



# A.A.S.P. NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly by the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists Inc.

## December 2003 Volume 36, 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)  
Dr. Svein B. Manum (awarded 2002)

### 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)  
Dr. Robert T. Clarke (awarded 2002)

### 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)  
Dr. Donald W. Engelhardt (awarded 2000)

**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\$1000. 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](mailto: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 US\$15.00 for Africa, Asia & the Pacific region (includes Australia and New Zealand).



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Carlos Jaramillo, 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. Deadline for next issues of the newsletter is March 1, 2004. All information should be sent by email. If possible, please illustrate your contribution with art, line drawings, eye-catching logos, black & white photos, colour photos, etc. We **DO** look forward to contributions from our membership.

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE

By Sharma Lynn Gaponoff

I would like to thank the membership of AASP for electing me President as I take the reins from Jim Riding, who will continue to serve on the Board of Directors as Past President for this next term. Martin Head is President-elect serving on the Board in this capacity for the current term. I look forward to continuing to serve AASP along with the other outstanding members of our Board of Directors; Thomas Demchuk, Secretary/Treasurer, Owen Davis, Managing Editor, Francine McCarthy and Enrique Martinez-Hernandez, Directors-at-Large.

I would also like to take this opportunity to give a huge thanks to Francine McCarthy and Kevin Gostlin and the members of their Organizing Committee for putting together such a fantastic technical and social program at the 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of AASP in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, October 5-8, 2003. I would like to extend my congratulations to all the award recipients: L R. Wilson Best Student Paper Award to Matthew Peros at the University of Toronto; and Best Poster Award to Thomas Demchuk and his co-authors at ConocoPhillips. Thank you to Fred Rich and the award judges for performing this happy task

AASP began 36 years ago as an idea. In the spring of 1967, the palynologists at AMOCO in Tulsa, Oklahoma, had an idea to create a technical society. In December that year, AASP was born with its first meeting in Tulsa with 32 people in attendance, mostly oil company palynologists. The remaining contingency was primarily palynologists from academia. Attendance at the first Annual Meeting was via word of mouth as the North American community of palynologists in the late 1960's was relatively small.

The most difficult decision of the fledgling organization was what to call itself. The name almost became SNAP, Society of North American Palynologists. The founding members finally settled on AASP with the intent to encompass all palynology workers, not just

stratigraphers.

Annual technical meetings continued, and the journal *Geoscience and Man* was published through Louisiana State University. Soon, however, AASP began independently to publish *Palynology* and the journal has retained its high standard of excellence throughout the years.

Membership swelled until the early 1980's when it began to decline in an inverse relationship to the price of oil. Membership continued to decline throughout the 1980's mirroring the downturn in the oil industry and the demographics of our organization began to change. For example, when I began at Chevron in 1981, there were close to 60 people in biostratigraphy throughout the corporation. Of those, 9 were palynologists: Bert van Helden and Paul Wessendunk in Canada; Sheldon Nelson in Denver; Ralph Morgan in New Orleans; Virgil Wiggins and Harold Kaska in San Francisco; and Warren Drugg, Satish Srivastava, and me in La Habra, California. Carol Meyer had just been promoted to Manager, Development Geology in the research lab in La Habra and I inherited her microscope.

Twenty two years, over a dozen "reorganizations", two corporate mergers, and various retirements and "golden handshakes" later, of those 60 people from 1981 from Chevron, only Sheldon and I remain. I am the only one of that original group doing full time biostratigraphy, and that will also change soon. Sheldon is now working for the environmental group in the corporation, but still does palynology on the side when there is an overflow of microscope work. I will be moving on to a supervisor position in mid-December. Along with most of the geology jobs in ChevronTexaco, my current position as international biostratigrapher has been moved to Houston and has yet to be filled. It remains to be seen if the company will hire a palynologist or someone with expertise in another micropaleontological discipline to fill that position.

The oil industry is no longer the huge employer of biostratigraphers that it was in the early days of AASP – in the 60's, 70's and early '80's, nor is it the generous supporter of biostratigraphic research in academia. Today, a career in palynology is much more common outside the oil industry. This demographic change is reflected in the membership of AASP and in the presentations at our technical meetings.

At the outgoing AASP Board of Directors meeting on at the annual meeting in St. Catharines, our Secretary/Treasurer Thomas Demchuk reported that

our membership have dropped by 80 members since last year. We are down to roughly 540 members. Membership numbers have been declining annually and are forecast to continue along this almost linear trend unless we as an organization do something different.

We are in an organization in transition. This transition began slowly, and has become very apparent in the last few years. We are now in what I would term an "accelerated transition phase." The challenge to AASP is to take a lesson from the fossils that many of us study and adapt to global changes in the applications of the science of palynology. Perhaps it is time for AASP to actively broaden its scope. Take a look at this first pass at an AASP produced educational outreach CD. It embraces all applications of palynology. (Please click on the hyperlink at the end of this article)

It behooves us as a technical society to actively embrace and invite palynologists of all aspects of our field and make them aware of the existence of AASP. It is also necessary for AASP to offer something for palynologists outside stratigraphic applications so they will be willing to join this organization and become actively involved. This will help keep the science of palynology alive and AASP as an organization alive.

There was a recently missed opportunity at Dino 7 in Nagasaki in late September. There was no visible presence of AASP. The conference was extremely well attended with 101 participants from 20 countries and 1 region: USA, Canada, Mexico, Costa Rica, Colombia, UK, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Poland, Germany, The Netherlands, France, Italy, Spain, Malaysia, Philippines, China, Hong Kong, Korea, and of course, Japan. There were 51 oral presentations, including the joint symposium and 58 poster presentations. Of the 37 paleontological topics, 3 were Paleozoic, 6 were Mesozoic and 28 were Cenozoic. But the modern biological topics were in the majority with 72 presentations. These included 23 on dinoflagellate evolution and habitat, 23 on harmful algal blooms and 26 on biogeography and ocean circulation.

It is unfortunate that AASP did not coordinate any type of presence at this excellent conference. One hundred and one people would have liked to know about our organization and we could have potentially gained some new members or certainly piqued the curiosity of several palynologists who are currently unaware of AASP. These dinoflagellate conferences only happen every two years. This missed opportu-

nity illustrates how important it is that AASP maintain and improve active ties with other palynological organizations, and increase our presence at other technical society meetings.

As President, I offer you the membership of AASP the following challenges and opportunities:

Become active in AASP. This is YOUR organization—you can make a difference.

- Become involved
- Bring ideas or if you do not want to do this in person, do it virtually--
  - submit them to the newsletter
  - e-mail me or any other member of the Board of Directors
  - attend the Board meetings, they are open to everyone who is a member. Board meetings happen twice a year, once at the annual meeting, and once at a mid-year meeting. Announcement of the mid-year Board meeting will be made in the newsletter. Mark your calendar. Become involved in AASP.
- Opportunity:
  - Be on the “Educational Outreach” committee
    - Build on the educational/outreach CD (contact me, Vaughn or Satish with your ideas/contributions)
  - Submit ideas on how to make AASP a better organization that is more relevant to YOU.
  - Help get more student involvement, especially from students around the world.

Lend your mind and your creativity. This is your organization. Make it work for you. Have safe and wonderful holidays, and the best to all of us for 2004. I look forward to hearing from you. Thank you.

The educational outreach CD can be found at:  
<http://www.palynology.org/content/other/AASPstoryboard1.ppt>

S. Gaponoff  
December 2003

## FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER

Thomas D. Demchuk, Houston

It's my pleasure to present to you the Secretary and Treasurer's report as given to the general membership at the Annual Meeting in St. Catharines, Ontario, Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2003.

### *Secretary's Report*

The frightening trend of decreased membership continues for the year 2003. As of October 2003, membership numbers had decreased to 548 members: 418 individual, 40 retired member status, and 90 institutional members. This is a decrease of 80 members from the same time in 2002. The Board of Directors has talked at length regarding this trend, and further discussions will ensue over the next few Board meetings. Of importance is making sure that students retain individual membership upon finishing their studies. Another is to reach out to Quaternary and non-geological scientists who may have interest in palynological studies. I've attempted to keep in touch with members who have let their membership lapse over the past few years, with friendly e-mail and snail-mail reminders. Unfortunately these produce few re-instated memberships. If you have a friend who you know has let their AASP membership lapse, please give them a gentle reminder as to the importance of their membership in the Association.

With the new AASP secure server, more members are paying with credit cards and this is now even more convenient with the removal of the credit card surcharge. You can also order AASP Foundation publications on the website, so please go and check it out. 224 members currently receive the Newsletter via e-mail attachment or website download.

\*Please note that all members with valid e-mail addresses will receive the Newsletter electronically beginning with the March 2004 issue. Make sure your e-mail is up-to-date with the Secretary-Treasurer. Exceptions to continue receiving a hard copy of the Newsletter will be decided upon on a individual case basis. Please notify the Secretary-Treasurer.

By now, those members whose dues were up at the end of 2003 should have received their pink membership renewal form. If you did not receive a renewal notification, you are paid up through 2004 and possibly beyond. I look forward to receiving members renewal payments, via the website or through US Post.

Finally, please make sure your address and other

pertinent contact information are up-to-date with the Secretary-Treasurer. A new Membership Directory will be published early in 2004, so make sure you get new contact information to the Secretary as soon as possible.

### *Treasurer's Report*

On a brighter note, with the upturn of the world economy the AASP finances are on the upswing. Total AASP assets as of October 2003 were US\$72,265.66. This is a substantial increase of approximately US\$16,000 from the same time in 2002. The majority of this increase is a result of increased dividends and prices for the mutual funds in which AASP has invested. As the US stock market continues to appreciate, our financial condition will also continue to improve. As a result of these funds, AASP has plans to increase funding to students, both through Scholarships for palynological research, but also in the way of travel funds to attend palynological meetings including the upcoming IPC in Grenada. AASP will sponsor a number of students with travel stipends to help them attend the IPC in July. I'm sure all members will agree that students are vital to ensuring the longevity of our discipline, and funding their research and participation in meetings is money well invested in their future, and future of palynology.

If any member has any comments or questions concerning the figures and facts noted above, please feel free to contact me at your leisure. My e-mail remains the same (despite the increased spam) [tdemchuk@swbell.net](mailto:tdemchuk@swbell.net) I very much look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dr. Thomas D. Demchuk  
AASP Secretary-Treasurer and Humble Servant

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### **THE JOINT MEETING OF AASP, CAP, AND NAMS.- ST. CATHARINES 2003**

By Francine McCarthy

Ninety eight delegates attended this year's annual meeting, held in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada from October 5th to 8th. The organizers, Francine McCarthy (Dept. of Earth Sciences, Brock University) and Kevin Gostlin (Dept. of Geology, University of Toronto), received 77 abstracts from workers from 15 countries. This year's meeting benefitted from the participation of CAP and NAMS, with strong participation from their executives (CAP President Alwynne Beaudoin, and NAMS President Mimi Katz and Presi-

dent-Elect Pete McLaughlin all chaired sessions at the meeting). As a result, in addition to a varied and interesting palynological program, there were oral and poster presentations on diatoms, foraminifera, and thecamoebians.

The participation of many CAP and NAMS members also resulted in a focus on Quaternary paleoecology and geoarcheology and on evolutionary biology. There is obvious potential for cross-fertilization (pun intended!) between these organizations, and this meeting will hopefully lead to new and fruitful collaborations. Registration fees were kept moderate, particularly for student members, and the exchange rate was quite favorable for visitors to Canada- and of course, this meeting provided delegates with an opportunity to see one of the world's great natural wonders (Niagara Falls- unfortunately not unspoiled...) as well as one of UNESCO's World Biosphere Reserves (the Niagara Escarpment) and Niagara's Wine Country.



Jim Dickson -"The Iceman Cometh!!!"

The very full and varied technical program, spanning three full days with concurrent sessions on October 7th, was kicked off by a scrumptious Opening Mixer at Brock University's Pond Inlet. This was followed by a fascinating and entertaining public lecture on palynological and bryological investigations of the Tyrolean Iceman by Jim Dickson, in traditional Scottish dress (see photo above). The technical sessions and the AASP Business Luncheon and various board meetings were held at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel, where the common consensus was that the facilities and food were outstanding. Field trips examined the geology of Wine Country, of Niagara Falls (see photo), Niagara's Carolinian forest, and the archeological site at Crawford Lake. The field trips and the well-attended social outings to Niagara Fall's Skylon Tower and to

Hillebrand Estates Winery Restaurant added to the camaraderie that characterized the entire conference (see the evidence in the photo below!).



MaletaWinetasting: A hardy group of palynologists learn the details of good winemaking at the Maleta Vineyards.



Satish Srivastava and his wife Rosalind Catterall enjoy the Business Luncheon



New President Sharma Gaponoff presents her incoming Presidential address.

## **BEST STUDENT PAPER AND BEST POSTER AWARDS, AASP ST. CATHARINES MEETING 2003**

The Awards Committee is pleased to announce the results of evaluations of student talks and posters that were presented at the St. Catharines meeting.

This year the competition for the L.R. Wilson Best Student Paper Award was pretty stiff, and concurrent sessions in which students made presentations resulted in committee Chair, Fred Rich, securing the services of a number of judges (Owen Davis, Pete McLaughlin, Alwynne Beaudoin, Rolf Mathewes, Daniel Michoux, and Fred Rich). There were 17 student presentations this year, surely a record. After lengthy discussion, the committee decided to present that award to Matthew Peros, a student at the University of Toronto. Matthew's presentation was entitled "Micropaleontological research in north central Cuba: implications for prehistoric archeology".

The Best Poster Award was made to authors T.D. Demchuk, E. Gonzalez-Guzman, I.R. Gordon, C.M. Curtis, and J.R. Suter for their poster entitled "An integrated chronostratigraphy for the Oficina Formation at Petrozuata, Venezuela; a year 2003 evaluation based on additional stratigraphic and micropaleontological data".

This year's joint meeting, combined with the eclectic nature of the talks made evaluation difficult, and much thought was given to the awards before they were announced. The committee members, and their many helpers, extend their thanks to everyone who participated. Students, particularly, are congratulated for having put forth the unusual effort that was required to make a presentation before what were typically large audiences; this is not always easy to do, and each participant should take a bow.

Respectfully submitted,  
Fredrick J. Rich  
Chair, Awards Committee

## **Q & A: NEW NAMES IN THESE**

By Jan Jansonius [JJanson@NRCCan.gc.ca](mailto:JJanson@NRCCan.gc.ca)

*Question:* We are having discussions in our lab about describing new species in theses. I am 100% against doing that because I think the species name would not be validly published. Other guy thinks that you can do it, and then, in a formal publication you just can refer to your thesis, and thereby make the species become valid. What do you think?

*Answer:* Your question has been raised by other peo-

ple, and actually there is at present a (not very active, however) subcommittee of the Editorial Committee of the Code of Botanical Nomenclature discussing this same matter. The present edition of the Code is fairly clear: the description of a new name for a new taxon must satisfy a number of requirements, such as: holotype, English (or Latin) description/diagnosis, holotype, illustration, repository of type, etc. in order for it to be validly published. Some of these conditions have different starting dates. Furthermore, there is the matter of effective publication, without such a new name cannot be considered as having been validly published.

Effective publication, as required by the Botanical Code, means that the material must have been printed, and have been made available to the general public, or at least to libraries of botanical institutions that are accessible to botanists generally. Publication is NOT effected by communication of (=introducing, or using) names at a public meeting, placing a name on a herbarium sheet (or on the label of a glass slide; or, a page in a typescript), nor by xeroxing/microfilming a manuscript/typescript, nor by publication on-line, or by distribution through electronic media. (The latter is in contrast to the Zoological Code, which I have been told, now does recognize publication of new nomenclature through formal electronic journals as being effective). Valid publication, then, can only be accepted if it was effective, and simultaneously satisfied a number of other conditions (as spelled out in various paragraphs of Art. 32). Your question, therefore, is not about valid publication as much as it is about effective publication. As well, it addresses the (rather broad) question: "Are (all) theses effective publication". And, secondly, it seems to imply the question: "What are the minimum conditions for an author to get away with, and still be able to claim authorship for having delivered effectively/validly published new nomenclature."

Academic theses/dissertations are treated differently in various countries. There can be theses for a master's degree, as well as theses for doctoral degrees; and further, there are more than one "level" of doctoral degrees, in e.g. France, or Germany, or England (DSc versus PhD), each with their own requirement for effective publication of the accompanying theses. Many of these also have their own specific requirements for number of copies. For instance, in the Netherlands -- where I defended my PhD thesis in the 1950s -- one requirement before being issued the doctoral bull is donating 200-300 copies of the printed dissertation (or, in lieu: reprints of a publication in a journal of good standing) to be used in reprint/dissertation exchanges between

universities. Because of this requirement, there is in Holland a strong competition between numerous small publishing houses that specialize in printing the 200-400 (or whatever number) copies of the dissertation ordered by a doctoral candidate. These are bona fide effective publications -- although an author still may want to renounce its justified status as effective publication by stating such, and wait for the more widely accessible issue of a journal for establishing a date for determining priority. [Theses for a master's degree are rarely printed; usually just one or two copies are kept and filed (which does not constitute effective publication)]. On the other hand, the theses submitted at a PhD examination in North America are usually presented in 4-5 copies, at least two of which are bound and placed in the library of their university. These are available for further copying, or for Inter Library Loans, but they are not effectively published (in the eyes of the ICBN). Similarly, in 1942, Ulrich Horst submitted a PhD thesis in typescript to the Technische Hochschule in Berlin; in 1943, carbon copies and photocopies were placed in university libraries, which Potonie (pers. comm.) originally cited as effectively published. However, only in 1955 were the new taxa in this thesis eventually effectively published (with some editing by Potonie & Kremp) in *Palaeontographica*, B 98.

Thus, the Code is quite clear on what is required. There are new technical developments, however, that to some extent appear to obfuscate the border between "printing" and "copying." The new technique of "dry printing" or "Docutec" is mechanically not very different from making copies on a copier ("Xerox" reg.). The latter method makes possible the new notion of "printing on demand." Rather than having an offset press run calculated to (fully) satisfy anticipated demand, a smaller number can be produced and bound, with the date of effective publication marked on the title page. Then, if further demand warrants that, additional copies can be produced from the stored electronic file at little extra cost. I consider this method to be a form of "printing" in the spirit of Art. 30 of the ICBN.

Fundamentally, then, one must also evaluate the intentions of the author, and the means he used to realize his intentions, to determine whether he produced merely some incidental *ad hoc* copies of his report (which may be in the form of a thesis submitted for an academic examination), or whether he deliberately produced a sufficient number of copies of his report, in the form of a conventional book or journal publication, to satisfy simultaneously his obligations to the university for being issued a doctoral degree, as well as the requirement of the ICBN (Art. 29) that sufficient numbers be available to botanists generally.



How many are needed for the latter requirement? It will vary depending on conditions and times: there were fewer botanists and botanical institutions in years gone by than there are now. Here we come back to the intention of the author, and as well his deliberate willingness to accommodate the various and multiple demands that his publication intends to address. When you asked if a mere reference to a non-effectively published document can make the latter "effectively" published in the sense of the Code, the answer is "no." There are several references to such situations in the Code. For instance, Art. 32.4 states that "An indirect reference, by [way of] an author citation or in some other way, is a clear (if cryptic) indication that a previously and effectively published description or diagnosis applies."

I want to end this letter by returning to my earlier ("second") point: How ethical and scientific is it to try to do the least amount of work possible that will enable you to claim that you "published" names of new taxa? If you want to be taken seriously as a bona fide scientist, you want to do everything as scrupulously as custom and the Code require, so that there will be no doubt about your seriousness and capabilities. That means: publication in a reputable journal; satisfying all conditions set out in ICBN Art. 32.1; making clear illustrations in sharp focus, and of both proximal and distal sides if needed; ensuring that the magnification is calculated precisely, and in accord with the measurements in the description; etc. etc. The Code is available on the internet (go to the website of the <International Association for Plant Taxonomy>). I also want to point to the reprinting of the 3-volume book "Palynology: principles and applications" (Jansonius & McGregor, eds.) [US\$100.-- post-paid], in which Traverse wrote a succinct discussion on how to validly publish new nomenclature and/or taxonomy. As of now, there are some 50 sets left.

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## NEWS FROM THE UK

By Jim Riding

Now that I have stepped down from being President of AASP, I will restart my regular columns on news emanating from the palynological community in the UK. As President, I had to contribute a 'President's Page' so felt that it was inappropriate to take up two slots in the Newsletter. If anything really vital came up in the over here, I could always mention it in the 'President's Page'.

I am very sorry to report that emeritus Professor Leslie R. Moore of Sheffield University passed away on

the 13<sup>th</sup> November 2003; he was 91. Leslie had an operation recently following a broken hip sustained last summer. The funeral took place in Birmingham on the 24<sup>th</sup> November. In recent years his eyesight was failing, but he was always full of anecdotes and loved reminiscing in his distinctive rich west-country accent about his days in Sheffield. Leslie Moore was the instigator of both the school of palynology at the University of Sheffield and the Micropalaeontological Society, which he got off the ground as the British Micropalaeontological Group in 1970. Prof., as everyone at Sheffield knew him as, retired in 1980 and was the head of the Geology Department. His research interests centered around the Carboniferous. He was an inspirational teacher and was particularly warm and helpful to younger students, of which he must have taught thousands. He built up the discipline palynology in the Department at Sheffield and one of his first appointments was Charles Downie, who he brought with him from Glasgow. Many AASP members will remember Leslie well and will wish to join me in sending our sincere condolences to his family. A full obituary will appear in the next Newsletter.

Bill Sarjeant was one of Leslie's colleagues at Sheffield in the early 1960s. Unfortunately, Bill died in July 2002 and there have been many obituaries published. Richard Haworth, the editor of the Proceedings of the Geologists' Association, has recently issued a comprehensive obituary of Bill. It is simply titled 'Professor William Antony Swithin Sarjeant, 1935-2002' and the full reference is Proceedings of the Geologists' Association, 114: 367-374 (2003). Richard consulted widely on this project and skilfully compiled comments from many of Bill's associates. The text is six pages and Richard has done a superb job in describing Bill's unique career and character. For anyone who knew Bill, I would unhesitatingly recommend this obituary.

Finally, I would ask any one based in the UK to send me news for the first Newsletter of 2004.

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## NEWS FROM INDIA

By Naresh C. Mehrotra [nareshmehrotra@indiatimes.com](mailto:nareshmehrotra@indiatimes.com)

Recent Publications from KDMIPE, ONGC, Dehra Dun Highlights  
ATLAS OF DINOFLAGELLATE CYSTS FROM MESOZOIC-TERTIARY SEDIMENTS OF KRISHNA-GODAVARI BASIN

Volume-I: LATE JURASSIC -CRETACEOUS DINOFLAGELLATE CYSTS by N.C. Mehrotra and H.S.

Aswal, pp. 1-145, fig. 1 -8, plates, 1 -36.  
Volume-II: TERTIARY DINOFLAGELLATE CYSTS  
by N.C. Mehrotra and Kamla Singh, pp. 1 -134, fig.  
1 -7, plates 1 -36.

The volumes include details of morphologies of important species, difference from the holotype material and their significant identifiable characters. Known global stratigraphic ranges of taxa and the occurrences in Krishna-Godavari Basin are included. Notes on paleoceanographic regimes of various dinocyst taxa are additional important inputs. All the dinoflagellate species have been illustrated with a series of photomicrographs along with explanation of important morphological characters.

The volume I on Mesozoic dinoflagellate cysts contains documentation of 86 species belonging to 58 genera. These have been illustrated through 36 well organized photoplates. An updated biostratigraphy of Mesozoic sediments based on study of key wells - Ramachandrapuram -A, Mahendravada -A, Endamuru -A, Draksharama -A, Narasapur -A and Mori -A has been established. Data on paleoenvironment and relative changes in sea -level based on marine /terrestrial palynofossil groups, dinocyst peaks integrated with sedimentological and well log interpretation data helped in building sequence biostratigraphy. Such well data is also included.

The volume II of these atlas contains morphological descriptions, stratigraphic ranges and photomicrographic illustrations of 81 dinoflagellate species belonging to 43 genera. Thirty six photoplates along with detailed explanations supplement the morphological descriptions. A dinoflagellate biostratigraphic zonation scheme of Tertiary sediments of Krishna -Godavari Basin has been presented. This is mainly based on data from key wells Surasaniyanam -A, Manepalli -A, Magatapalli -A, Mori -A, Kesanapalli -A and Narasapur -A. Data on paleoenvironment and sea level changes, like in Vol. I, based mainly on dinocysts and integrated with other palynofossils, sedimentological and well log data have been presented for the wells Surasaniyanam -A, Manepalli -A and Magatapalli -A for building sequence stratigraphy.

A limited number of copies and likely to be available for sale within and outside India; the sale price is to be fixed.

Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow celebrated its Founders Day programme on November, 14, 2003 which is celebrated each year as the Birth Day of Late Prof. Birbal Sahni. The programme included two invited lectures : (i) A.C. Seward Memorial

Lecture by C.G.K. Ramanujam on, Palms through ages in Southern India - A Reconnaissance and (ii) Birbal Sahni Memorial Lecture on, Quaternary Climate Change and Human History in Ganga Plain by Prof. I.B. Singh. Dr. R.C. Mehrotra was awarded Dr. P.N. Srivastava Medal for his outstanding scientific contributions.

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## NEWS FROM CHINA

By Shaozhi Mao

### *Sincere thanks to Dr. Judith Lentin*

To express sincere thanks to Dr. Judith Lentin, from L.I.B. Ltd. and the Mentors, Canada, for her generous donation and friendship, the China University of Geosciences at Beijing last Summer invited Dr. Judith Lentin and her husband, Dr. Peter Jones, to visit Beijing and other interesting places.

Their tour to China lasted three weeks, from August to September 2003. During that time they lectured at the University and China Petroleum Ltd. in Beijing, and at Northwest University in Xian, Shanxi Province. They also made several field trips and a revisit to the Great Wall around Beijing, and as well a sightseeing tour to the famous place where wooden and earthen figures of warriors and horses were buried with the dead during the Qin Dynasty (221-207 B.C.) near Xian.

The "donation history" can be traced back to last century. In responding to the invitation from professors Shaozhi Mao (an AASP member since 1982) and Shutian Suo of China University of Geoscience at Wuhan, both Judi and her lovely husband Peter visited China in 1987; the first trip for Judi but the second for Peter. During that visit both of them offered a number of lectures, in several universities and institutes, in Wuhan, Beijing and Nanjing; visited the Chinese number 2 Shenli Oil field in Shandong province; and enjoyed a sightseeing trip to the beautiful karst scenery of Guilin. Of course, palynological labs in these institutions were Judi's major interests during her visit. She observed and remembered that advanced achievement to be made in China was hampered by lack of high quality microscopes, and lack of specialized literature in many labs. That's why she finally decided to donate her private library and microscope to the University in Beijing -- a generous gesture showing her assistance and support to the Chinese palynologists, who now may have the advantage, directly or indirectly, of using her excellent equipment and the substantial collection of research publications.

Judi's donation includes the big research microscope of Zeiss Photomicroscope III, and a smaller travel microscope which shares the optical stage and head with the big microscope, as well as a Zeiss zoom stereo microscope for the study of foraminifera or sediment hand samples. Other matching equipment, like phase contrast and interference contrast lenses, a photographic system, fiber-optic light source etc. are included. The literature collection consists of 3065 reprints of scientific publications, a complete set of the journal "Palynology", approximately 5 years of the journal "Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology", and a number of books related to Palynology, Palaeobotany, Sedimentology, Geochemistry and Geology. It took almost two years to accomplish her desire. Both sides have spent their great efforts to clear away numerous unexpected obstacles for moving Judi's huge donation from Calgary, Canada to Beijing, China.

For her unselfish donation and their dedication to the university, the greatest beneficiary China University of Geosciences at Beijing awarded Drs. Judith Lentin and Peter Jones the honorable title of guest professors of the university, and the President of the university, Wu Ganguo issued certifications to both of them in a formal ceremony with attendance of vice-president of the university, the chairman, several professors and graduate students of the Dept of Geology and Mineral Resources. Drs. Lentin and Jones are now guest professors of the China University of Geosciences, and their visit to the university will be warmly welcomed forever.



President of the China university, Wu Ganguo issued certifications to Judith Lentin

## NEW MEMBERS AND ADDRESS UPDATES

### Address Updates

TAKEUTI SADAKO  
 YANAGIMACHI LABORATORY OF NATURAL  
 STUDIES  
 ICHIBANCHO 1-8-10-504, AOBA, SENDAI 980-  
 0811  
 JAPAN  
 tel 81-22-221-4087  
 fax 81-22-275-7672

### NEW BOOK

#### ARCHAEOLOGY IN ALBERTA: A VIEW FROM THE NEW MILLENNIUM

Brink, Jack W. and John F. Dormaar (eds.). 2003. A publication of the Archaeological Society of Alberta. Soft cover, 347 pages, 103 figures. \$30.00 CDN, \$25.00 USD. ISBN 0-7785-2853-7

The first major update on the archaeology of Alberta since Wormington and Forbis' 1965 classic *An Introduction to the Archaeology of Alberta, Canada*. Twelve original papers on topics ranging from ancient environments, culture history, stone features, innovation, migration, technological and artistic achievement, and an Aboriginal perspective. Essential reading for all interested in Alberta's past, written for both the general public and for the professional audience.

### Contents

1. Climate and landscape of the last 2000 years in Alberta. Alwynne B. Beaudoin.
2. Aboriginal bows and arrows and other weapons in Alberta: the last 2 000 years, or longer? Heinz W. Pyszczuk.
3. Archaeology on the Alberta Plains: the last two thousand years. Trevor R. Peck and Caroline R. Hudecek-Cuffe.
4. Tipi rings and Alberta archaeology: a brief overview. Gerald A. Oetelaaro.
5. Pre-contact pottery in Alberta: an overview. Dale Walde and David Meyer.
6. Spirit images, medicine rocks: the rock art of Alberta. Michael A. Klassen.
7. Archaeology and geography of vision quest sites. John F. Dormaar.
8. A review of certain stone alignments and rock cairns in Alberta archaeology. J. Brink, K. Wright-Fedyniak and D. Wetzel.
9. Napi figures: boulder outline effigies on the Plains. J. Rod Vickers Alberta, Athapaskans and Apachean origin. John W. Ives.
10. The first 2000 years of oil sands history: ancient hunters at the northwest outlet of Glacial Lake Agas-

siz. Nancy Saxberg and Brian O.K. Reeves.  
11. Before the Alberta century. Eldon Yellowhorn.

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**CALIB 4.4, THE UPDATED RADIOCARBON AGE CALIBRATION PROGRAM**

By Paula Reimer

I wish to announce the release of CALIB 4.4, the updated radiocarbon age calibration program. The program and datasets can be downloaded from <http://depts.washington.edu/qil/dloadcalib/>. The new version incorporates the option to use the Southern Hemisphere calibration dataset, adds a decadal extension of IntCal98 to the single year dataset, and corrects a rare problem in CALIB 4.3 with missed probability ranges due to flat regions of the probability distribution. The program has a graphical user interface with a help system. The Macintosh version of CALIB 4.4 is not yet available, but an on-line version with most of the same features can be executed at <http://www.calib.org>. Users will note that the intercept method (Method A) is no longer available. For details see the CALIB 4.4 manual at <http://radiocarbon.pa.qub.ac.uk/calib/manual>

**DINOFLAGELLATE CYSTS FROM THE CRETACEOUS: THE DUXBURY (1983) DATABASE NOW ONLINE**

By Susanne Feist-Burkhardt

A new searchable database of type and figured dinoflagellate cysts is now available free of charge on the web site of the Micropalaeontology Division at The Natural History Museum, London. The database contains new, high quality, colour images, and confocal 3D images and video clips of the original specimens from Stan Duxbury's (1983) classic publication on Early Cretaceous dinoflagellate cysts of the Isle of Wight, Southern England. This is the first of a series of illustrated, searchable online databases featuring type

material housed in the NHM palynology collections. This database presents an outstanding new research tool for experienced researchers, lecturers, students and all those wishing to learn about Cretaceous dinoflagellate cysts. It provides instant access to important taxonomic information and first class illustrations of the original specimens. It can be accessed under the following URL: <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/palaeontology/micro/collections/duxbury/dux.html>



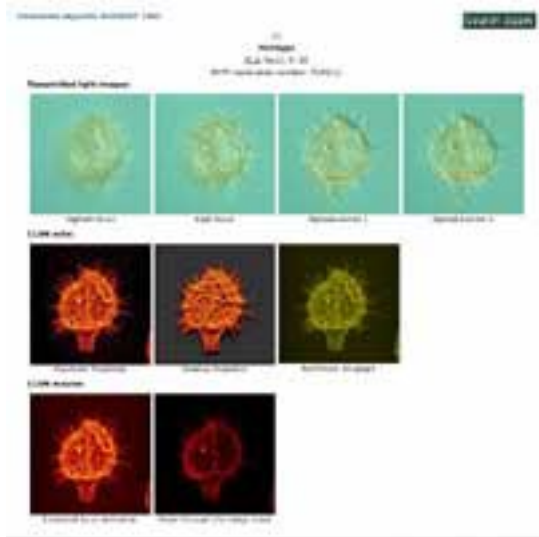
Screen shot 1: Database search

Duxbury (1983) is one of the most important publications for workers in Cretaceous dinoflagellate cysts. The collection of type and figured specimens in this publication is housed in the Micropalaeontology Division and consists of over 100 slides. The publication describes 102 taxa of which 2 genera and 20 species are described as new.

All of the important taxa have been re-imaged using modern digital photomicrography and are illustrated in this online database. In addition, and most importantly, many of the original specimens have been imaged using Confocal Laser Scanning Microscopy (CLSM), an innovative way for illustrating palynomorphs. CLSM can produce extended-focus images but without the time-consuming preparation required for SEM images. This technique is non invasive, so type collections can be re-imaged and re-illustrated to provide extra information for the palynologist. Three-dimensional images can also be constructed which can be viewed from different angles as animated movies.

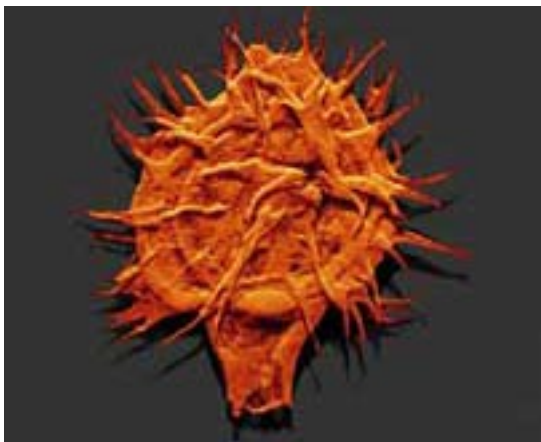
This database includes all the original plates from the publication and augments these substantially with new digital colour images, CLSM extended focus images, red/green anaglyphs (please use red/green glasses to appreciate the 3D effect), 3D animations and animations of the image stack from the original specimens. The original diagnoses and

emendations by Duxbury (1983) are included for each taxon with added notes inferring subsequent changes in taxonomy.



Screen shot 2: Specimen page

The database allows greater access to this collection while conserving the condition of the original specimens. It has been developed mainly as an aid for palynologists who seek unbiased taxonomic information on the type material. This kind of database also represents an excellent research tool in its own right by providing images and taxonomic information via an easy-to-use interface on the Internet. Its full potential is reached when used in conjunction with other databases (e.g. the web-browser-based database DINOFLAJ) so that all the important taxonomic and image information are readily available on one computer screen. In addition to the role as a specialists' application, the online database serves as a resource for educators developing and teaching courses in palynology and for students interested in Cretaceous dinoflagellate cysts.



Screen shot 3: Pop-up window with specimen details

The Duxbury (1983) database of Early Cretaceous dinoflagellate cysts is the first of a planned series of illustrated, searchable, online databases featuring type material housed in the NHM palynology collections. Work has started on the type material of Duxbury (1977) and (1980), thus completing the series on Lower Cretaceous dinoflagellate cysts. Next in the pipeline are the superb collections of Tertiary dinoflagellate cysts from the classic publications of Eaton (1971, 1976), Bujak (1976, 1979) and Bujak et al. (1980).

Susanne Feist-Burkhardt, Andrew S. Henderson, Iona McLachlan, John E. Williams (The Natural History Museum, London)

References cited:

Bujak, J.P. (1976): An evolutionary series of Late Eocene dinoflagellate cysts from southern England. *Marine Micropaleontology*, v. 1, p. 101-117, pl. 1-4.  
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 Eaton, G.L. (1976): Dinoflagellate cysts from the Bracklesham Beds (Eocene) of the Isle of Wight, southern England. *British Museum (Natural History) Geology, Bulletin*, v. 26, p. 227-332, pl. 1-21.

PS:

The Natural History Museum is interested in increasing their collections and providing the best possible accessibility, i.e. by developing web-based catalogues and databases and exploring the possibilities of the Internet. We therefore encourage all colleagues to consider deposition of type and figured palynological specimens in the Micropalaeontology Division at the NHM. If you would like further information, please contact Susanne Feist-Burkhardt [S.Feist-Burkhardt@nhm.ac.uk](mailto:S.Feist-Burkhardt@nhm.ac.uk) or Andrew Henderson [A.Henderson@nhm.ac.uk](mailto:A.Henderson@nhm.ac.uk).

## **JOB OPENINGS**

See up to date openings at [www.palynology.org/news.html](http://www.palynology.org/news.html)

### **Assistant Professorship in terrestrial paleoecology, University of Iowa**

The Department of Geoscience at the University of Iowa invites applications for a full-time tenure-track Assistant Professorship in terrestrial paleoecology. The appointment will begin in August 2004. We seek an outstanding researcher and teacher who uses modern quantitative and analytical techniques to reconstruct and interpret the Earth's nonmarine ecosystems and natural history. Desirable qualifications include a research emphasis that complements existing faculty research and teaching, including but not limited to expertise in community paleoecology, the evolution of terrestrial ecosystems, or the use of biotic information for understanding regional or global change. In addition to developing an active, externally-funded program of research, the successful candidate will be expected to teach three courses per academic year, which includes participating in a rotation team for a general education course in Environmental Sciences.

Applicants must have a Ph.D. in hand by August 2004. Women and minorities are especially encouraged to apply. Applicants should send a complete resume (including a bibliography and statement of teaching and research interests) and have at least three letters of recommendation sent to: Search Committee Chair (Terrestrial Paleoecology), Department of Geoscience, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242-1379, [geology@uiowa.edu](mailto:geology@uiowa.edu), Phone: 319/335-1818; Fax: 319/335-1821). Screening of candidates begins December 1, 2003, and will continue until the position is filled. The University of Iowa is an affirmative action - equal opportunity employer.

### **Multiproxy reconstructions of the Andean upper forest line. PhD student.**

The multiproxy reconstructions will focus on (late) Holocene sediment cores from mires, lakes and soil profiles to be used for pollen analysis, LOI, charcoal analysis and radiocarbon dating. Pollen traps along transects will be used to calibrate fossil records against modern pollen rain. The research project will be executed partly in Ecuador in collaboration with local research and nature conservation institutions. Most of the time will be spent in Amsterdam. The candidate will participate in cooperative activities with these institutions.

Contract is for a period of 4 years and should lead to a PhD thesis. Apart from research funds, a monthly

allowance is paid according to WOTRO regulations: € 1100 during stay in the Netherlands, and € 700 during stay in Ecuador.

Applications including a letter of interest and a detailed CV should be sent to prof. dr Henry Hooghiemstra ( [hooghiemstra@science.uva.nl](mailto:hooghiemstra@science.uva.nl) ) Tel. +31 20 525.7857/7844, IBED-Palynology, University of Amsterdam, Kruislaan 318, 1098 SM Amsterdam, The Netherlands. December 3, 2003 due date for applications.

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### **THE XI INTERNATIONAL PALYNOLOGICAL CONGRESS GRANADA, SPAIN – 4 TO 9 JULY 2004**

By Ana T. Romero.

AASP has kindly offered me this opportunity to tell you a little about the 11 IPC we are organising here in Granada. With less than a year to go we are very happy with the response we have had so far. We have had a high level of pre-registrations from all over the world and feel confident that the quality of the contributions will assure the success of the conference. May I remind you that the deadline for receiving abstracts is 15 January 2004 and the deadline for registration without surcharge is 15 April 2004.

The city of Granada is a perfect back-drop for a scientific conference, offering the prestige and tradition of a 477 year-old university with more than 60,000 students, together with a modern, well- equipped conference centre. The beauty of the Alhambra, the peaks of the Sierra Nevada and surrounding countryside complete the picture.

The conference will take place from 4-9 July at the Granada Conference and Exhibition Centre, which will give us excellent conditions for work and due to the high altitude of Granada the evenings are pleasantly cool and the dinners we have organised will be held outside in lovely gardens. The summer evenings are quite magical in Granada. We have organised an interesting programme of pre- and post-conference tours covering many botanical, geological, palynological and palaeontological aspects if you wish to extend your stay in Spain.

The second circular was sent out in September and includes the scientific programme. There will be two plenary lectures given by Professor Eugenio Domínguez of the University of Córdoba, Spain, and Professor Henry Hooghiemstra of the University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Four simultaneous sessions are planned, giving the opportunity for more than three hundred and eighty contributions, plus a

poster exhibition and poster sessions on three days of the conference. The registration fee includes the full social programme as well as a guided tour of the Alhambra Palace and Generalife. There are two attractive options available for accompanying persons. We have organised special discounts at hotels within easy walking distance of the conference centre. As always funding is limited but we do hope to be able to offer some grants, giving preference to IFPS members from countries with economic difficulties, and to student who are IFPS members.

You can find more detailed information on our regularly updated web site [www.11ipc.org](http://www.11ipc.org). If you want other accommodation or cheaper prices, information about the pre- and post-conference tours and so on, the Technical Secretary can be contacted at [eurocongres@eurocongres.es](mailto:eurocongres@eurocongres.es).

The scope of the conference is very wide so the proceedings will be published in specialist journals. In some cases the journals have offered to prepare special issues for the proceedings. I do encourage you to send us the latest results of your research and to join us here in Granada next summer to meet colleagues old and new and to enjoy our Andalusian hospitality.

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#### **GRANTS FOR IPC GRANADA 2004** *AASP SUPPORT FOR STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN IPC GRANADA, 2004*

The American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists (AASP) will provide limited travel and lodging support for students registered for the 11 IPC. An application form will appear on the AASP web site <http://www.palynology.org> after the deadline for abstracts, January 15, 2004.

Students who have submitted abstracts, and who supply documentation of their current student status may apply for up to \$500 for travel support and up to \$250 for food and lodging support in Granada. The deadline for receipt of the applications will be March 31, 2004. The travel-support applications will be judged competitively by the AASP Awards Committee. Up to 9 awards will be made. The same application will also make students eligible for food and lodging support.

The awards will be based competitively on the best student talks and posters during the meeting, judged by an ad hoc AASP Awards Committee. The students must supply the title, time, date, and location for their talk prior to the meeting.

#### **11 IPC GRANTS**

Some grants will be available for students and researchers who wish to attend the 11 International Palynological Congress. The grants will include the registration fees and accommodation in a University Hall designated by the organising committee. Deadline: January 15, 2004. More information at [http://www.11ipc.org/content/06\\_grnts\\_t.htm](http://www.11ipc.org/content/06_grnts_t.htm)

#### **IFPS FINANCIAL AWARDS FOR XI IPC**

The IFPS has established a fund to assist a selected number of doctoral students and established, but financially disadvantaged researchers, to attend the 11th IPC. The award could, for example, be used to help fund accommodation, travel, registration, etc. The IFPS awards should not be confused with either the AASP or the 11 IPC grants. Deadline: March 1, 2004. For further information see the IFPS website at <http://www.geo.arizona.edu/palynology/ifps.html>

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#### **V CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE AND BIOTA OF THE EARLY PALEOGENE**

by Philip Gingerich

The fifth conference on 'Climate and biota of the early Paleogene', or CBEP for short, will be held this coming February in Luxor (Egypt). Dates for the conference are February 9-12, with field trips preceding and following the meeting itself. Of special interest is a field trip on February 8 to the site of the new GSSP or type locality for the Paleocene-Eocene boundary at Dababiya in the desert near Luxor.

Following on the Albuquerque, Paris, Göteborg, Powell, and Leuven meetings of recent years, the subject of the Luxor meeting will again be our new and rapidly growing understanding of global events and resulting reorganization of the biosphere through the Paleocene and Eocene, with special focus on the Paleocene-Eocene epoch boundary.

In Leuven I heard concerns about the registration cost for this meeting (US \$600) and remind you that this \*includes\* double occupancy rooms (i.e., two beds for two persons) at the 5-star Isis Hotel, located on the banks of the Nile, and it \*includes\* an open buffet breakfast and dinner each day at the hotel, coffee breaks, etc. Forms for online registration and abstract submission, an outline of the program, schedule, etc., are given on the web site for the meeting at: <http://www.cbep.org/>

I also heard concerns about security. I attended a meeting in Luxor in 2002 and spent a week in meetings in Cairo this past June, and consider both cities

as safe as any and certainly among the most interesting I have visited. From a Michigan perspective, weather in Luxor in February can only be described as perfect, and this is a great opportunity for sightseeing too in one of Egypt's most interesting settings. See, for example: <http://touregypt.net/luxor/> This promises to be a first-class meeting!

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## **THE SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF PALEOBOTANY CONFERENCE**

By Mirta Quattrocchio

It will convene in Bariloche, Argentina, March 21st through March 26th, 2004, at the Liao Liao Hotel and Resort on the Andean Range. The VII IOPC will be opened to all people interested in fossil plants as well as those scientists linked to plant biology and geology disciplines. Deadlines: The Final Registration Form must be received by January 15th, 2004. All fees should be paid at this time. After this time, a surcharge will be added. All registrations received will be acknowledged.

Abstracts should be submitted by December 31st, 2003. Late submissions can not be assured a place in the abstract volume and program.

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## **AGENDA**

### **2004**

**February 9-12, The fifth conference on Climate and biota of the early Paleogene.** Luxor, Egypt. More information at <http://www.cbep.org/>

**March, 21-26, VII International Organization of Paleobotany Conference (IOP) in Bariloche, Argentina.**

Website <http://www.iopc2004.org>

**April 14-19, 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 preregistration form ([www.geo.auth.gr/5thISEMG](http://www.geo.auth.gr/5thISEMG)) and send it by email to [5thISEMG@geo.auth.gr](mailto:5thISEMG@geo.auth.gr) or ii) send the filled pre-registration form by fax to +30.231.0998482.

For more information contact: Web: <http://www.geo.auth.gr/5thISEMG>,

**April, 18-25, American Association of Petroleum Geologist Annual Meeting, Dallas, Texas, USA.**

Website [www.aapg.org](http://www.aapg.org).

**May 14-16, The 21st Annual Mid-Continent Paleobotanical Colloquium,** Norman, Oklahoma

at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at the University of Oklahoma. Meeting organizers are Rick Lupia ([rlupia@ou.edu](mailto:rlupia@ou.edu)) and Amy McClain ([amcclain@ou.edu](mailto:amcclain@ou.edu)).

Web site <http://www.snomnh.ou.edu/mpc2004/>

**July 4-9, 11th International Palynological Congress (IPC) in Granada, Spain.**

Website <http://www.11ipc.org/>

**August 20-28, 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.

<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](mailto:casaitalia@geo.unifi.it)

**November 7-10, Geological Society of America, Annual Meeting, Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.**

<http://www.geosociety.org>

**November 7-10, XI Meeting on Paleobotany and Palynology (XI RPP), sponsored by the Asociación Latinoamericana de Paleobotánica y Palinología, Gramado, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil.**

<http://www.exatec.unisinos.br/rpp2004>