

A.A.S.P. NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly by the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists Inc.

October 2002 Volume 35, Number 3

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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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October 2002 ISSN 0732-6041 Volume 35, Number 3 Marloes Kloosterboer van Hoeve, Editor

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!!!!!ATTENTION: AS FROM THE NEXT NEWSLETTER THERE WILL BE A NEW EDITOR: CARLOS JARAMILLO,

carlos@flmnh.ufl.edu!!!!!!

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 December 1, 2002 and March 1, 2003. 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.

PRESIDENTS PAGE

By Jim Riding

It gives me great pleasure to take over the AASP Presidency from David Pocknall. David has been a great friend to AASP, serving as Secretary-Treasurer for five years before becoming President. He has been one of the most engaged Board members of recent times and will be an extremely tough act to follow. He has done much work for the Association in regard to CENEX in recent years. I am very pleased to have him on the Board as Past-President. I am the first President of the Association who lives and works outside North America. This is a bold step, but is a clear testament to the international nature of AASP. I believe that we are doing a very good job on behalf of our chosen discipline. AASP runs major annual meetings, produces a prodigious amount of quality publications and has instigated a center of excellence at a major US university. This is not a time for complacency, however, and I will attempt to ensure that the Association keeps at the forefront.

I have just caught my breath after the London meeting. This event was a huge success; with around 185 delegates it represents the biggest AASP meeting for many years. The British weather was uncharacteristically kind to us and the logistics of the meeting went incredibly smoothly. Hopefully, you will see some photographs from the meeting elsewhere in this Newsletter. I would recommend that we consider joint meetings in the future. It is great fun meeting with other geoscientific bodies and the benefits of 'infiltration' were lucidly outlined by Martin Farley in his excellent lecture at the Geological Society. Palynologists, as we all know, have so much to offer and we must ensure that the geological community at large never forget this. Shared symposia also give the membership numbers a welcome boost; in London I recruited several new members both to AASP and TMS. I would also like to pay tribute to the quality and diversity of the scientific programme in London. We had three full days of parallel sessions and the poster boards were crammed. I was impressed with all the contributions, but I would like to single out the many talks on how palynology and micropaleontology are impacting on petroleum development projects in the North Sea. These were all fascinating accounts of complex geology and the significant impact that our subject can bring to bear. Perhaps we should consider meeting in Europe more often; the Dublin conference with CIMP in 1982 was likewise a resounding success.









One of the best bits of London was the evening we spent at the Geological Society on the 12th September. The historic headquarters of the oldest Geological Society in the world always feels like hallowed ground, but having an AASP event there made it seem even more special. John Marshall gave a superb presentation entitled Arthur Raistrick: Britain's Premier Palynologist. This was a discourse on the life and work of Yorkshireman Arthur Raistrick who, despite many difficulties, did landmark work on distinguishing individual coal seams using Carboniferous spores. Arthur had an extremely colourful life, notably being one of the few palynologists to have done time 'in the can'. Martin Farley then gave a talk entitled Forging a Path for Biostratigraphy in which he dispensed advice as to how to keep our subject at the forefront of the geosciences.

I look forward to our meeting with the Canadian Association of Palynologists in St. Catherines, Canada in October 2003. I know that Francine McCarthy has an excellent event planned. The Board had its Mid Year Meeting in St. Catherines last Spring and it is a great venue in an interesting area. In many ways the complete opposite of central London. One of the enduring charms about AASP meetings is undoubtedly the diverse nature of the venues. No one could ever accuse us of being boring in the meeting venue field.

We have lost some stalwart palynologists recently. I knew Bill Sarjeant, who passed on this summer, well. Bill was a founder member of AASP and one of palynology's true characters. He will be severely missed for his sociability, eccentricity and his acutely observed historical contributions. There will be many obituaries for this massive figure and we pass our sincere condolences to his family.

Jim Riding 24 September 2002



Martin Farley in full flow at the social evening at the Geological Society (photographer - Jim Riding)



Stefan Van Simaeys giving his talk on the Palaeogene of Belgium in the Pearson Lecture Theatre (photographer - Jim Riding)



Anthony Gary in the Cruciform Lecture Theatre (photographer - Jim Riding)

FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Thomas D. Demchuk (ConocoPhillips Inc.)

It's my pleasure to pass on to you the membership and financial figures as presented at the AASP Board meeting and presented to the general membership at the Business Luncheon at the recent meeting in London.

Secretary's Report:

As of August 30, 2002, AASP had a total of 628 members; 493 individual, 104 institutional and 31 retired members status. This is down 86 members from the same time last year. Of considerable interest is the fact that 101 members have not renewed their membership for the year 2002 and in jeopardy of being removed from the active membership listing. These people will no longer receive the newsletter, but will only receive a dues notification. They will not receive volume 26 of Palynology unless they remit payment for their 2002 membership. Much discussion was had at the Board meeting concerning our membership numbers, without much finalization of an action plan. This will likely be discussed much further at the mid-year meeting.

Presently there are 146 members who receive the newsletter electronically. All members are urged to receive the newsletter in this format to help continue the reduction of postage costs to the Association. When you receive your membership renewal form, say "yes" to receiving the newsletter electronically.

Treasurer's Report:

Total assets of the Association stand at US\$56,475.29. This is down approximately \$6400 from the same time last year. Although membership dues seem to be covering expenses, the drop in total funds is primarily due to the downturn of the U.S. stock market and the drop in the value of the Association's mutual funds. This lack of interest income is disconcerting to the Board, but it is hoped that an improved economy in the near future will improve the AASP financial picture.

If any AASP member has any questions and/or concerns over any of the information provided above, please feel free to contact me via e-mail.

NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR

After three years, I will now hand my job as editor of the newsletter over to Carlos Jaramillo (email address carlos@flmnh.ufl.edu). Starting with the upcoming NL in December he will be the one to contact and send loads of fine articles, studies, stories and pictures.

Thanks for the years of always receiving enough news to make a good newsletter!

dr. M.L. Kloosterboer-van Hoeve

SAD NEWS

* William "Bill" Antony Swithin SARJEANT (1935 — 2002). An Appreciation

by Satish K. Srivastava, Geology Consultant, 3054 Blandford Drive, Rowland Heights, CA 91748-4825, (626) 965-4014



W. A. S. Sarjeant during the post-1998 AASP Meeting fieldtrip between Ensenada and San Felipe, Baja California.

I knew Bill since 1960 through correspondence and exchange of literature with him while I was still in India but met him for the first time in 1967 when he visited the Department of Geology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, I was a PhD student and working on the Edmonton Group then. As soon as Rosalind (my girlfriend then) and I were introduced to Bill, he talked to us in such a friendly way as if we had known each other for years. He immediately became interested in examining slides and finding some dinocysts. Dinocysts were hard to find in the nonmarine Edmonton Group. There were a couple of specimens which I showed him. Bill immediately suggested writing a paper if I could find a few more specimens. Alas! There were none and we could never be co-authors of any paper but remained partners in exchanging publications, correspondence and views.

In about 1975, Bill published a long paper on fossil footprints with some sketches of three-toed ones. On returning from lunch one day, Warren Drugg and I saw a three-toed mark in the cement of the foot-path near the Chevron lab. Warren chuckled that it looks like a three-toed impression — let us send it to Bill to write a paper. I took a Polaroid photo of it and gave it to Warren to send with his letter to Bill. The response prompt "Let us write it up". Warren thought that Bill had fallen for it. In 1977, I asked Bill in Nebraska if he really believed Warren. He laughed heartily and said Warren got caught in his own web. The subtlety of British humor was lost on Warren.

In June 1977, the School for Micropaleontology was held in the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and Bill gave a class on Dinoflagellate cysts. Lincoln didn"t have much going for it. In the evenings, we walked from the Hilton Hotel up to the Legislature Building and back. The

University of Nebraska has a very nice campus but it was deserted due to summer break. During those walks, Bill told me about his ardent love for his wife Peggy and his daughters. I asked him how he could produce so many publications on so many fields of geology. He told me that he is blessed with a condition that makes it impossible for him to watch even a corner of a TV screen because it gives him intense headaches. So he generally spent his time reading and writing. He was a voracious and very rapid reader and of course it is well known that he had a huge collection of geology books. The Department of Geosciences of the University of Alberta received the lion"s share of that collection.

In a dusty corner in Lincoln was a huge bookstore of old books. Being allergic to dust, I could not enter the bookstore but Bill, being an avid book collector, went in on his hunt for old geology books. After about an hour he came out with a broad smile like the cat that caught the canary. He had found a very old geology book for which he had looked everywhere. He wanted it to fill the gap in his large collection. He held the book pressed to his chest and was as happy as if he had found his lost treasure. To celebrate his find, we went to a Chinese restaurant for dinner. He asked if I like hot dishes and ordered beer and a hot Schezwan dish. I was not familiar with the dish but ordered the same thinking that if he could eat hot food, so could I, being from India. The dish was nothing else but long red fried chilies with fried rice. I ate one or two chilies but Bill ate them all with great relish. Not being a beer drinker, I wondered if the beer helped him eat so many chilies and told him that the secret is out as to how he remains awake all night and reads.

We all know about his work on dinoflagellates and geology but he was equally good in writing detective and other novels. He was a Renaissance man of many interests! In 1998, AASP field trip reached San Felipe in Baja California just before sunset. As Bill and I were waiting outside the restaurant for dinner, a bird flew behind us. Suddenly Bill looked back and named the bird. I asked how he could identify a flying bird. He took out a small book from his pocket and showed the bird"s picture. The book was "Birds of Mexico". He was very interested in taking photographs of butterflies, trains, and bridges. His several other hobbies are noted elsewhere. During his visit to Alberta in 1967, we were gossiping in the evening over a beer. Bill narrated his previous night"s experience when a friend invited him to participate in one of Canada"s favorite games, curling, which he thought had something to do with hair until the term was explained.

Bill always responded immediately to letters and never let a reprint go unacknowledged. Recently he asked me about my health. Until now we corresponded by post. Somehow I thought a letter will take too long to reach Canada so I e-mailed him. He replied immediately by e-mail on June 24th telling me the diagnosis of his awful illness and that he had only a few weeks to live. He confounded me with his courage in facing the inevitable. At the end of the e-mail he wrote "These are good

memories, which will not fade". How truly he wrote. In spite of his achievements, humility was his creed and humor his companion. He is immortal among us with his work and in the memory of his friends. He shines brightly in the galaxy of scientists.

* Raymond E. MALLOY 1922-2002

by Harry A. Leffingwell, Laguna Beach, CA and G. C. (Butch) Brown, Ventura, CA



Raymond E. Malloy died on July 15, 2002 in a Boston, Massachusetts, hospital of complications from openheart surgery. He was born in Arlington, Massachusetts in 1922, and spent his formative years in the Boston area. Ray graduated from Weston, Massachusetts High School, and received a scholarship to Harvard University. His college education was interrupted by World War II, by his enlistment in the Army Air Corps in 1942, whereupon he became a navigator of a B-17 bomber crew attached to 401st Bomber Wing of the Eighth Air Force, stationed in England. In July, 1944, Ray's plane was shot down over Munich, Germany, during his fifth bombing mission, and he spent the remainder of the war in a prisoner of war camp.

After returning home from the war, the young lieutenant married his college sweetheart, Norma Deacon, and continued his education at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, where he received a B. A. degree in business, and, in 1951, a M.S. degree in geology, under the supervision of Professor L. R. Wilson. For his thesis, he described the Carboniferous flora of the No. 40 coal seam in the famous Joggins section in Nova Scotia. Later, this locality was the site of a memorable field trip during the AASP Annual Meeting in 1976.

Ray continued his study of Paleozoic floras with Dr. Robert Kosanke of the Illinois Geological Survey. In 1952, he took a position at the Carter Oil Company Research Laboratory in Tulsa, Oklahoma, an affiliate of Standard Oil of New Jersey (Esso). Here he co-authored two early papers on Paleozoic palynology with Drs. William Hoffmeister and Frank Staplin: Mississippian Plant Spores from the Hardinsburg Formation of Illinois and Kentucky, and Geologic Ranges of Paleozoic Spores in North America. The latter publication enhanced the appreciation and accelerated the applications of palynology in oil exploration, especially within the Standard Oil Company of New Jersey.

In 1955, Ray was transferred to the International Petroleum Company (an Esso affiliate) in Bogota, Columbia, to establish a palynological laboratory, where he developed zonations for both the central and eastern Columbian Tertiary section. While in Bogota, he formed a close working relationship with Dr. Thomas van der Hammen of the Geological Survey of Columbia. In 1958, Ray was transferred to Talara, Peru, as Chief Paleontologist, where he established another palynological laboratory for International Petroleum Company. Here, Ray concentrated mainly on exploration problems in the Peruvian jungle.

In 1961, Ray returned to the United States, to the Humble Oil Research Laboratory in Houston, Texas, another Esso affiliate. Shortly thereafter, he established a palynological laboratory in Corpus Christi, Texas, to aid Humble Oil in the exploration of the Tertiary Frio and Vicksburg formations in the Gulf of Mexico. Ray returned to Humble Oil's Research Laboratory, in 1965, as a member of the central operational palynological group.

After spending a short time with the Gulf Oil Company in Houston, Ray published one of the early papers on dinoflagellate cyst lineages, based on his studies from Gabon, West Africa, while with Gulf Oil.

In the early 1970's, the Western Region of Union Oil Company of California realized the need to expand the number of disciplines used in their paleo support effort. First and foremost in this need was the science of stratigraphic palynology. Ray was hired and was the perfect fit. Because of his worldwide background in geology and sedimentation, he was immediately involved in many of the company's ongoing projects. In addition to freely sharing his broad-based knowledge

with all, Ray was also a teacher and a mentor. He worked with two of the group's younger professionals, teaching them palynology. Both these young men continued their education, eventually receiving Masters degrees in Geology, with specialties in Palynology.

Retiring in 1986, Ray and Norma moved to Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Norma pre-deceased Ray in 1991. Ray is survived by two sons, Douglas, of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, and Jeffrey, of Bartlesville, Oklahoma, and four grandchildren.

Ray Malloy was a member of AASP, the Society of Organic Petrographers, and the Pacific Sections of the AAPG and SEPM.

Friends and colleagues will remember Ray as one of the pioneers of palynology, especially in its applications to oil exploration. He is also fondly remembered for his dry wit, which was enhanced by his erudite use of the English language; for his generosity in sharing his knowledge with both recently graduated and more seasoned palynologists; his love of boating and bridge; and his intense interest and colourful commentary about contemporary politics. Ray Malloy was truly a professionals' professional, and a joy to all those with whom he was associated.



REPORT OF THE JOINT MEETING OF BMS, NAMS and AASP September 11-13, 2002, University College, London, England. by Owen Davis

What a dazzling success! Jamie Powell, Jim Riding; as well as Chris Denison, Tom Dignes, Alan Lord, Susan Matthews, and Rachel Preece, produced a truly memorable meeting. It was a large meeting with over 150 participants, and there were two concurrent sessions. These were held in two large lecture halls (occasionally overflowing)! The 20-minute talks worked very well, in my opinion. They were not so rushed, and I was not so worn-out after listening to 3 or 4 talks as I am after listening to 5 or 6 talks between scheduled breaks. The coffee breaks and catered lunches were sumptuous.

This joint meeting was an unqualified scientific success. The breadth (Recent to Paleozoic, acritarchs to goats) and number of the talks was very rewarding. I fully support the plans of the organizing committee for 2003 to meet again with NAMS and with CAP. In London we were able to hold all of the AASP functions, including the luncheon, and we were treated to a much richer scientific menu than if we had met alone. If you're going to go to the effort of preparing a talk and travelling, why not get the greater scientific reward?

The setting was dazzling. We met where Darwin thought and wrote, and where Pearson correlated. Buckingham Palace was within walking distance (several of us did just that) and The British Museum was just next door." On campus was one of the world's greatest Egyptian Museums housing the world's oldest dress! Jeremy Bentham (not entirely flesh and bones) shared with us the hall where the poster sessions and coffee breaks were held. (If you don't "get it," ask someone who attended. He's sitting in a box at the end of the hall.)

Our "Social Evening" reception and lectures were held at The Geological Society, again easy walking distance from the University. The talks by John Marshall and Martin Farley were excellent. The building occupied by The Geological Society (Burlington House) is part of the complex that houses the Royal Society, and I very nearly got into the wrong meeting! How many of us who didn't attend the meetings know where the world's oldest geologic map is on display?

I was unable to attend the post-meeting fieldtrip to Isle of Wight, but I'm told that it was fantastic. Even the weather favored us. It was sunny and warm the entire time of the meeting, and the weather held during the fieldtrip.

I'm sure it occurred to many who didn't attend, that the meetings began on an auspicious date - 9/11. The meetings began with a moment of silence in honour of all those who had suffered and lost life during the events that began on that day. Security was very through throughout London and at the meetings as well. This meeting might be thought of as just one of the many aspects of international cooperation and trust that were stricken on that dark date in 2001, but which have carried on with resolve and renewed diligence with thanks to, and in honour of those who have fallen.



Two shots of happy diners at the AASP business Luncheon (photographer - Andrew Henderson)





Jörg Pross presents the final talk in the Pearson Lecture Theatre (photographer - Jim Riding)



Jane Lewis (photographer - Jim Riding)



Fred Rich, the Chair of the AASP Awards committee, gives a speech at the Business Luncheon (photographer - Andrew Henderson)



Robertson Research - past and present. From the left, Roger J. Davey, Chris Denison, Jim Fenton, Bob Dunay and Les Riley (photographer - Jim Riding)



Svein Manum proudly displays his AASP Award for Scientific Excellence at the Business Luncheon (photographer - Andrew Henderson)



David Pocknall hands over the AASP Presidency to Jim Riding (photographer - Andrew Henderson)

NEW MEMBERS AND ADDRESS UPDATES

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NEWS FROM THE INDIAN PALYNOLOGICAL LABORATORIES

From Naresh C. Mehrotra

The paleopalynological studies in India are mainly confined to the various laboratories of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation the National Oil Company; the main centre being KD Malaviya Institute of Petroleum Exploration, Dehra Dun. Another important centre is the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow. Besides a few universities also do palynological work.

As it is taking me sometime to gather all the information and complete certain formalities and today being the last day am sending you information about two important books published recently by our laboratory; the Palynology Laboratory, KD Malaviya, Institute of Petroleum Exploration. I hope to send you more detailed information from next time onwards.

- 1. N.C. Mehrotra, B.S. Venkatachala, S.N. Swamy & P.N. Kapoor, (2002). Palynology in Hydrocarbon Exploration The Indian Scenario. Memoir 48, Geological Society of India, Bangalore
- 2. Bijai Prasad & Ramson Asher, (2002). Acritarch biostratigraphy and lithostratigraphic classification of Proterozoic and Lower Paleozoic sediments (Pre Unconformity Sequence of Ganga Basin), India. Paleontographica Indica. Number 5, KDMIPE, ONGC Spl. Publ.

BOOK REVIEWS

LAURIE, J.R. & FOSTER, C.B. (eds), 2001. Studies in Australian Mesozoic Palynology II. Memoir of the Association of Australasian Palaeontologists 24, 1-235. ISBN 0-949466-22-0. Price (includes postage and handling) \$A123.20 (Australia); \$A128.00 (elsewhere). Volume is available from: Geological Society of Australia Incorporated, 706 Thakral House, 301 George St, Sydney NSW 2000, Australia. http://www.gsa.org.au.Reviewed by Carlos Jaramillo, Colombian Petroleum Institute. Bucaramanga, Colombia. The modern exploration industry is asking for high-resolution biostratigraphy since plays are becoming more difficult to find. Increasing biostratigraphic resolution ultimately can only be obtained by using more species. This book is an excellent example of how good basic taxonomic work leads to a much better biostratigraphy. For example, the Australian Late Jurassic that was previously divided in seven biostratigraphic units is now subdivided in 31

The Helby et al (1987) palynological zonation was the first formal definition of Australian microplankton and spore pollen zonations. Helby's publication was thought as the foundation upon which a better biostratigraphy could be developed in coming years. This new contribution confirms that the idea worked. This book, written mostly by J. Riding and R. Helby, presents a detailed

improvement over some of the Jurassic to early Cretaceous zones proposed by Helby's 87 work. The formal definition of this more detailed zonation scheme is still in preparation (Helby and Partridge). This book presents the taxonomic foundation for that upcoming update and it is based mainly on dinocysts.

Most of the taxa proposed as new species in this book have been previously used in many unpublished reports. Most of these reports are available from the Australian Geological Organization Survey (AGSO. www.agso.gov.au). The authors also listed these informal names, thus highly increasing their biostratigraphic and paleoecological utility. Single and multiple grain mounts were used mostly from sidewall core samples. Many more photographs of the species described here are supposed to be accessible in an image database hosted by AGSO in www.agso.gov.au. However, I could not find it in the AGSO web site; perhaps is coming later this year.

Besides the detailed species descriptions, each chapter has biostratigraphic comments and correlations, mainly with other dinocyst and pollen assemblages. Nevertheless, I would like to see a more detailed calibration of the proposed zones with other paleontological and nonpaleontological tools (e.g. ammonites. magnetostratigraphy) in future publications. The first chapter has descriptions of one new dinocyst genus and nine new species from the early Jurassic (early Torcian). Chapter Two has an excellent taxonomic revision of the genus Wanaea from Australia and Europe including the biostratigraphic ranges of the most important species of this genus. However, I would have welcomed a taxonomic key for easier identification of this genus at the species level. Chapter Three describes a new species of Phallocysta from the Bathonian (Mid-Jurassic) of the Timor Sea. Chapter Four describes two new genera and 11 dinocyst species from the late Callovian (Mid-Jurassic). One new acritarch species is also described, and the genera Fusiformacysta, Tabulodinium, and Yalkalpodinium are emended. Chapter Five describes three new genera and eight new dinocyst species from Oxfordian (Late Jurassic) in Timor Sea. Systematophora is emended. Chapter Six described three new genera from the Kimmeridgian (Late Jurassic) and seven new species of dinocysts. The genus Craspedodinium is emended. Chapter Seven describes 3 new genera and ten new dinocyst species from Tithonian (Late Jurassic) age. Balcattia, Biorbifera, and Dissimulidinium are emended, one new acritarch species is also described. Chapter Eight describes a new dinocyst genus from Tithonian age in North Western Australia. The last chapter describes two new dinocyst species from the Albian-Aptian of Australia and Papua New Guinea.

If you work in Jurassic-Cretaceous sediments, in the southern hemisphere, in dinocyst phylogeny, in petroleum exploration in Australian areas, or just want to have an example of how to do good and useful taxonomy, this is a book you need in your library. The price is reasonable, the quality of the printing is excellent, and most of the photographs are of good quality and contrast.

I wish we could have many more publications like this where basic in-house data from oil exploration becomes public. This is a critical problem, especially in tropical areas all over the world. It would greatly enhance the utility of palynology and would be helpful for the exploration industry in the long run.ReferencesHelby, R. and Partridge, A.D. *in prep*. A palynological zonation of the Australian Mesozoic - and update.Helby, R., Morgan, R., and Partridge, A.D. 1987. A palynological zonation of the Australian Mesozoic. *In*: Studies in Australian Mesozoic Palynology. P.A. Jell editor, AAP, Sidney, pp. 1-94.

POST DOCTORAL RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY, MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

As a part of a regional petroleum geology initiative by a consortium of Atlantic Canada universities (http://sparky2.esd.mun.ca/), the Palynology Laboratory at Memorial University of Newfoundland has a Post Doctoral

research position available for a recent Ph. D graduate for as early as January 2003. Applicants should be familiar with fluorescence analysis of fossil material as pioneered by van Gijzel and others. Candidates should be comfortable with independently designing and conducting experiments leading towards commercialization of applied fluorescence microscopy in palynology. Mechanical skills in the assembly and calibration of a high end fluorescence microscope and peripheral software are an asset.

Memorial University hosts one of the largest and most modern Earth Sciences departments in Canada. Significant research capacity lies in mineral geology and ore deposit research, environmental geology, and in hydrocarbon exploration and production. The palynology laboratory has 7 fume hoods for research and for commercial applications. Past projects by students and faculty cover nearly all aspects of palynology from the Proterozoic to Recent. Their one common element lies in developing and promoting applications for palynology in Earth and Environmental sciences.

For additional information on this project and for submitting your letter of application, CV, and references, please contact Dr. Elliott Burden, Department of Earth Sciences, Memorial University, St John's, Newfoundland, Canada A1B 3X5.

E-mail: etburden@mun.ca

AGENDA

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. dettman@geo.arizona.edu. For further information concerning housing and registration, please contact Noah Lopez. E-Mail: noahl@u.arizona.edu

October 5-8 Joint AASP/CAP/NAMS meeting Niagara. A joint meeting of the American Asociation of Stratigraphic Palynologists, the Canadian Association of Palynologists, and the North American Micropaleontological Section of SEPM will be held in Canada's Niagara Peninsula October 5-8, 2003. The meeting will be held at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, St. Catharines, Ontario, where a large block of moderately priced rooms has been reserved. The hotel is a 5-minute walk from Brock University where we will take advantage of banquet facilities for the Opening Mixer and laboratory facilities if required for workshops. St. Catharines is ~1.5 hour drive from Toronto Airport and less than an hour drive from Buffalo or Hamilton Airports, and ground transportation is available from Toronto or Buffalo Airports.

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.

April 14-19, 2004, The 5th International Symposium on Eastern Mediterranean Geology (5ISEMG) will take place in Thessaloniki, Greece. Its topics cover the entire range of earth sciences, focussing on the broader area of Eastern Mediterranean and its surroundings. Extended abstracts (up to 4 pages) will be published for all accepted presentations (oral or poster).

The first circular has been released, and pre-registration has already begun. You can pre-register now by one of the following means: i) download and fill the pre-

registration form (www.geo.auth.gr/5thISEMG) and send it by email to 5thISEMG@geo.auth.gr or ii) send the filled pre-registration form by fax to +30.231.0998482. We would appreciate if you could inform your colleagues and co-workers for this Symposium. For more information contact: Web: http://www.geo.auth.gr/5thISEMG, E-mail: 5thISEMG@geo.auth.gr, Discussion group: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/5 ISEMG

August 20-28, 2004, the 32nd session of the International Geological Congress. "From the Mediterranean Area Toward a Global Geological Renaissance" Geology, Natural Hazards and Cultural Heritage, in Florence, Italy. See http://www.32igc.org or contact Chiara Manetti, Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra, Via La Pira, 4 - 50121 Firenze - ITALY, Phone/Fax: +39-055-2382146, E-mail: casaitalia@geo.unifi.it