

A.A.S.P. NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly by the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists Inc.

December 2001 Volume 34, Number 4

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A.A.S.P.

American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists Inc.

The American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, Inc. - AASP - 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 800 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 (annually), 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)

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 Aureal T. Cross (elected 1991)

AASP Board of Directors Award recipient

Dr. Robert T. Clarke (awarded 1994)

Teaching medal recipients

Professor Aureal T. Cross (awarded 1999)

Professor Alfred Traverse (awarded 2001)

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)

Awards at each Annual Meeting: Best Student Paper Award, and Best Poster Award.

AASP Student Scholarships may be awarded annually to three students in the amount of US\$1500. The qualification of the student, the originality and imagination evident in the proposed project, and the likelihood of significant contribution to the science of palynology are factors that will be weighed in selection of award winners. Previous winners of this award are eligible only if they are pursuing a different degree than the one they were pursuing when they received the previous award. AASP Scholarships are available to all students of palynology in all countries and need not be members of AASP. Application forms appear in the January issue of the AASP Newsletter, are available from the Chairman of the AASP Awards Committee (Fred Rich (frich@gasou.edu)), or can be downloaded from our website at http://www.palynology.org/content/scholar.html.

AASP Membership categories and dues (in US\$ per year) are as follows:

Individual (\$45.00), Student (\$30.00), Retired (\$15.00), and Institutional (\$70.00). Dues may be paid up to three years in advance by using credit card (MasterCard, Visa, American Express), check or money order (made payable to AASP Inc.), and must be sent to the Secretary-Treasurer. All members receive the AASP Newsletter (mailed quarterly by hard copy or via email), Membership Directory (mailed annually), and (with the exception of Retired members) the journal *Palynology* that is published annually. Overseas members can receive their Newsletter and *Palynology* by airmail, rather than book rate surface mail; an additional surcharge is required in the amount of US\$12.00 for Europe & South America, and US15.00 for Africa, Asia & the Pacific region (includes Australia and New Zealand).



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December 2001 ISSN 0732-6041 Volume 34, Number 4
Marloes Kloosterboer van Hoeve, Editor

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The AASP 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 in the industry. Every effort will be made to publish all information received from our membership. Contributions which include photographs should be submitted a week before the deadline. Deadlines for next issues of the newsletter, are March 1, 2002 and June 1, 2002. All information should be sent on computer disks (prefarably Word-Perfect) or 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.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE

by David Pocknall 30 November 2001

Under normal circumstances you would be reading the address delivered by the incoming President at the annual business luncheon at the AASP meeting. This is not the case this year because David Jarzen who was the President-Elect had to resign from the position for personal health reasons. David notified me back in August of his decision and in the period leading up to the annual meeting we, the Board of Directors, looked at many options but eventually determined that the President and Past-Presidents would remain in the position for an additional year. So you are stuck with Fred Rich and me until September 2002! It is of course a pleasure to serve in our capacities for another year although not under such circumstances. I am sure you will join with me in wishing David a speedy recovery and hope he will consider standing again for the Board of Directors.

Since our last newsletter we have endured the tragedies of September 11. I want to thank the palynological societies who sent their best wishes to our membership, as well as all the individuals who expressed their condolences, shock, and outrage over the acts of terrorism directed at the United States. Occurring when it did made us wonder whether we should consider postponing the annual meeting in San Antonio which would have been a first as far as I can tell. Undaunted we proceeded with our planning and celebrated with almost 70 other palvnologists our science, our research, and more than anything our friendship. The city of San Antonio was ideally suited as a location but the participation from all four corners of the earth made this extra special this time around. I would like give a special thanks to those members who made the trek from far away as I know for some of you the anguish you went through in reaching the decision the travel. Next year's meeting will be in London in September and I look forward to a similar level of involvement.

The outgoing board meeting ran well past midnight and for very good reason. Over the past few years our costs have increased and our income from dues has decreased. We publish 4 newsletters per year and the journal Palynology, the costs for which have remained static for many years. This has been largely as a result of the dedication and Herculean efforts of Bob Clarke and the Managing Editor's over the years. Since the inception of AASP, the cost of mailing the newsletter has largely been picked up by industrial sponsorship, but this is no longer the case - we are paying

for it. Many of you receive the newsletter by email now. which is great, and I encourage as many of you as possible to choose this mailing option. Additional costs have been incurred because we increased the allowance the association provides to board members to attend board meetings; this has been essential to get members to stand for the board, as most are reluctant to use shrinking grant funds to subsidize AASP activities, and some companies are not in a position to provide the financial support they have in the past. We have also increased our grants to students that are in line with the mission of AASP to encourage greater participation at the postgraduate level, thereby perpetuating our science. Combine all of these increases with a decline in membership as we tidy up the delinquency in our membership list and the net result is that it is costing up between \$41-42 per year to cover costs. So we have introduced a tiered membership consisting of the following (with rates in US\$ and effective immediately): Institutional Member (\$70, up from \$40)

Individual Member (\$45, up from \$30)

Student Member (\$30, will receive all the privileges of the individual member)

Retired Member (\$15, remains the same as before)

The 2003 meeting will be held in St Catharines, Ontario. We had to decide between St Catharines and Regina, Saskatchewan - both were very strong proposals and I thank both Francine McCarthy and Art Sweet and their teams for putting them together. It is not often we have more than one proposal. As I mentioned the 2002 meeting will be held in London and planning is well advanced. Look for more information about the meeting in upcoming newsletters.

At the business luncheon Al Traverse received the AASP Medal of Excellence in Education, It was prefaced by words (of wisdom!) from three of Al's Penn State graduates. The text of Al's acceptance will appear in the next issue of Palynology, although reading it will not be as good as seeing it in person. Congratulations Al on a well deserved award. I also had the pleasure of honoring two outgoing Directors-at-Large, Sharma Gaponoff and Jim Riding. On behalf of the membership I thank them for their efforts, although Jim doesn't seem to have had enough and remains on the board as President-Elect! The remaining members of your board for 2002 in addition to Fred Rich (Past-President) and me are Thomas Demchuk (Secretary-Treasurer), Owen Davis (Managing Editor), and Directors-at-Large Tom Davies, Merrell Miller, Peta Mudie, and Carlos Jaramillo.

Ken Piel presented a report on CENEX at the business luncheon. As a mark of respect to Paul Wesendunk and his generous donation we have proposed that the palynological processing laboratory at CENEX be known as the "Paul Wesendunk Memorial Laboratory". Since the last time I reported on CENEX we have received agreement from LSU to create an endowed professorship at the \$200,000 level and an endowed chair at the \$600,000 level. We are very close to meeting our financial goals that will mean we can apply for matching funds

from the LSU Board of Regents and begin the process of filling the chair. This will be the culmination of over a decade of fund raising; it will be worth it to eventually have two positions at a university within the United States where palynology will be taught in perpetuity.

Sadly during the year we lost three of our long-standing members of AASP. Jim Morgan, Jake Gerhard, and Harold Kaska will be remembered by many for their contributions and commitment to our science of palynology. I have also heard that Satish Srivastava has been in poor health and offer him a speedy recovery.

A very merry Christmas and a happy and palynologically prosperous 2002. I hope to meet many of you during the course of next year. It has been a pleasure serving one year as President and I look forward to serving in this capacity for an additional year.

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT As presented to the General AASP Membership, San Antonio, Texas October 24th, 2001

by Thomas D. Demchuk, AASP Secretary-Treasurer

It is my pleasure to present to the AASP membership, a summary of the Secretary-Treasurer's report as given at the Business Luncheon at the recent meeting in San Antonio.

Secretary's Report

As of October 13th, 2001, the membership total for AASP was 714. This includes 586 individual members, 13 retired, and 115 institutional members. This is down from a total of 736 presented last year in Reno. The major decrease in membership was a result of the removal of 52 members from the membership roll because of non-payment of dues since 1998. However, this decrease was offset by a number of new members and reinstatements.

Of immediate significance, is the fact that 42 members have not paid their membership dues since 1999, and a further 98 have not paid since the year 2000. As a result of discussion at the Board of Director's meeting and upholding of the by-laws, this is the last newsletter these 140 members will receive. Names are listed elsewhere in this newsletter. If you are on one of these lists, your continued membership in the Association is truly appreciated. Please remit your membership dues to the Secretary-Treasurer. Instead of future newsletters. members who owe back dues will only receive a simple dues notice. Also, 299 members had their dues expire at the end of year 2001. By now, everyone should have received their yearly "pink sheet", the membership renewal/dues notice. Please look closely at the address label, and submit changes/updates along with payment to the Secretary-Treasurer.

Finally, 67 members currently receive the newsletter electronically. All members are urged (if possible) to receive the newsletter in this format, or download from the AASP website. This greatly reduces postage and other associated newsletter costs.

Treasurer's Report

Increasing expenses and downturn in the US economy have had a significant negative impact on the AASP bank accounts. Current assets of the Association stand at approximately \$64,000, which is down from over \$90,000 at the same time last year. Much of this is losses associated with the US stock market: the recession in the United States as well as the events of September 11th have had a very bad effect on the market, and this has seriously depleted our investments. Approximately half of AASP's current assets are allocated within mutual funds.

Additionally, increased postage costs as well as other expenditures have impacted our general accounts. Details are presented within David Pocknall's President's message, but items such as postage (now paid by the Association), increased travel budgets for Board members, and increased Scholarship awards have resulted in more money being spent than is being brought in. Current operating costs for the Association are over \$30,000 per year, and since membership dues are the only means of income for the Association, the Board has decided to increase dues for both individual and institutional members for the year 2002, effective immediately. The new rates were presented on your pink renewal form but in summary are; \$45/year for individual members, \$70/year for institutions, \$30/ year for students, and \$15/year for retired members. This is the first dues increase in over 10 years, but a necessary one to ensure the viability and health of our Association.

If anyone should have any questions concerning the membership numbers and/or bank accounts, I would be happy to answer any questions. Please contact the Secretary-Treasurer at tdemchuk@swbell.net. I look forward to serving the AASP membership for another year.

Respectfully submitted, Thomas D. Demchuk AASP Secretary-Treasurer



AASP Secretary-Treasurer Thomas Demchuk, enjoying the Icebreaker with his wife Marta.

WRAP-UP OF THE 34th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, October 21-24, 2001, Menger Hotel, San Antonio, Texas by Thomas Demchuk, AASP Secretary-Treasurer, San Antono Meeting Chair

San Antonio and Texas hospitality served as this year's backdrop to the annual AASP meeting. 65 people from all corners of the world attended the meeting and drank in the comfort of the Menger Hotel in downtown San Antonio, just steps away from the historic Alamo. The weather was perfect for everyone to thoroughly enjoy one of Texas' and the United States favorite convention localities.

The meeting started on Sunday evening, October 21st with registration in the lobby, followed by the Icebreaker. A Tex-Mex flavor to the festivities provided lots of good food and drinks and the first opportunity to renew old friendships. Monday bright and early, the technical sessions began with a full-day of presentations on new techniques and applications of palynology. Several excellent papers illustrated the variation and diversity of our palynological sciences. Monday evening was the time for the outgoing Board of Directors meeting, which eventually ran into Tuesday morning; not a record, but a lengthy and fruitful meeting nonetheless. Several important topics were discussed, and several difficult decisions were made. See David's Presidential Address, elsewhere in this newsletter for some of the details. The only negative part of the lengthy Board meeting, was the closure of the hotel tavern postponing a well-deserved and needed nightcap.

Tuesday saw the start of the symposium on South and Central American Palynology, convened by David Pocknall. All the presentations were first-class, with several visitors and presenters from South and Central America in attendance. Tuesday evening was relaxed, with the social evening at the Republic of Texas Bar and Restaurant on the RiverWalk. Munchies were provided and quickly inhaled, and margaritas and Lonestar beer flowed. A great time was had by everyone. Several small groups then continued the merriment at other nearby establishments on the RiverWalk.

Wednesday AM started the technical session on stratigraphic application of palynology. The morning papers were excellent, with stratigraphic discussions on everything from Cambrian to Tertiary. Following the morning session, the group gathered on the east steps of the Hotel for the appropriate group picture taken by Vaughn Byrant and Bob Clarke. You can see copies of the picture on the AASP website.



Outgoing and Incoming President David Pocknall gives a hug to outgoing Director-at-Large for her two years of service to the Association.

Immediately following the group photo, the attendees sat down for the Business Luncheon. After presentation of the various reports. President David Pocknall thanked outgoing Director-at-Large Sharma Gapanoff for her service to the Board, and also thanked Jim Riding for his term as Director-at-Large and immediately welcomed him back to the Board as President-Elect. Both Board members received their plaques in commemoration of service to the Association. An unfortunate announcement followed in which the membership was informed that President-Elect David Jarzen made the decision to resign his position on the Board. We all wish the best to David, and we know he is in great company and care with his wife Susan. We all hope to see him at a future AASP meeting. As an outcome of this unprecendeted situation, it was further announced that David Pocknall will remain on for the second-term as AASP President, and Fred Rich will remain as Past-President. It is the first time in AASP history that these positions will have been served by the same person twice. Further presentations were made to Jeffrey Richardson (Ohio State Uninversity) as winner of the L.R. Wilson Student Paper Award, and to Stephen Lowe (BP) and Keith Richards (Wales) for the Best Poster.



Fred Rich, Chair of the Awards Committee presents the L.R. Wilson Student Paper Award to Jeffrey Richardson of Ohio State University (all photos taken by Vaughn Bryant Jr.).

The final most important event of the Business Luncheon was the presentation of the AASP Medal of Excellence in Teaching to Al Traverse. Accompanied by his wife Betty, Al was cited for his service to AASP and to his palynological teachings and research, by his former students Fred Rich, Paul Strother and Martin Farley. Al then addressed the congregation with his thanks and anecdotes, providing a few slides for visual enjoyment.



Al Traverse, recipient of the AASP Medal of Excellence in Education, regales the crowd at the Business Luncheon while showing off a specimen from his hat collection.



Al Traverse, along with his wife Betty, receives the AASP Medal of Excellence in Education presented by his former students Martin Farley, Paul Strother, and Fred Rich.

Wednesday PM saw a continuation of the excellent stratigraphic palynological presentations, with emphasis on the Tertiary. The technical aspect of the meeting was then closed at approximately 5PM. That evening, the incoming Board of Directors meeting was a low-key affair, which lasted not nearly as long as the Monday evening meeting (thank goodness!). Several Board members and others then retired for one last night on the RiverWalk for dinner and beverages.

Over the course of the meeting, several high-quality poster displays were set up from Monday PM through Wednesday AM, Bob Clarke displayed several the AASP Foundation publications, including the new Houston IPC Proceedings Volume. As well, the new AASP poster display was introduced for review and comments. Many thanks for everyone who supplied constructive criticism (Yes!! there are pollen photos on the way!! And a note to Gordon Wood that I will not display any of the photos he suggested although I'm sure they would add greatly to the "uniqueness" of the display).

Thursday and Friday, several people visited sites across central Texas under the leadership of Jeff Stein and David Pocknall on the AASP fieldtrip. Despite several unexpected delays due to road construction on the interstate, a great time was had investigating outcrops, collecting samples, and taking in more Texas hospitality.

Many thanks are due to David Pocknall (BP) and Don Benson Jr. (irf Group) for their help in the organization of the meeting, their solicitation of abstracts, and finalization of the technical program. Thanks to the corporate sponsorship of Conoco (soon to be ConocoPhillips!) and BP for their contributions to the technical program, and for the printing of the abstracts volume. I would like to thank the staff of the Menger Hotel for their hospitality in fulfilling all our needs and wishes, and those of the attendees. I would personally like to

thank Marcia Sheingold (Sales Manager), Shirley Dyer (Catering Manager), Jose Chavez (Banquet Manager) and Tim Wright (Audio-Visual) for their cooperation throughout the organization and completion of the meeting. Also, thanks to the Republic of Texas Bar and Restaurant for making their establishment available for the social evening.

Finally I would like to thank the session chairs, Doug Nichols, Stephen Lowe, Reed Wicander, David Pocknall, and Don Benson Jr. for keeping the sessions lively and on time. And most importantly I would sincerely like to express my appreciation to all who submitted abstracts and attended in spite of all the global uncertainties. Thank you for making the meeting a success. See you all in London next year!!!



Participants in the ritual AASP Golf Tournament: from left to right, Peter Griggs, Vaughn Bryant Jr., Patrice Brenac, and David Pocknall.

NEWS FROM THE UK

By Jim Riding November 2001

A landmark paper on micropalaeontology was recently published by three European scientists. Drs David J. Siveter (University of Leicester), Mark Williams (British Geological Survey) and Dieter Waloszek (University of Ulm, Germany) discovered the world's oldest crustacean fossil in the Lower Cambrian Protolenus Limestone from near Comley, Shropshire, England. This ancestor to the lobsters, crabs and shrimps is a microscopic phosphatocopid arthropod with well-preserved soft parts and has been named Phosphatocopida sp. It proves that the Crustacea had evolved at least c. 511 million years ago. The preservation is so good that even the hairs on the limbs are clearly visible! This Cambrian limestone is thus an exceptional Konservat-Lagerstätte, the fauna of which has implications for our understanding of the Cambrian evolutionary explosion and global biodiversity generally. I recommend that AASP members read about this fascinating phosphatised Crustacean in the 20th July 2001 issue of Science (volume 293, pp. 479-481).

Europe was well represented at the recent Annual Meting in San Antonio during October. Patrice Brenac, Bob Dunay, James Eldrett, Martin Lester, Stephen Lowe and your correspondent all travelled to Texas from the UK. Exiled from England, but also present were Jason Crux (Venezuela) and Richard Hallett (Indonesia). Kaj Raunsgaard Pedersen, Daniel Michoux and Peter Hochuli were the sole representatives from Denmark, France and Switzerland respectively. Unfortunately, Stefano Torricelli (Italy) had to cancel due to travel restrictions.

There are various news items from the British Micropalaeontological Society (BMS). Dr Haydon W. Bailey of Network Biostratigraphic became the next Chair of the Society at the Annual General Meeting in London on the 21st November. At the AGM we also voted to change the name of the Society to 'The Micropalaeontological Society', abbreviated to 'TMS'. I will expand on this in the next report.

Preparations are now well advanced for the joint AASP, NAMS and British Micropalaeontological Society meeting on

Exploration Biostratigraphy at University College London from the 11th and 13th of September 2002. This conference will be the AASP annual meeting for 2002 and, despite the theme, there will be open sessions on palynology. The first circular appears elsewhere in this Newsletter. To help the organisers, please register early.

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OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS

Dear AASP Membership:

The following members are in arrears of their membership dues, having not paid since 1999. This is the last newsletter these members will receive, and their names will be removed from the AASP membership files. If you recognize your name on this list, your continued membership in AASP is greatly appreciated. Please remit your dues to the Secretary-Treasurer (membership information is available on the AASP website http://www.palynology.org, or elsewhere in this newsletter). Or if there is a friend's or colleague's name you recognize on this list, please contact them and let them know. Thank you.

AKINGBADE, ATINUKE AL-JUMAILY, WAJIH ALI APAALSE, LAWRENCE BAIED, CARLOS A. BAKER, RICHARD G. BENAVIDEZMA, CECILIA G. BENSON, JAMES M. BJAERKE, TOR BOLICK, MARGARET R. CAMPBELL, IAN D. CRIPPS, JENNY CURRY, RICHARD P. EASTWOOD, WARRENJ. ELLIOT, MICHAEL B. FEARN, LAWRENCE B. HEUSSER, LINDA E. HIGHTON, PHILIP J.C. ICHINNOROV, N. IOSIFOVA, EKATERINA K. JACOBSON, STEPHEN R. KIMURA, TATSUAKI LUCAS, FRANKLIN A. MAHMOUD, MAGDY S. MALLOY, RAYMOND E. MORGAN, CLAYTON MOY, CARMEN J. NARDI, IRENE OYEDE, ADEWOLE C. PACLTOVA. BLANKA PONTINI, MARIA RITA RASUL, S. M. ROSALES LOMELI, JUDITH E. SAJJADI, FRESHTEH SLUYTER, ANDREW SMITH, GILES A. TOKUTAKE, LUCIO RIOGI VANATTA, D. WEBB. THOMPSON. III" WEYERS, ILONA WOODWARD, RICK

Dear AASP Membership:

According to the membership files the following individual members have not paid their membership dues since the year 2000. AASP By-laws state that members in arrears of their yearly dues, will only receive the first two newsletters for the following year after the lapsing of their membership. In an attempt to reduce postage costs incurred by the Association, the Board of Directors at the most recent Board meeting in San Antonio decided to strictly adhere to that part of the Bylaws. Thus, for the people mentioned below, they will no longer receive the AASP newsletter. This is not meant to be an embarrassment to those listed, but only a proper notification that their membership dues are in arrears. You should have also recently received the "pink" membership dues notification. Important Note: If you have not paid your year 2002 membership, you will only receive the first two issues of the 2002 newsletter next year; after that you will only receive a dues notification.

As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, there has been an increase in AASP dues, effective immediately, to \$45/year for individual membership, \$30 for students, and \$15 for retired members. Air-mail surcharges remain the same (\$12 for Europe, \$15 elsewher). This increase is in effect for the year 2002 membership. At this time, for the immediate future, the former dues amount of \$30 will be accepted in back payment ONLY for the year 2001 dues; for the year 2002 and beyond, please remit the appropriate amount of \$45/year. Please also remember that you may pay your membership up to three years in advance.

Your membership in AASP is greatly appreciated, and we hope you will continue to support the Association. If you have any questions or concerns, or if you believe your name has been listed below in error, please contact the Secretary-Treasurer.

ADEGOKE, OLUWAFEYISOLAS. AKHTAR, AFIA ANDERSON, JOHN E. ARAI. MITSURU BAIR, ALLISON N. BAXENDALE, R. WILLIAM BLANKS, PAUL BRACCINI, ERIC BRENNEMAN, MARSHA CADMAN, ANN CANRIGHT, JAMES CHALONER, WILLIAM G. CHMURA, GAIL L. CIRILLI, SIMONETTA CLAYTON, GEOFF COTTER, MARIA CRANE, PETER R. DAVIES, EDWARD H. DE BALDIS, E. DIANA POTHE DE VERTEUIL, LAURENT DOYLE, JAMES A.

DUMONT, MICHAEL P. EBLE, CORTLAND EISERHARDT, K.-H. ELAND, HERMANUS B. **ENSEY, MICHELLE** FEDOROVA, VALENTINA A. FENTON, JAMES P. FIRTH, JOHN V. FOLLIERI, MARIA FRANCIS, DARCEY GILLESPIE, HELEN GOLOMBEK, ELISABETH GOODMAN, DAVID K. GREENHALGH, JENNIFER GUERSTEIN, RAQUEL HARDING, IAN C. HARRINGTON, GUY HARRIS, ANTHONY J. HEBDA, RICHARD J. HORN, SALLY P. KHAN, SAMEENA KIRSCH, KARL-HEINZ KROEGER, TIM J. LARSON, DONALD A. LEBLANC, ARTHUR LORENTE, MARIA ANTONIETA MAO, LIMI MARTIN, HELENE A. MASURE, EDWIGE MCMAHON, JENNIFER M. MCMINN, ANDREW MICHOUX, DANIEL MILNER, PAULS. MOHIUDDIN, UZMA MONTEIL, ERIC D.F. MONTENARI, MICHAEL MORGAN, BILLE. MORON, JEAN-MARC NARASIMHA, KANCHI NILSSON, SIWERT NNOLIM, I.N. NOHR-HANSEN, HENRIK PALACIOS, TEODORO PALACIOS-CHAVEZ, RODOLFO PAPU, OSCAR HUGO PEPPERS, RUSSELL A. PEREIRA. ZELIA PHILLIPS, BRUCE G. PHILLIPS, TOMMY L. POTTER, TIMOTHY L. POURTOY, DOMINIQUE POWER, MITCHELL J. PRAMPARO, MERCEDES B. PROSSL, K. F. RIEGEL, WALTER L. ROCHE, EMILE ROHULD, ARNFINN RUEDA, MILTON J. **RULL, VALENTIN** SAEEDI, FARNOSH SCHMITTER, RUTH E. SELNES, HAAVARD

SPINA, AMALIA SONUGA, MARIE S. SULLIVAN, HERBERT J. TEWFIK, NAZIH M. THAKUR, R. A. UTTING, JOHN VAN NIEL, J. P. VERARDO, STACEY VERREUSSEL, ROEL W.H.P.R. INC WALL, DUNCAN WARRINGTON, GEOFFREY WARTER, JANET K. WEEGINK, JAN WILLEM WEISS, ROSELINE H. WILLIAMS, V. EILEEN WILLIAMS, JOHN E. YI, S. MYUNG ZONNEVELD, KARIN

Dear AASP Membership:

The following AASP members are "missing-in-action" in that their recent mailings of the newsletter and other mail have been returned for one reason or another. If you recognize one of the names below, and know the whereabouts of these people, please contact the Secretary-Treasurer for an update to the AASP membership file. I'm sure some of the confusion is nothing more than an incorrect postbox number, or some other fact which the post office cannot care to sort out. Your cooperation and help in this matter is greatly appreciated. Thank you very much.

AGER, THOMAS A.
CADMAN, ANN
DUMONT, MICHAEL P.
FEARN, LAWRENCE B.
FISK, LANNY
GAMARRA, SILVIA L.
GUILLORY, RAPHAEL
KLUG, CURTIS
LARSON, DONALD A.
MATTHEWS, SUSAN L.
MITRA, MADHUMI
POTTER, TIMOTHY L.
ROBISON, COLEMAN R.
VERARDO, STACEY
WOODWARD, RICK

BOOKS

* The Last Billion Years: A Geological History of the Maritime Provinces of Canada by Robert A. Fensome and Graham L. Williams (editors). 2001. Atlantic Geoscience Society, Nimbus Publishing Limited, P. O. Box 9166, Halifax, NS, Canada, B3K 5M8. 212 pages. \$29.95 (Canadian) + 7 per cent GST.

Reviewed by Reed Wicander, Department of Geology, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

It was a long time coming, although not nearly as long as the billion years of geologic history it covers. The wait, however, was well worth it. This is a book definitely worth owning. Now you're probably saying, "a book about the geological history of the Maritime Provinces of Canada seems rather specialized," but believe me, it contains something for everyone.

The editors are AASP's own Rob Fensome and Graham Williams and they've done a great job putting together an extremely well written and beautifully illustrated book that not only covers the geologic history of the Maritime Provinces, but one that provides an excellent introduction to geology. In fact, the Introduction of the book states that "those with a grounding in geology may wish to skip the first three chapters" which cover The Dynamic Earth (earth systems, plate tectonics, the rock cycle and the changing climate), The Fourth Dimension (geologic time and correlation), and Tales of Trails and Ancient Bodies (fossils, how they are preserved, and how they relate to present day life). I would strongly disagree. My advice is don't skip these chapters. The authors of these chapters present in a very readable fashion the basics one needs to appreciate the rest of the book. In fact, palynologists will be especially pleased with the diagram illustrating correlation, because instead of the usual invertebrate fossils placed next to several sections, the authors use some beautiful photos of dinoflagellates and explain how these microfossils are useful for correlating the various oil- and gas-bearing rocks of the Scotian Shelf.

The remaining six chapters cover the geologic history of the Maritimes, beginning in Chapter 4 with the oldest rocks and fossils and describing how a small part of the current Maritimes was once part of Rodinia, the earliest known supercontinent. Chapter 5, The Pieces Come Together, starts off discussing the Cambrian "Explosion" and continues with a discussion of how various crustal fragments came together to form most of the Maritimes. Basins and Ranges. (Chapter 6) highlights the Paleozoic tropical seas and vast coal forests of the Maritimes, while Chapter 7 (An Ocean is Born) discusses the breakup of Pangaea and the formation of the Atlantic Ocean and the Martimes relationship to this Chapter 8 covers the importance of natural resources to the Maritimes as well as discussing some environmental issues such as "sustainable development" a currently popular catch phrase. The final chapter looks at the Ice Age and Beyond, covering the Maritimes during the Pleistocene and looking ahead to the future of our planet.

One of the many things I like about this book is its writing style. It is written in a conversational-like style that made it easy to read. Furthermore, while the last six chapters discuss the geologic and paleontologic history of the Maritimes, this history is set in the broader context of Earth history, effectively making this book a Historical Geology book, albeit one that brings the history of Earth alive. Another nice touch is the "boxes" found in each chapter. These cover a wide variety of topics and go into greater detail then is dealt with in the text. For instance, the box in Chapter 2 covers three important Maritime geologists, Sir John William Dawson, Abraham Gesner, and George Frederic Matthew. Another is about Fish Tales: A History of Early Vertebrates, and the last one in the book is about Coastlines, complete with some spectacular photos of Maritime coasts.

What really sets this book apart from other geology books is the quality and quantity of the art program. In addition to spectacular color photographs, the book is loaded with excellent color photos of mineral, rock, and fossil specimens, superb line illustrations, and original paintings of ancient vistas. In addition to be a joy to read, it is a treat for the eyes.

A clever end matter of the book is the Backpack, two pages of such resources as Books and Pamphlets, Events, Classes and Workshops, Field Guides, Museums, Displays and Centres, Maps, Resources for Teachers, Videos, and Websites, where one can find more information about the various themes covered in the book.

It seems somewhat obligatory in book reviews to find something to criticize. The only fault I found with this book is that in the Table of Contents, the Credits are listed as being on page 206, when in fact they are found on page 205. Other than that, the book is a winner. Believe me when I say you won't regret buying this book and will find yourself thumbing through it again and again. For \$29.95, it's a bargain you can't afford to pass up.

* Data, reprints, microfilms, microphotos etc **Dr. J. Médus** has collected along his scientific life are now placed at the Musée des Dinosaures. Reprints can be get directly from the Curator (Dr. Jean Le Loeuff). The material can be consulted locally. Musée des Dinosaures 11260 Espéraza, F. tel: 0468740208, fax: 0468740575, e-mail: musee.dinosaures@dinosauria.org.

AGENDA

2002

March 3-6, 2002. NEW DATE! The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP),18th Annual Meeting, Houston, Texas, USA (Postponed from September 2001). Information: Dr. Coleman Robison, ChevronTexaco, Energy Research Technologies Company, 4800 Fournace Place, Bellaire, TX 77401-2324 USA; Phone: (713) 432-6828; Fax: (713) 838-4628; E-mail: ColeRobison@chevrontexaco.com; Further details including program: http://www.tsop.org.

May 26-29, 2002 Palynologists and micropalaeontologists working in all geologic eras are invited to participate in a Special Session (#22) to be held at the annual meeting of the Geological Association of Canada (GAC/MAC 2002), Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. The session is entitled "The Palynology and Micropaleontology of Boundaries".

Boundaries in time and space can leave distinct signatures in the palynological record. Diffuse or sharp, gradual or abrupt, boundaries can tell us much about the response of biotic systems to environmental change in both marine and terrestrial realms. Sponsored by the Canadian Association of Palynologists (CAP), this Special Session explores the identification and characterization of boundaries through palynology and micropaleontology.

The session is being co-convened by Alwynne Beaudoin, Provincial Museum of Alberta, Edmonton, email:abeaudoi@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca and Martin J. Head, University of Cambridge, UK, e-mail: mh300@cam.ac.uk. Anyone interested in participating is invited to contact either of the convenors.

A symposium volume is planned. Please indicate whether you wish to contribute to this volume. Papers not presented at the symposium may also be considered for inclusion.

Further details about the GAC/MAC meeting, abstract submission, registration etc., may be found at the conference web-site at http://www.usask.ca/geology/sask2000 Abstracts in digital format will be accepted from November 1, 2001 until January 15, 2002. Please monitor the conference website for additional information about the meeting.

Additional information about the Canadian Association of Palynologists can be found at the new website at http://www.scirpus.ca/cap/cap.htm On-going details of this Special Session will also be posted there.

August 29 - September 2, 6th European Palaeobotany - Palynology Conference, Athens, Greece. Details: Prof. D. Evangelos Velitzelos, Organizing Committee, 6th European Palaeobotany-Palynology Conference, Department of Historical Geology-Palaeontology, Faculty of Geology, University of Athens, Panepistimioupolis, Zografou, 157 84 Athens, Greece. Tel./Fax: +30-1-7274162, E-mail: velitzel@geol.uoa.gr

Aug. 31- Sept. 4, 2002 "Emerging Concepts in Organic Petrology and Organic Geochemistry". Canadian Society

for Coal Science and Organic Petrology (CSCOP)- The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP), Joint Annual Meeting, Banff, Alberta, Canada. Information: Dr. Martin Fowler,

Geological Survey of Canada, 3303-33rd Street NW, Calgary, Alberta T2L 2A7 Canada; Phone: (403) 292-7038; Fax: (403) 292-7159; E-mail: Mfowler@nrcan.gc.ca; Further details: www.cscop-tsop2002.com.

1-6 September 2002, Vienna, Austria, The Third International Congress "Environmental Micropaleontology, Microbiology and Meiobenthology"

Abpit the congress: driven by concerns ranging from pollution to global climate change, the last decade has seen increasing emphasis on the environmental sciences. Academic departments in the earth, chemical, engineering, and biological sciences are reorganizing in response to this trend, and many researchers have shifted their emphasis in response to new funding and employment opportunities presented by these changes. The EMMM2002 is the third in a series of conferences the previous conferences were held in 1997 (Tel Aviv -Israel) and 2000 (Winnipeg - Canada). The congress is organized by the International Society of Environmental Micropalaentology, Microbiology and Meiobenthology (ISEMMM), Institute of Paleontology (Vienna-Austria), the Avalon Institute of Applied Science, Inc., (Winnipeg-Canada), and Osorno Enterprises, Inc. The president of the Congress is the director of the Institute of Paleontology Prof. Johann Hohenegger.

The main objectives of the Congress are:

- To bring together specialists with biological, geological, agricultural, and environmental engineering background for the development of interdisciplinary environmental research via collaboration, discussion and learning from each other for the benefit of the environment, human health and welfare.
- To promote innovative multidisciplinary research in recent and fossil micro- and meioorganisms dedicated to solving environmental/paleoenvironmental problems in the fields of biosciences, geosciences, agriculture, and environmental engineering for the advancement of the environment, human health and welfare.
- To encourage education, research and any other means of advancing knowledge in any aspects of Environmental Micropaleontology, Microbiology and Meiobenthology.
- To introduce the utilization of micro- and meioorganisms to a broader audience and to bridge this gap between science, industry, national governments, and international organisations.
- To promote public knowledge about contributions of the Environmental Micropaleontology, Microbiology and Meiobenthology to human welfare and to serve the public need for expertise in all areas in which those sciences are relevant.

In view of the success of the previous conferences, it is expected that a large number of the international environmental scientists will take part in this event.

Main Conference Subjects

The conference will cover a wide range of topics, with special focus on the following:

- Micro- and meioorganisms as indicators of past and recent environments
- Micro- and meioorganisms as indicators of pollution for ecological risk assessment
- Industrial application of micro- and meioorganisms
- Application of micro- and meioorganisms to archaeology and medicine

Contact: Dr. Irena Motnenko, Technical Director and Treasurer, Osorno Enterprices, Inc. Suite 301, 162-2025 Corydon Avenue, Winnipeg MB R3P 0N5, Canada Phone: +1 (204) 488-1538, Fax: +1 (204) 488-1566, Email: congress@isemmm.org

September 2-7, Environmental Catastrophes and Recovery in the Holocene: Brunel University, 2002. The central theme of this conference is the inter-disciplinary investigation of past geological and environmental catastrophes, and their impact on our society. This conference will involve not only the Quaternary community but also biologists, archaeologists, historians and economists. See for more information: http://www.brunel.ac.uk/depts/geo/Catastrophes/

September 5-7, CIMP Symposium and Workshops, Lille, France. Details: Thomas Servais (thomas.servais@univ-lille1.fr) or Ludovic Stricanne (ludovic.stricanne@univ-lille1.fr), University of Lille

September 11-13, joint meetings of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists (AASP), the British Micropalaeontological Society (BMS) and the North American Micropaleontology Section of SEPM (NAMS) AASP-BMS-NAMS at the University College London

The theme of this international meeting will be recent developments in applied biostratigraphy. Contributions are invited on four main themes:

- Sequence biostratigraphy
- Reservoir/development studies
- Deep-water exploration
- Outcrop analogues

There will also be an open session with emphasis on post-Palaeozoic palynology.

The vision for the meeting is to encourage trans-Atlantic exchange of ideas, ultimately to seed new research initiatives. In particular, we aim to develop an integrated multidisciplinary approach in both the academic and industrial realms. There will be no taxonomic, stratigraphical or geographical restriction on contributions. Posters will also be invited on any micropalaeontological, nannopalaeontological, palynological or biostratigraphical theme.

A post-meeting excursion is planned to the Isle of Wight (Cretaceous - Paleogene) led by Statoil's Iain Prince (ipri@statoil.com) and Bruce Tocher (bruce@statoil.com). The conveners are:

Jamie Powell (Dinosystems): Contact Convener (aip@dinosystems.co.uk)

Chris Denison (ChevronTexaco): representing AASP

(chde@chevrontexaco.com)

Tom Dignes (ExxonMobil): representing NAMS (tom.w.dignes@exxonmobil.com)

Alan Lord (UCL): Local Secretary (a.lord@ucl.ac.uk)
Rachel Preece (ChevronTexaco): representing BMS
(rprc@chevrontexaco.com)

Jim Riding (British Geological Survey:) Treasurer (j.riding@bgs.ac.uk)

Abstract submission format:

Sample Abstract for AASP-BMS-NAMS Meeting at University College London Powell, A.J. (1) and Riding, J.B. (2)

(1) Dinosystems, 105 Albert Road, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6DJ, UK

(2) British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5GG, UK

Please follow these simple rules in submitting your abstract for the upcoming AASP-BMS-NAMS meeting. Your complete abstract must fit on one page, with 3cm borders from each side, and 4cm from top and bottom of the page. Use 12-point font only, no bold or italics except for genera and species. Do not indent the first paragraph, but subsequent paragraphs should be indented. Please use the above format for title of presentation, names of authors, and affiliations.

You should submit your abstract via an Email attachment. Please use Microsoft Word, or other similar word-processing software. Any diversion from these rules, and time-consuming reformatting of your abstract may result in rejection from the technical programme.

When you submit your abstract, you must answer the questions listed; please state whether your presentation is an oral or poster presentation. If it is an oral presentation, please tell us what format your presentation will be: overhead transparencies, 35mm slides or PowerPoint from a computer. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and look forward to your abstract submission. Abstract deadline is 26th April 2002 to the address listed below.

Name of person submitting abstract: Address:

Telephone:	Email:
(please tick)	
Oral Presentation: If your PowerPoint	es: Overhead 35mm slides
	(eligible for the AASP Best
Poster Award)	
Student Presentation:	(eligible for the AASP L.R.
Wilson Student Paper Aw	ard)
Session (please tick):	
Sequence biostratigraphy	:
Reservoir/development st	udies:
Deep-water exploration: _	Outcrop
analogues:	·
Post-Palaeozoic palynolog	gy:

Abstract deadline is Friday 26th April 2002 Submit abstracts in hard copy to: Dr James Powell, Dinosystems, 105 Albert Road, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6DJ, UK and via Email to ajp@dinosystems.co.uk

!!!see also registration form at the last pages of this newsletter!!!

2003

March 29 - April 2, 3rd International Limnogeology Congress, Tucson, Arizona. The organizing committee at the University of Arizona invites all interested participants to submit proposals for theme sessions and field trips. A first circular, describing the meeting venue and general plans for the Congress will be circulated by mailings and electronically later in 2001. Contacts: Theme session proposals should be sent to Andrew Cohen, general chair of the Congress. Dept. of Geosciences, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721. Tel: 1-520-621-4691. Fax: 1-520-621-2672. E-Mail: acohen@geo.arizona.edu. Field trip proposals should be sent to David Dettman, field trip coordinator for the Congress. E-Mail: dettman@geo.arizona.edu. For further information concerning housing and registration, please contact Noah Lopez. E-Mail: noahl@u.arizona.edu

November 2-5, Geological Society of America, Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A. Details: GSA HQ, Box 9140, 3300 Penrose Place, Boulder, Colorado 80301, U.S.A. Tel: (303) 447-2020, X133, E-mail: meetings@geosociety.org

2004

July, 4-9, 2004., 11th International Palynological Congress (*IPC*) in Granada, Spain. Website http://www.ugr.es/local/bioveg, or contact palacio@pcgr.org.

WEB-NEWS

* The web-based resources that Alwynne B. Beaudoin (abeaudoi@gpu.srv.ualberta.ca) has compiled and managed have moved from their location at the University of Alberta to a new location at http://www.scirpus.ca/

All resources can be reached from the URL above or from direct URLs as given below:

The Canadian Association of Palynologists Home Page Now at http://www.scirpus.ca/cap/cap.shtml

A Dictionary of Quaternary Acronyms and Abbreviations Now at http://www.scirpus.ca/cgi-bin/dictqaa.cgi

The Dung File (on-line bibliography) Now at http://www.scirpus.ca/dung/dung.shtml

E-SCAPE (Edmonton component of SCAPE project) Now at http://www.scirpus.ca/escape/escape.shtml

The SCAPE File (on-line bibliography) Now at http://www.scirpus.ca/escape/bibintro.shtml

Please update your links and bookmarks. The pages at UofA will remain available for some time but will not be maintained or updated. Comments on any aspects of these presentations are welcomed.

* The Natural History Museum announces the online availability of the former British Petroleum Micropalaeontological Collection database by Jonathan Whittaker and Susanne Feist-Burkhardt, (The Natural History Museum, London)

British Petroleum's Micropalaeontological Collection has an extensive geographical and stratigraphical coverage, having accumulated since the company's exploration activities of the 1950s. It represents over 90 countries and their surrounding seas in the following areas:

- Central Europe
- North West Europe
- Mediterranean
- Central & South America
- North America
- North, East, Southern & West Africa
- The Middle East
- East Asia
- Oceania
- Antarctica

In 1991, British Petroleum donated their Micropalaeontological Collection to the Natural History Museum, and provided funds for the curation of the collection over the next decade. A significant part of the

collection contains palynology slides and residues. The majority of the slides and residues are in good condition having been part of a conservation project carried out by one of the previous BP curators (Dunn 2002, in press). The rest of the collection containing nannofossil slides, microfossil picked slides, residues, and individual specimens may also be of interest to Palynologists.

The Natural History Museum is pleased to announce that a major part of this large collection has been added to a dedicated online database. The database is being continually refined and extended by the present curator, thus increasing the number of individual collections of well runs and outcrop locations to over 3800. The searchable database is presently available at:

http://www.nhm.ac.uk/palaeontology/micro/collections/bp/bp.html

Another significant part of the collection contains slides of Ostracoda and Foraminifera sorted by genera. However, this part of the collection is not yet available online. Any part of the collection is available for study by all interested parties and has been utilised previously for a diverse range of academic and commercial research as well as a number of student projects. There may be a charge for enquiries of a commercial nature.

For further details please email: <u>BP-Collection@nhm.ac.uk</u>

Reference:

Dunn, J. 2002 in press. "Curation of palynological material - a case study on the British Petroleum Micropalaeontological Collection." The Geological Curator.







CALL FOR PAPERS

JOINT MEETING OF AASP-BMS-NAMS 11TH-13TH SEPTEMBER 2002

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

The American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists (AASP), the British Micropalaeontological Society (BMS) and the North American Micropaleontology Section of SEPM (NAMS) are holding a joint meeting in September 2002 at University College London

The theme of this international meeting will be recent developments in applied biostratigraphy. Contributions are invited on four main themes:

Sequence biostratigraphy Reservoir/development studies

Deep-water exploration Outcrop analogues

There will also be an open session with emphasis on post-Palaeozoic palynology.

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The conveners are:

Jamie Powell (Dinosystems): Contact Convener (ajp@dinosystems.co.uk)

Chris Denison (ChevronTexaco): representing AASP (chde@chevrontexaco.com)

Tom Dignes (ExxonMobil): representing NAMS (tom.w.dignes@exxonmobil.com)

Alan Lord (UCL): Local Secretary (a.lord@ucl.ac.uk)

Rachel Preece (ChevronTexaco): representing BMS (rprc@chevrontexaco.com)

Jim Riding (British Geological Survey:) Treasurer (j.riding@bgs.ac.uk)

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORMAT

Sample Abstract for AASP-BMS-NAMS Meeting at University College London Powell, A.J. (1) and Riding, J.B. (2)

- (1) Dinosystems, 105 Albert Road, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6DJ, UK
- (2) British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5GG, UK

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When you submit your abstract, you must answer the questions listed; please state whether your presentation is an oral or poster presentation. If it is an oral presentation, please tell us what format your presentation will be: overhead transparencies, 35mm slides or PowerPoint from a computer. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and look forward to your abstract submission. Abstract deadline is 26th April 2002 to the address listed below.

Name of person sub Address:	mitting abstract:	
Telephone:	Email:	
(please tick)		
Oral Presentation: _	_ If yes: Overhead	d 35mm slidesPowerPoint
Poster Presentation:	(eligible for the	e AASP Best Poster Award)
Student Presentation	n: (eligible for the	ne AASP L.R. Wilson Student Paper Award)
Session (please tick)):	
Sequence biostratign	raphy:	Reservoir/development studies:
Deep-water explora	tion:	Outcrop analogues:
Post-Palaeozoic pal	ynology:	
Abstract deadline	ic Friday 26th Apri	il 2002
aboutact ucaulille	is rituay 20 Apri	11 2 00 2

Submit abstracts in hard copy to:

Dr James Powell, Dinosystems, 105 Albert Road, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6DJ, UK and via Email to ajp@dinosystems.co.uk