hans successfully completed his apprenticeship in 1948, and then worked as a fully-qualified craftsman for the following year until September 1949. Since his schooldays, Hans had a very strong affinity for the natural sciences. His mentor was the teacher and natural scientist Dr. Hans Weber, who also lived in Ilmenau. Hans followed his calling in the natural sciences

by moving to the Geological Survey (*Geologische Landesanstalt - GLA*, later called *Staatliche Geologische Kommission*) and Geological and Palaeontological Institute at the Humboldt University of Berlin in the *DDR*. He started on 1 October 1949 as a trainee cartographic tracer. This was Hans' first position related to the natural sciences, and



so began a career in geoscience which lasted the remainder of his working life. After two months training at the *GLA*, he worked as a tracer at the Geological and Palaeontological Institute at the Humboldt University until June 1950. He then moved back again to the *GLA*. It seems likely that this move within *GLA* was to a team concerned with palaeontology and/or stratigraphy, because he began to teach himself palynology. His first publication, a preliminary article on the Oligocene “hystrichospheres” (now known to be chorate dinoflagellate cysts) from northern Germany,

was published in 1952; this paper was clearly researched and written during his time at *GLA*. After resettling in the former West Germany during the spring of 1953, Hans began working for a German oil company, Erdöl-Gesellschaft Wintershall A.G., at Barnstorf in Lower Saxony. His first position there was as a sampler, collecting rock material at drill sites, between April 1953 and September 1955. He then became a laboratory technician and photographer in early October 1955, and did this job for the next five years. The majority of his duties comprised processing micropalaeontology samples. It is abundantly clear that Hans continued and developed his strong interest in marine palynology during his time as a technician at Barnstorf. It is entirely possible that he observed some of the larger Paleogene dinoflagellate cysts in the calcareous microfossil residues that he prepared. Hans published six papers during his tenure at Erdöl-Gesellschaft Wintershall A.G. While he was a sampler, he described two important Paleogene dinoflagellate cyst genera, *Dracodinium* and *Rhombodinium* in 1955. The remaining five papers were issued while he was a technician. It is remarkable that all this palynological research was achieved with a complete lack of formal training, in his leisure time, using his own resources and while working full time as a laboratory worker! Hans' hallmark, from the start, was the exemplary standard of his illustrations and photomicrographs. In particular, his line drawings set a new benchmark, and these drafting skills were undoubtedly honed during his job as a painter of items of porcelain in Ilmenau during the 1940s. In addition to his insightful morphological observations, the sheer artistry of Hans' illustrative materials significantly outshone that of many contemporary professional academics.

Alfred Eisenack, who was then a professor at the University of Tübingen, had known Hans for some time and was aware of his considerable talents and potential. Consequently, Eisenack

enthusiastically encouraged Hans to return to formal education. While working during the day at Erdöl-Gesellschaft Wintershall A.G., Hans undertook extremely demanding academic studies in the evenings and at weekends in order to obtain the *Sonderreifeprüfung* (special school graduation examination), which he achieved in 1959. The *Sonderreifeprüfung* is for gifted individuals, and is the equivalent of the regular university entrance diploma (*Reifeprüfung*). The *Sonderreifeprüfung* qualification enabled Hans to commence his university education and graduate research. Unfortunately the stress of full time work, together with his part time research and study, adversely affected Hans' health and he suffered the consequences of this for the rest of his (thankfully long) life.

Hans attended the Free University in Berlin in the American sector during 1960 in order to further position himself to be able to undertake a PhD. Then, between 1962 and 1968, he undertook his doctoral research under Eisenack at the University of Tübingen. Hans was awarded his very hard-earned PhD degree in February 1968. The subject of his research was the Paleocene to Oligocene dinoflagellate cysts from two boreholes at Meckelfeld, south of Hamburg in northwest Germany. As a pioneer of fossil dinoflagellate research, Eisenack passed on to Hans, amongst other things, his keen observational skills, tenacity and work ethic. When he obtained his PhD in 1968, Hans was offered a position at the Geology Department at the University of Tübingen. Naturally he accepted, and he remained in Tübingen for the remainder of his career. He had several job titles including research assistant, research fellow, curator and lecturer. Hans was an excellent teacher, and the undergraduates always looked forward to his engaging discourses on geology, sedimentology and other aspects of the natural sciences.

Hans worked on material from throughout the dinoflagellate fossil record. He published some

of the earliest papers on Jurassic dinoflagellate cysts, starting in the 1960s. In the first of these Jurassic papers, in 1964, he illustrated the cingular archaeopyle of *Nannoceratopsis* using the light microscope. It was to be another 16 years before this feature was rediscovered using the scanning electron microscope (SEM), and its significance realised. Other Jurassic research highlights include a beautifully-illustrated 1970 monograph on very well-preserved floras from concretions of earliest Bathonian age from northwest Germany, and a superbly perceptive article on *Nannoceratopsis* in 1972. The plates in the former work have justifiably been described as some of the most exquisite photomicrographs of dinoflagellate cysts that have ever been published. Further early work was on Lower Cretaceous assemblages, describing in two parts the taxonomy of material from northwest Germany in 1957 and 1959. Hans, like other workers of his generation, did not delve deeply into stratigraphical palynology, but he did include a range chart in the second part of this pair of papers, both of which were written when he was working in Barnstorf. Despite his interests in the Mesozoic, the majority of Hans' dinoflagellate cyst work was on the Paleogene. Perhaps his highest impact paper was a major 1969 monograph, which emanated from his PhD, on the Paleogene marine palynofloras of Meckelfeld. Other Paleogene highlights include papers on the genera *Chiropteridium*, *Cordosphaeridium*, *Thalassiphora* and *Pentadinium*. In the first of his three papers on *Thalassiphora* in 1968, Hans individually picked many specimens, and perceptively theorised that they may represent different ontogenetic stages in cyst development.

The previous paragraph does scant justice to the extensive breadth and scope of Hans' scientific work. Other research highlights on dinoflagellate cysts included: the identification of reflected flagellar marks in *Wetzeliella* (1967); deciphering the tabulation of the chorate cyst genus *Cordosphaeridium* (1969); insights into the preservation

of marine palynomorphs in flint (1970); an early interpretation of dinoflagellate cyst palaeoecology (1970); the tabulation and morphology of *Cribroperidium*, a genus characterised by prominent intratabular ridges that obscure the primary sutures (1979); the unravelling of plate overlap patterns (1981); and the first identification of chain-forming dinoflagellates (1985). Hans was also a co-author of the New Series of the "Eisenack Catalog" of fossil dinoflagellates; he contributed to four of these volumes between 1991 and 1996. He also researched modern thecate dinoflagellates, the morphological reflection of features of the dinoflagellate thecae onto the cyst, palynological preparation techniques, chlorophycean algae and ostracods. Despite his pre-eminence as a palynologist, and the recognition of his stature amongst his international peers, Hans was not commensurably rewarded by the University of Tübingen. He had to wait many years before obtaining a permanent position, and surprisingly he never attained the status of professor. It seems entirely possible that his over-modest personality held him back from promotion within the highly competitive German academic system.

Throughout his career, Hans was fascinated by the morphology and structure of dinoflagellate cysts, and was extremely analytical and meticulous in his approach to research. He was one of the first palynologists to use the SEM. Inevitably he became a close friend of Bill Evitt, and the two became arguably the principal fossil dinoflagellate experts of their generation. Evitt and Gocht first met during late October 1959 when Hans was still working in Barnstorf, and Bill was visiting Eisenack. Hans was a rather quiet, reserved, modest, softly-spoken and somewhat shy individual, and did not attend many conferences. However, together with his colleague Harald Netzel, Hans organised the highly successful Second Conference on Modern and Fossil Dinoflagellates in Tübingen in early September 1981.

Hans will long be remembered for his immense



generosity of spirit and for his willingness to exchange research ideas, demonstrating an enthusiasm and interest which was hugely encouraging, especially for junior palynologists who approached him for advice. He assiduously mentored several palynologists at Tübingen including Wolfram Brenner, Susanne Feist-Burkhardt, Gabi Ogg (*née* Dürr) and Jörg Pross, and worked closely with his colleague Wolfgang Wille. Hans also advised the German dinoflagellate cyst expert Raimond Below, who worked at the University of Bonn during the early part of his career. The esteem and respect of his peers for

Hans were reflected by the awarding of the Medal of Scientific Excellence by the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists (AASP) in 1996, and the compiling of a *Festschrift* in the *Neues Jahrbuch für Geologie und Paläontologie Abhandlungen* published in 2001 to celebrate his 70<sup>th</sup> birthday in December 2000. Hans retired in late December 1995 after 27 years working at the University of Tübingen. After retirement, he ceased his research in palynology, therefore had significantly more time to devote to his several hobbies which included research on the coins of the Roman Empire and black-and-white photography.

In summary Hans Gocht, despite never being well-resourced or rewarded by his various employers, became an international leader in research on fossil dinoflagellates. He described many important taxa, but will perhaps be best remembered for his extremely perceptive and meticulous work on the morphology of these intriguing and useful palynomorphs. For both his impeccable research canon of over 50 academic contributions, and for his very sweet nature, Hans will always be remembered as one of the true greats of palynology.

The authors are extremely grateful for advice and input from Gerd Dietl and Irene Gocht.

Authors' affiliations:

<sup>1</sup> British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5GG, UK

<sup>2</sup> SFB Geological Consulting and Services, Odenwaldstrasse 18, 64372 Ober-Ramstadt, Germany

<sup>3</sup> Natural Resources Canada, Geological Survey of Canada (Atlantic), Bedford Institute of Oceanography, P.O. Box 1006, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia B2Y 4A2, Canada

<sup>4</sup> Ocean and Earth Science, National Oceanography Centre, Southampton, University of Southampton, European Way, Southampton SO14 3ZH, UK.

<sup>5</sup> Institute of Earth Sciences, Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg, Im Neuenheimer Feld 234, D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany

Photograph above provided by Rob Fensome.



# شركة تنمية نفط عُمان

## Petroleum Development Oman

### Employment Opportunity - Senior Palynologist & Stratigrapher

Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) is the major exploration and production company in the Sultanate of Oman. It accounts for more than 70% of the country's crude oil production and nearly all its natural gas supply. The Company is owned by the Government of Oman (60%), the Shell Group (34%), Total (4%), and Partex (2%). An experienced Geologist with specialist skills in Palynology & Stratigraphy to join a talented team of Stratigraphers to provide advice and support to project and asset groups within the company.

The following qualifications, skills and experience are required:

- Applicant should have a relevant MSc/PhD qualification.
- Minimum eight years experience as geologist / stratigrapher / palynologist in an operating oil and gas company or consultancy company.
- Expert understanding of palynology methods, principles and applications.
- Ability to integrate subsurface stratigraphy data to derive frameworks, depositional models and correlations.
- Expertise in Palaeozoic palynology, systematics and taxonomy would be an advantage.
- Extensive laboratory palynology preparation experience and expertise and the ability to advise and demonstrate on the preparation of challenging sample material in the laboratory is required.
- Ability to mentor and coach junior palynologists.
- Innovative, able to manage demands and expectations from various groups.
- Able to work effectively across teams and within a multicultural environment.

Responsibilities for this role may include:

- Undertake detailed palynological microscopy analysis delivering high quality data and well-considered stratigraphic interpretations.
- Conduct specialist palynology studies as part of integrated projects and play a leading role in defining the scope and deliverables of such studies..
- Provide expert palynology input for production-related reservoir stratigraphy issues.
- Provide specialist support and advice to support drilling operations for key decision making such as casing, coring, well placement and TD determinations.
- Research and development of existing palynology zonation schemes.
- Supervise a state-of-the-art palynology laboratory and train laboratory staff in palynology sample processing techniques.
- Identify stratigraphic related problems and improvement opportunities and technologies.
- Maintain an effective communication with team members and presentation of findings.
- Mentor, coach and contribute to training of less experienced staff and academics.
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# CAREER OPPORTUNITY AT PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT OMAN



Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) is the major exploration and production company in the Sultanate of Oman. It accounts for more than 70% of the country's crude oil production and nearly all its natural gas supply. The Company is owned by the Government of Oman (60%), the Shell Group (34%), Total (4%), and Partex (2%). Gas fields and processing plants are operated by PDO exclusively on behalf of the Government.



## Position: **Palynologist / Stratigrapher**

**Qualifications:** University degree (B.Sc.) in geoscience and postgraduate degree (Ph.D./M.Sc.) in palynology.

**Experience:** Minimum eight years experience as geologist / stratigrapher / palynologist in an operating oil and gas company or consultancy company.

### Skills:

- Expert understanding of palynology methods, principles and applications.
- Ability to integrate subsurface stratigraphy data to derive frameworks, depositional models and correlations.
- Expertise in Palaeozoic palynology, systematics and taxonomy will be an advantage.
- Extensive laboratory palynology preparation experience and expertise, and the ability to advise and demonstrate on the preparation of challenging sample material in the laboratory is required.
- Ability to mentor and coach junior palynologists.

- Knowledge of Arabian plate regional geology will be an advantage.
- Innovative, able to manage demands and expectations from various stakeholders and accept diverse opinions.
- Excellent interpersonal skills are required to effectively work across teams, organisational boundaries and cultures.
- Demonstrate working in an environment in which there is not always enough data and no clear right or wrong answers.
- Practical skills with StrataBugs and Oilfield Data Manager software applications will be an advantage.

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PDO offers a competitive and comprehensive benefits package in line with other key operators in the region. Your contract will be a fixed term for a period of 4 years, with a possibility for renewal or extension.

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Shortlisted applicants shall be contacted within two weeks of their application.

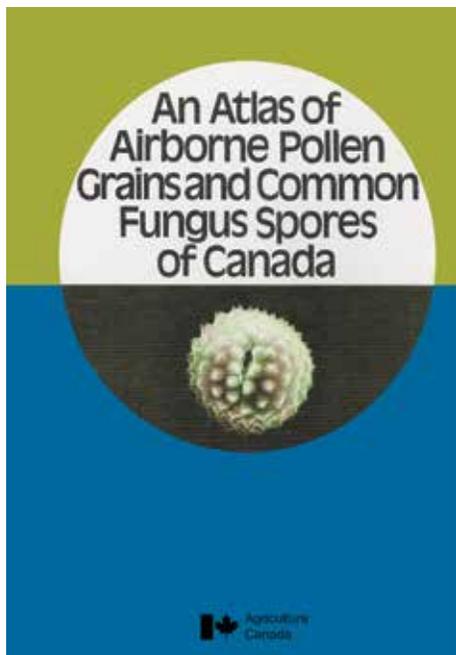
For further details on the above position, please visit our website at [www.pdo.co.om](http://www.pdo.co.om), select 'Working at PDO', and click on 'Apply for a Job'. You may also submit your CV to [asaad.aa.saifi@pdo.co.om](mailto:asaad.aa.saifi@pdo.co.om)

Application closes on 1 October 2014.



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The 1995 AASP Contributions Series No. 30, *Pollen of the Southeastern United States: with emphasis on Melissopalynology and Entomopalynology*, is again available in a limited printing. 184 pages, 616 individual SEM photos; spiral bound. The publication may be ordered through the AASP secure website listed above. Publication cost is \$30.00. Shipping costs: to a U.S. address by Media Mail is \$4.00; shipping costs to a **non-U.S.** address is \$13.00.

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# CONFERENCES

## 4<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL PALAEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

The history of life:  
A view from the Southern Hemisphere



September 28 - October 3, 2014  
MENDOZA, ARGENTINA



X



AASP-The Palynological Society 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
Participation in the  
4<sup>th</sup> International Palaeontological Congress Mendoza,  
Argentina

Contributors



GO TO:

<http://www.ipc4mendoza2014.org.ar/aasp/>  
FOR ALL DETAILS!

## 4<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL PALAEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

The history of life:  
A view from the Southern Hemisphere



September 28 - October 3, 2014  
MENDOZA, ARGENTINA





## Planning for the AASP-TPS Annual Meeting Mendoza, Argentina      Sept. 28 – Oct. 4, 2013

### **Board Meetings**

Outgoing Board Meeting: Monday, September 29th Sheraton Hotel (8-10 people)	7:30 – 9:00PM
Business Meeting (and Social Evening): Tuesday, September 30th Hotel Huentala, Kitek Cava Wine Cellar Wine and Finger-food Cost: US\$50/person (separate ticketed event): Students FREE	7:30 – 10:00PM
Incoming Board Meeting: Friday, October 3rd Sheraton Hotel (8-10 people)	7:00 – 8:00PM

### **Other Social (AASP-TPS-related) Events**

IPC4 Icebreaker: Sunday, September 28th Sheraton Hotel Foyer and Bar	7:00PM
Gala Reception and Dinner: Thursday, October 2nd Bodega Septima (Maipu) (Price being negotiated)	7:00PM
Argentinian Asado Dinner: Friday, October 3rd (after Incoming Board Meeting) Bodegas Familia Zuccardi, Maipu Cost: US\$95/person including transportation (separate ticketed event)	8:30PM
Wine Tour to Valle de Uco (South): Saturday, October 4th Andeluna Cellars, Bodegas Salentein (w/ lunch), Bodegas Domaine Bousquet Cost: US\$125/person including transportation (separate ticketed event)	8:30AM – 5:30PM

### **Technical Sessions and Abstract Submissions (deadline was May 15)**

AASP-TPS members attending the Congress and planning on presenting a paper are strongly encouraged to submit their Abstract to one of the proposed Symposia. Palynology-oriented abstracts will be reviewed by Drs. Mercedes Pramparo and Thomas Demchuk for placement into a proposed Symposium.

General palynology abstracts will be placed in a full-day General Palynology Theme Session sponsored by AASP-TPS. Four Keynote speakers have been identified (and will be invited) to give presentations of 45 minutes each (one to open each of the morning and afternoon sessions, and two to immediately follow mid-session coffee breaks). Other general oral presentations will be chosen from the abstract submissions to fill the remaining available 20 minute time slots. Other abstracts will be chosen for poster session only. Keynote Speakers identified include (but are not limited to): Paul Strother (early Paleozoic), Mike Stephenson (late Paleozoic) and Jim Riding (southern hemisphere Mesozoic).

The on-line Abstract submission form will be available through the IPC4 website by end-January. All invited and voluntary submissions will be conducted through the IPC4 website. An additional check-box on the Abstract submission form will identify your Abstract as palynology themed, for further review by Drs. Pramparo and Demchuk for placement into a proposed Symposium, or into the General Palynology session (oral or poster).

### **IPC4 Icebreaker: Sunday, October 28th**

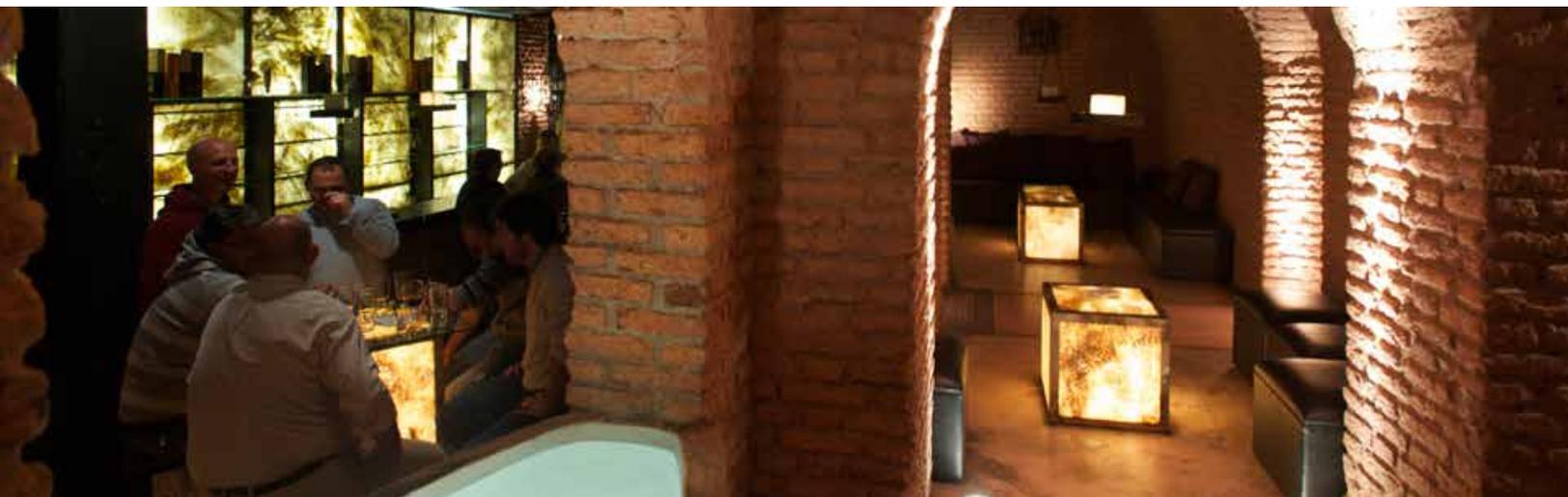
The Icebreaker will be held in the main foyer/bar area of the Sheraton Hotel immediately following the Opening Ceremonies on the evening of Sunday, September 28th. This event is part of the normal registration fee and is open to all Congress attendees.



The Entrance and Main Lobby of the Mendoza Sheraton Hotel, host for the IPC4 Congress

### **AASP-TPS Social Evening (and Business Meeting): Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**

Instead of the formal AASP-TPS Business Luncheon, a less formal Social Evening will bring together AASP-TPS members and guests for an evening of Mendoza wine-tasting and local Argentinian flavors. This event will be held in the Kitek Cava Wine Cellar in Hotel Huentala on the evening of Tuesday, September 30th. The wine-tasting will commence at 7:30PM, with the formal AASP-TPS Business Meeting to take place shortly thereafter. Formal presentations will be given by the AASP-TPS Secretary-Treasurer, Managing Editor, and the AASP Foundation. Awards will be presented to deserving AASP-TPS members, followed by the traditional passing of the gavel from the current President to the President-Elect. Following a short speech by the incoming President, the evening will continue with additional wine and local Mendocino flavors (e.g. empenadas, tartalettas, canapes). The cost for this event will be US\$50/person and will include all wine and food. This event will be ticketed separately and must be purchased through AASP-TPS.



The Kitek Cava Wine Cellar, Hotel Huentala: Proposed site for the AASP-TPS Social Evening and Business Meeting

**IPC4 Gala Reception and Dinner: Thursday, October 2nd**

AASP-TPS attendees are encouraged to participate in the Gala Reception and Dinner that will be held at Bodegas Septima in Maipu (just outside Mendoza). The winery will serve as a great site to watch the sun setting slowly behind the Andes while enjoying some great local wine. Entertainment will be presented in the form of a Tango dancing exhibition and live music, and local Folklorico. This event will be ticketed separately and will need to be purchased at the time of IPC4 registration. Exact price for this event is currently being negotiated but is expected to be approx. US\$80/person.

Bodegas Septima, Maipu, Mendoza Province: Site of the Gala Reception and Congress Dinner



Bodegas Septima, Maipu, Mendoza Province: Site of the Gala Reception and Congress Dinner

**AASP-TPS Argentinian Asado/Evening Dinner: Friday, October 3rd**

To truly appreciate and enjoy the Argentinian culture, an Argentinian Asado (Argentinian BBQ) dinner will be held on the Friday evening following the Incoming Board Meeting. This function would be held at one of Mendoza’s most famous and historic Bodegas, FamiliaZuccardi. This Bodega specializes in serving an authentic Argentinian Asado beginning with appetizers (empanadas), through to various cuts of beef perfectly prepared on the hardwood parilla (bbq grill). Of course there will be excellent Zuccardi wines to enjoy with the great food. A bus will be provided to transport participants from the Congress center to the FamiliaZuccardi vineyard which is located in Maipu, approximately 40km outside of Mendoza. The costs for this event will be US\$95/person and will include all wine, food and transportation to/from the Sheraton Hotel. This event will be ticketed separately and must be purchased through AASP-TPS.



Bodegas Familia Zuccardi, Maipu, Mendoza Province



Bodegas Familia Zuccardi, Dining Room

**Valle de Uco Wine Tour: Saturday, October 4th**

A special wine tour will be scheduled for AASP-TPS participants, to the southern wine growing region of Valle de Uco. This area is famous for high-quality wines owing to the high altitude and unique growing conditions. The current itinerary is to visit three vineyards: Angelina Cellars, Bodegas Salentein (lunch), and Bodegas Domaine Bousquet. The fieldtrip will leave Mendoza at approximately 8:30AM Saturday morning, and will travel to Valle de Uco along the foothills of the Andean Cordillera to gain an overview of the local geology. The return trip will be through the historic city of Tupungato. We expect to arrive back in Mendoza no later than 5:30PM. The cost for this event will be US\$125/person including transportation, wine tastings, and lunch. This event will be ticketed separately and must be purchased through AASP-TPS.



**The 47<sup>th</sup> AASP-TPS Annual Meeting Mendoza, Argentina Sept. 28-Oct. 4, 2014**

**REGISTRATION/PAYMENT FORM FOR AASP-TPS SPONSORED EVENTS**

**1. BUSINESS MEETING and SOCIAL EVENING**

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2014 7:30 – 10:00PM

HOTEL HUENTALA, KITEK CAVA WINE CELLAR

COST: US\$50/Person

Number of People to Attend @ US\$50/person \_\_\_\_\_ = US\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**2. ARGENTINIAN ASADO DINNER**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2014 8:30PM

BODEGAS FAMILIA ZUCCARDI, MAIPU

COST: US\$95/Person (includes transportation)

Number of People to Attend @ US\$95/person \_\_\_\_\_ = US\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**3. WINE TOUR TO VALLE DE UCO**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2014 8:30AM – 5:30PM

COST: US\$125/Person (including transportation, wine-tastings, lunch)

Number of People to Attend @ US\$125/person \_\_\_\_\_ = US\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE BILLED:** US\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Billing Information:**

Name on Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiry Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please fax this form with payment information to Thomas D. Demchuk at (832) 413-5161**

This is a secure fax site. Your credit card information is safe. Please let me know if you have any questions at [tdemchuk@swbell.net](mailto:tdemchuk@swbell.net)



# DINO11: Bordeaux it is!!!

## UPCOMING DINO11th in Bordeaux, France

The upcoming Dino11th meeting will be held in Bordeaux in 2017. After Tübingen, Egham, Zeist, Trondheim, and Liverpool, this town will thus be the 6th European metropolis (since 1978) to welcome dinoflagellate specialists from both the modern and fossil realms. Apart from its famous vineyards, Bordeaux is a strategic paleo(environmental) center with rapid access to internationally referenced geological sites (Aquitainian and Burdigalian strato-types, Campanian/Maastrichtian GSSP, K/T boundary, Quercy phosphorites, dinosaur tracks), and to aquatic ecosystems of exceptional interest (Bay of Arcachon, Gironde estuary, Bay of Biscay, Aquitain lakes...)

Collegially co-opted by the french “Dinos” community (see involved people below), and with the support of the APLF (Association des palynologues de langue française), the host will be the EPOC laboratory from Bordeaux University. This lab (<http://www.epoc.u-bordeaux.fr/index.php?lang=en&page=accueil>) mixes micropaleontological and biological approaches to study modern and past environment evolution throughout times.

**Involved people from the EPOC group (local organization):** Frédérique Eynaud, Laurent Londeix (paleoclimatology team/ biostratigraphy and paleobiodiversity) & Yolanda Del Amo (Ecology and Biogeochemistry of Coastal Systems) with the help of Marie-Hélène Castera, Linda Rossignol & Jean-Louis Turon.

### French partners:

- UMR CNRS/MNHN/UPMC 7207 Centre de recherche sur la paléobiodiversité et les paléoenvironnements, Université Pierre et Marie Curie (Edwige Masure)
- CNRS UMR 8217 Géosystèmes, Université Lille 1, UFR des Sciences de la Terre, 59655 Villeneuve D’Ascq cedex (Thomas Servais),
- Laboratoire Domaines Océaniques (LDO), IUEM, Place Nicolas Copernic, Technopôle Brest-Iroise, Université de Bretagne Occidentale, 29280 Plouzané (Aurélie Penaud),
- ECOSYM « Ecology of Marine Coastal Systems » Laboratory - UMR CNRS Montpellier II University, CC 093 – Place E. Bataillon – 34095 Montpellier cedex 05 (Mohamed Laabir),
- Observatoire Océanologique de Villefranche sur mer, Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Laboratoire d’Océanographie de Villefranche, CNRS UMR 7093 -BP 28, 06234 Villefranche-sur-mer –France (Rodolphe Lemée).

Frédérique Eynaud, Laurent Londeix



# RCMNS Interim Colloquium

Regional Committee on Mediterranean Neogene Stratigraphy



25-28 September 2014  
Torino, Italy

www.rcmns-turin2014.unito.it

## The Mediterranean Messinian salinity crisis: from geology to geobiology

### Scientific Topics

- Geobiology of the Messinian salinity crisis
- Badenian and Messinian salinity crises
- Lago Mare
- Tectonic, sedimentary and biological evolution of the Mediterranean during the Late Neogene
- Terrestrial systems

### Organizing Committee

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Francesca LOZAR, Torino University  
Marcello NATALICCO-IO, Torino University  
Pierangelo CLARI, Torino University  
Donato VIOLANTI, Torino University

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Marco ROVERI (Italy)  
Francesco J. SERRO (Spain)  
Marius STOICA (Romania)  
Jean-Pierre SUK (France)  
Lies VAN DEN HOEK-OSTENDE (The Netherlands)

**Venue**  
Natural Science Museum

The Mediterranean is a semi-enclosed basin, characterized by reduced exchanges with the open ocean, that is very sensitive to climate changes.

During the Messinian salinity crisis (MSC) (5.97 - 5.33 Ma), climate oscillations of different amplitude and periodicity were responsible for cyclic modifications of the hydrological budget of the basin, leading to the onset of extreme environmental conditions, both hypersaline and anoxic, in which only extremophile microbial communities were able to survive. This makes the MSC sedimentary record a natural laboratory for the investigation of the mutual relationships between short- and long-term climate changes and microbial activity in the geological past.

This Interim Colloquium will focus on the MSC sedimentary record, with emphasis on climate-microbes feedback during evaporite deposition.

Contributions from scientists interested on climate, biologic and geologic evolution of terrestrial and marine environments in the Mediterranean and Paratethys during the Late Neogene are welcome.

A two day post-congress field trip, focused on the Messinian succession of the Piedmont Basin, is planned.



Looking forward  
to see you in  
Torino!



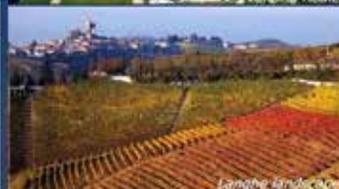
Turin city



S. Carlo Square



La Reggia di Venaria Reale



Langhe landscape



Selection of Piedmont wines

A dedicated workshop will be organized in Torino before the RCMNS Interim Colloquium:

## Morphology and Taxonomy of Lago-Mare dinocysts

[as a tool for the reconstruction of 1) paleoenvironmental changes in the Mediterranean area; 2) Atlantic-Mediterranean-Paratethys connections; 3) high resolution stratigraphic frame during the latest Messinian: see [Lago-Mare Session](#)]

Dinoflagellates are sensitive to environmental changes and their cyst morphologies may vary in response to environmental stress. Lago-Mare sediments are characterized by peculiar dinocyst assemblages including taxa showing Paratethyan affinities. Significant changes in the main hydrological parameters during the latest Messinian before the re-establishment of thalassocratic conditions at the beginning of the Zanclean, induced morphological variations in dinocyst which represents a complication for standard taxonomical applications.

The workshop will be focusing on "problematic" Lago-Mare dinocysts in order to provide for the distinguishably different morphotypes:

- morphological descriptions and iconographic documentation
- geographical and stratigraphical distributions.

**Participants are encouraged to bring their own material for inspection under the microscope and for comparison and discussion. The participation and contributions of colleagues working on recent materials of Asian seas is highly appreciated.**

The participants to the workshop will be asked to contribute to a special publication/issue planned by the end of 2015.

Registration to workshop please contact: [adele.bertini@unifi.it](mailto:adele.bertini@unifi.it)

WORKSHOP venue: Department of Earth Sciences, via Valperga Caluso 35 - Torino

Schedule: September 24, 2:00-6:00 pm

# GSA 2014



19-22 October | Vancouver, BC, Canada

The Canadian Association of Palynologists (CAP) is sponsoring Topical Session T108: "Palynology in Geoarchaeological and Environmental Studies" at the Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America to be held October 19 - 22, 2014 in Vancouver, British Columbia). It is being co-sponsored by both AASP- The Palynological Society and PS- The Paleontological Society, so I am hoping to see a diverse slate of speakers and audience, which the very broad scope of the session was intended to capture examining the application of pollen and non-pollen palynomorph analysis to archaeological and environmental issues.

The latter including topics as varied as natural hazard prediction through anthropogenic impact assessment.

Hope to see you at our session in Vancouver- the abstracts deadline is 11:59 p.m., Pacific Time, 29 July 2014 and the abstracts submission form is now "live" and can be found at <http://community.geosociety.org/gsa2014/science/sessions>.

Francine McCarthy, President, Canadian Association of Palynologists

## Eastern UNCONVENTIONAL OIL & GAS Symposium 2014

The Eastern Unconventional Oil & Gas Symposium: EUOGS will address a broad range of upstream and downstream issues related to energy production from emerging resources. The Kentucky Geological Survey and Center for Applied Energy Research at the University of Kentucky are joining together to initiate an annual Eastern Unconventional Oil & Gas Symposium to be held November 5-7, 2014. Unconventional Oil & Gas relies on expertise from a number of disciplines, including:

- Upstream Side: horizontal drilling, fracture stimulation, regulations, water issues, pipelines, induced seismicity, geology, and related topics.

- Downstream Side: impacted by issues with regulated utilities, natural gas vehicles, sustainability, environmental impacts, and other focus areas.

Submitted Abstracts (1 to 2 pages) are due AUGUST 15, 2014.

The meeting will be held in Lexington, Kentucky at

the Hilton Lexington Hotel. It will open with a plenary session on Wednesday, November 5. There will be technical sessions on Thursday morning and afternoon as well as on Friday morning.

We are targeting an audience from, but not limited to, the oil and gas producing areas of the states in the northeast comprising the Appalachian, Illinois, and Michigan Basins. We are inviting you to save these dates, November 5 to 7, 2014, and consider joining us as a speaker for our technical sessions.

CALL FOR PAPERS – DUE August 15, 2014

More information can be found on the symposium website: <http://www.euogs.org/>

EUOGS Organized and Hosted by:

The University of Kentucky - Kentucky Geological Survey - <http://www.uky.edu/KGS/> and the University of Kentucky - Center for Applied Energy Research – <http://www.caer.uky.edu>





**The 2015 AASP Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America, Nov. 1-4 2015, in Baltimore, Maryland, USA. Local Chairman is Pete McLaughlin. AASP members are asked to please give thought to special sessions that they might be interested in organizing. Expect more details in the November Newsletter.**

**Thanks!**

**Peter P. McLaughlin, Jr., Ph.D., P.G.**

**Senior Scientist**

**Delaware Geological Survey, University of Delaware**

**DGS Building, 257 Academy Street**

**Newark, DE 19716-7501**

**email: ppmclau@udel.edu -- phone: 302-831-8263 -- fax: 302-831-3579**

**home page: <http://www.dgs.udel.edu/profile/peter-p-mclaughlin>**

## **BOOK REVIEWER NEEDED!!!!**

After 28 years as Book Review Editor, Reed Wicander is stepping down from this position and a new Book Review Editor needs to be found. The job entails requesting from the publishers review copies of books that the membership might be interested in, finding appropriate reviewers and sending them the review books, and finally sending the reviews in to the Newsletter Editor for inclusion in the Newsletter. Review copies of books are frequently sent to the Book Review Editor by the publisher, but if an AASP member is interested in reviewing a book, he/she needs only contact the Book Review Editor, who will then send off an official request to the publisher. After the book review is published, the Book Review Editor then sends a 'thank you' and copy of the review to the publisher. Reed will be glad to send whoever takes over this position his standard request form and 'thank you' letter. Reviewers get to keep the book that they review.