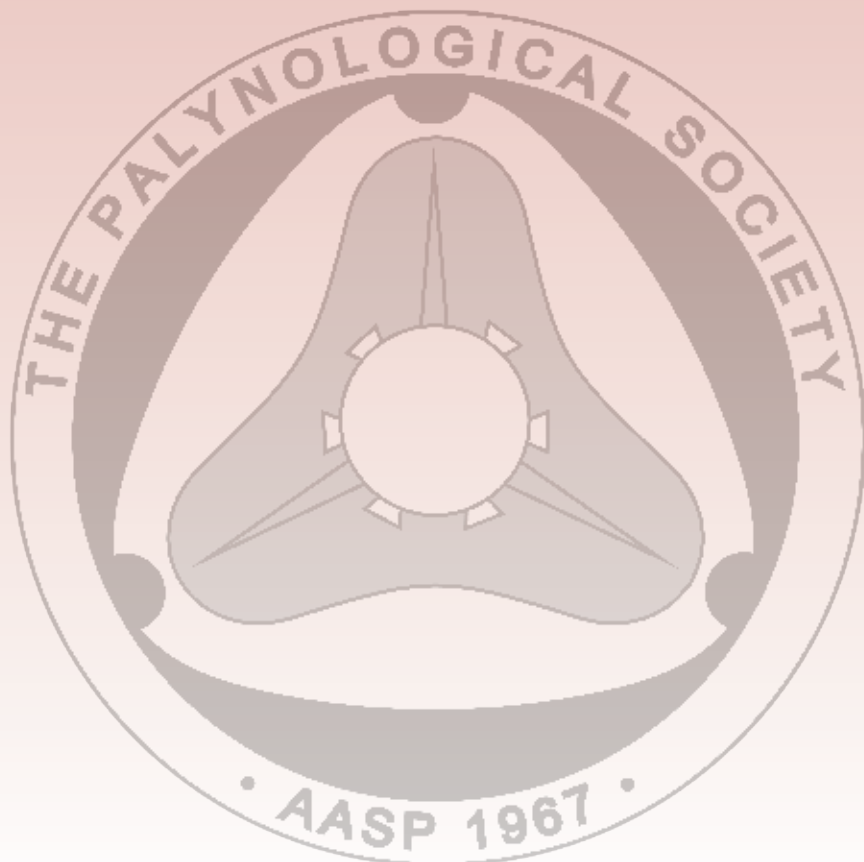


AASP- THE PALYNOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Helianthemum chamaecistus
by David Jarzen



NEWSLETTER



September 2013
Volume 46, Number 3



AASP-TPS NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly by AASP - The Palynological Society

September 2013 Volume 46, Number 3

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A.A.S.P.

The Palynological Society

The American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, Inc. - AASP-The Palynological Society - was established in 1967 by a group of 31 founding members to promote the science of palynology. Today AASP has a world-wide membership of about 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* (biannually), the *AASP Newsletter* (quarterly), and the *AASP Contributions Series* (mostly monographs, issued irregularly), as well as several books and miscellaneous items. AASP organises an Annual Meeting which usually includes a field trip, a business luncheon, social events, and technical sessions where research results are presented on all aspects of palynology.

AASP Scientific Medal recipients

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

AASP Honorary Members

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

AASP Board of Directors Award recipient

Dr. Robert T. Clarke (awarded 1994)

Teaching medal recipients

Professor Aural T. Cross (awarded 1999)
Professor Alfred Traverse (awarded 2001)
Professor Bill Evitt (awarded 2006)

AASP Distinguished Service Award recipients

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



AASP-TPS NEWSLETTER

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September 2013
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Volume 46, Number 3
Sophie Warny, Editor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

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

A message from the president

How time flies, it seems this is already the last of my ‘letters’ to the Society before I hand over the reins to Lanny Fisk as the next incumbent of this position. The mention of Lanny taking over the Presidency provides me with a nice lead-in to the first subject of my letter, offering my heartfelt thanks to all who stood in this year’s elections for new Board members, it is only through members volunteering their services that the Society will continue to thrive. I am thus honoured to be able to extend congratulations to those who have duly been (re-)elected to commence their terms of office at the Incoming Board Meeting which will be held at the end of the Annual Meeting in San Francisco. Thomas, Jim, Sophie and Mohamed have all been re-elected to serve as Secretary-Treasurer, Managing Editor, Newsletter Editor and Webmaster, respectively. The new members of the Board will be Iain Prince and Fabienne Marret-Davis as directors-at-large, and last but certainly by no means least, our new President Elect is Jen O’Keefe. Well done to you all, I very much look forward to serving with you on the Board in future. Further information will be provided at a later juncture.

The second subject I want to cover is that of the somewhat vexed (I’m a master of understatement!) Society website. I think it would be safe to say that in one guise or another, the website has generated more email traffic by Board members (and indeed other Society members) than any other subject by far since I took over as President. It has become obvious that two specific areas of the website are not performing in a way helpful to either Society members or officers of the Board. It is now clear that is due to the way in which the site was constructed. The areas of the website which have been causing problems are those covering meetings and ‘sales’ (incl. both publications and subscriptions). Later in the Newsletter you will see that such have been the issues with the ‘Meetings page’, that the Organising Committee have commissioned a new version which is now live, to deal with registration and abstract submission for the San Francisco meeting in October and provides all the information relating to this important joint Annual Meeting. Several members of the Committee have worked tirelessly to get this new part of the website produced and seamlessly integrated with the Society’s site, for which I again offer my sincere thanks. This new component has been designed so that it *will* fulfil all the Society’s requirements for meeting registration and abstract submission well into the future. I can only extend my personal apologies to those of you who have earlier been frustrated in your efforts to register for the San Francisco meeting – the new pages should provide a much more pleasurable experience, so if you’ve not already registered, please visit the new ‘Meetings page’ of the website. There are many great sessions, field trips, workshops and events to choose from!

We were already aware of problems with the ‘sales’ side of the website, and development of the new pages has unearthed additional issues which need to be addressed. This will be anything but a simple task, as it will require a major

overhaul. I have thus asked those members of the San Francisco Organising Committee and the web developer to liaise with the Board to handle the rebuild and redesign of the website, ensuring both functionality, security, reliability, and an appropriate user interface. This will hopefully commence after the dust settles from the Annual Meeting.

I think a bit more levity is now required to end my final ‘letter’, yes? I have just the thing. A few weeks ago, as the English were celebrating the third successive vanquishing of the Australians in that arcane sport known as cricket (now bear with me, don’t fall asleep people – baseball is just as opaque to most non-Americans!)... Not exactly the context in which you’d expect palynology to be mentioned, but you’d be wrong! The biennial England versus Australia Test Match series is referred to as ‘The Ashes’ in reference to a satirical newspaper obituary written after England’s first series-loss to the Aussies in 1882, which announced the ‘death’ of English cricket. Today, the most amusing press coverage of the Ashes matches is to be found on BBC Radio 5live Sports Extra, and in traditionally eccentric fashion people will write into the show (though you can even email or tweet them now too!), and even post cakes to the presenters – and yes, the latter discuss the merits of the various types of comestibles sent to them: on air! In the last such match coverage on the 9th of August, a letter was read out live on air from one Jim Riding, of the British Geological Survey... To the letter Jim had attached a paper from RPP, in which he described two new species of dinocyst from offshore Australian material. Jim’s letter carefully explained to the commentators that, in order to celebrate England’s previous (2010-11) Ashes test series victory over Australia ‘Down Under’, he and Dan Mantle (somewhat provocatively) named the two new species in honour of England’s top batsman (Alastair Cook) and captain (Michael Strauss) respectively, using the epithets “cookii” and “straussii”. Trying to understand what a dinocyst was seemed rather to confuse the commentators (Jonathan ‘Aggers’ Anew and Michael Vaughan) somewhat, but it did make for one of the more unusual pieces of media coverage of our discipline that I’ve heard recently. For those who can access the BBC iPlayer, something over 1 hour and 12 minutes into the recording: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b037x9j3>. Will the referees who approved the publication of those names please stand up?! Well done to Jim for raising the profile of palynology in a quite unexpected way (oh, and he promises to let us publish the letter in a later issue)!



Ian Harding

Palynology Managing Editor's Report

IMPACT FACTOR



The impact factors for journals pertaining to 2012 were released recently, and I am delighted to be able to announce that the current impact factor of *Palynology* is 1.348. This represents an increase on the 2011 figure of 0.943. In terms of our peer group of journals, we are well ahead of *Grana* (2012 impact factor 0.771), but still some way behind *Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology* (2012 impact factor 1.933). This increase in the impact factor of *Palynology* is extremely good news, and underlines that there has never been a better time to submit a manuscript to our journal. I would be very pleased to receive papers from both members and non members. We will try to make this process as easy as possible for authors, and if you have any questions regarding online manuscript submission please contact Daniel Jones at Taylor and Francis (email: Daniel.Jones@tandf.co.uk), copying me in. If you need to speak to Daniel, his telephone number is +44 (0)20337 73602.

The electronic manuscript management system is very efficient, and I deal with submissions, reviews and resubmissions as soon as they arrive in the inbox. Provided the two peer reviews and the revision are done in a timely fashion, a paper can be published in around three months from initial submission! As soon as a paper has been accepted for publication, it is given a “doi” (digital object identifier) number, placed on the website and is therefore published. Every six months, a paper issue is printed and this reduces the number of electronically-published papers.

We currently have seven members of the Editorial Board. I would be happy to expand this. For example, we currently have no specialist on the Palaeozoic. So, if you are interested in joining the Editorial Board, do get in touch with me to discuss this.

Palynology Volume 37, Part 1 was published in June 2013 and includes 11 original articles. You should by now have received your paper copy by mail. It can be accessed online at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/tpal20/current>. The publishers inadvertently sent two copies of this part to several members. If this happened to you, there is absolutely no need to return the spare part. You might like to pass the extra copy to an interested colleague!

As I write, I am finalising the accepted typeset articles for Volume 37, Part 2. I should be able to list all the articles for this issue in the next Newsletter, and we will try to do the mailing well before the Christmas rush.

James B. Riding
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Environmental Science Centre
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August 2013

AASP Contributions Series No. 30
Pollen of the Southeastern United States: with Emphasis
on Melissopalynology and Entomopalynology

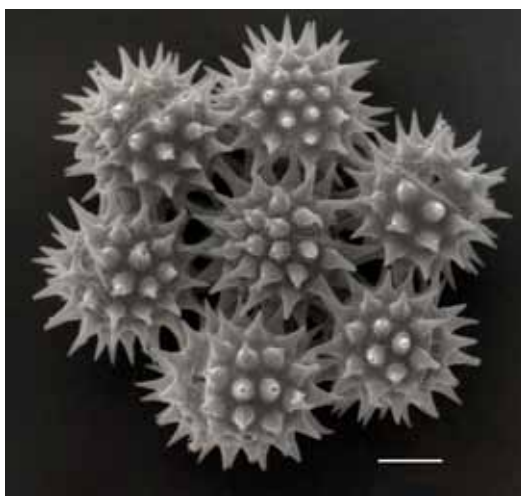
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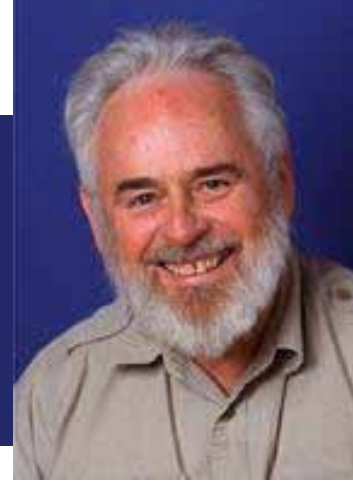
POLLEN OF THE SOUTHEASTERN
UNITED STATES:
WITH EMPHASIS ON MELISSOPALYNOLOGY
AND ENTOMOPALYNOLOGY

GRETCHEN D. JONES, VAUGHN M. BRYANT, JR.,
MEREDITH HOAG LIEUX, STANLEY D. JONES, and PETE D. LINGREN

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First printing: May, 1995
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ISSN 0160-8843

Dr. Livingstone, I Presume

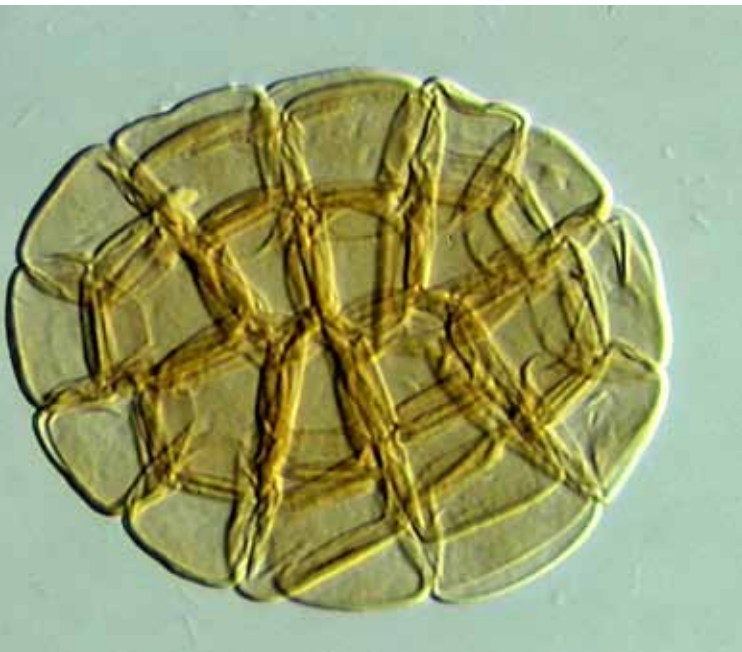
by David M. Jarzen,
Cleveland Museum of Natural History
Cleveland, Ohio



In 2011, I left the Florida Museum of Natural History, and the University of Florida and moved back north to Cleveland, Ohio, to join the Cleveland Museum of Natural History (CMNH) as Research Associate in the Department of Paleobotany and Paleoecology. I'm enjoying my return to my roots, and continuing my research in several areas of interest involving angiosperm floras from offshore cores in the Gulf of Papua (with Sophie Warny and Marie Thomas at Louisiana State University, CENEX), phytolith and pollen recovery from Mayan sites at Motul de San José, Guatemala (with K. Emery and her team at the University of Florida), and studies into the world of fly pollination (with David Dilcher at Indiana University). The Cleveland Museum is a dynamic and exciting place to work, and I have been involved with several programs including teaching and public lecture series.

Recently, the CMNH appointed Dr. Denise Su as the museum's most recent Curator of Paleobotany and Paleoecology, following the long dedicated career of the late Dr. Shaya Chitaley. Dr. Su's research primarily centers about the paleoecology of the late Miocene and early Pliocene, and she is particularly interested in how environmental shifts impact the evolution of our own lineage. She has worked at key Mio-Pliocene fossil sites in eastern Africa, including Middle Awash, Ethiopia and Laetoli, Tanzania. Her current research is focused on refining methods of paleoecological analyses and on a newly discovered Miocene ape-bearing site in Yunnan Province, China. Her research has been published in several edited volumes, *Journal of Human Evolution*, and *Science*.

In May of this year, Dan Livingstone at Duke University contacted me with the offer to accept a generous gift of his modern pollen reference collection. The donation, facilitated by me, was made to the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. As many AASP-TPS members will recall, Daniel A. Livingstone is the James B Duke Professor Emeritus and Research Professor at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina. Dr. Livingstone's research has primarily addressed issues of historical ecology including lake ontogeny and



Above: Image of Dr. Daniel Livingstone taken from his web page.

Left: FABACEAE *Faidherbia albida*

forest history, fish biogeography, palynology, Quaternary bioclimatology and paleolimnology of African lakes. Livingstone is perhaps best known for his invention of the now nearly universally used patented Livingstone Piston Corer™. This coring device, mainly used for lake sediments, combines a long metal tube with a piston at the lower end. Once the core tube is at the desired depth the piston is released and the barrel can be pushed downwards into the sediment. Livingstone studied at McGill and Dalhousie Universities (Canada) before joining Ed Deevey's research group as a PhD student at Yale University.

The donated pollen collection comprises about 35,000 microscope slides of prepared modern pollen material, mounted for the most part in silicone oil, with a small percentage of slides mounted in other media, including glycerin jelly. All of the

taxa are referenced to vouchered herbarium collections. Most of the taxa are from tropical African plants, but the collection includes slides obtained through exchanges, some of which geographically represent the temperate and arctic parts of the world. The slides are stored in hardwood boxes, each of which holds around 500 slides. Additional to the pollen slides, the collection has supporting material of 3500 photomicrographs, most of them taken with light microscopy and a few by scanning electron microscopy.

Recently Warny (2013) commented on the importance of pollen reference collections as research tools, noting especially their use in forensic studies. The Livingstone Pollen Collection will likewise benefit researchers in many areas of study, and especially those concerned with African recent and sub-recent vegetational history.

Researchers and students wishing to use the collection should contact Dr. Denise F. Su, Curator of Paleobotany and Paleoecology at dsu@cmnh.org, (216) 231-4600, ext. 3226.

It is with sincere appreciation that the CMNH accepts this collection and will strive to maintain the standard of excellence in cataloguing and future use of the collection for students and research colleagues. I have never met Dan Livingstone in person, but when I have that opportunity, I intend to greet him with, "*Dr. Livingstone, I presume.*"

Reference:

Warny, Sophie, 2013. Museums' role: pollen and forensic science. *Science* 339: 1149.



Left: Dan Livingstone at Duke University, June, 2013
Photo by: William Hughes



NEW IMPORTANT BY-LAW CHANGE

ARTICLE FOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Numbers and Tenure

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

NEW WORDING:

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

ARTICLE FIVE OFFICERS

Officers

5.01 The officers of the corporation shall be a President, President-Elect, Past-President, Secretary-Treasurer, Managing Editor, Webmaster, Newsletter Editor, and four (4) Directors-at-Large, all ten (10) of whom shall be members of and constitute the Board of Directors.

NEW WORDING:

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

Election and Term of Office

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

NEW WORDING:

5.02 The officers of the corporation shall be appointed annually by the Board of Directors after the annual election of the Board of Directors, and after the newly constituted Board of Directors shall have taken office at the end of the annual business meeting. Further, the Board of Directors shall appoint officers to each office of the corporation as determined by the vote of the membership. Such vote by the membership shall be held in conjunction with the annual election of the Board of Directors.

Except as stated in the Article 5.03, each officer shall hold office until his or her successor shall have been duly elected. The President, President-Elect, Past-President, and the Directors-at-Large shall not succeed themselves. The Secretary, Treasurer, Managing Editor and Webmaster may succeed themselves in office.

Secretary-Treasurer

5.07 The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep corporate records in one of more books provided for that purpose; give all notices in accordance with the provisions of these by-laws or as required by law; be custodian of the corporate records; keep current lists of the membership of all committees; keep a register of the post office address of each member which shall be furnished to the Secretary-Treasurer by each member; and, in general, perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary-Treasurer and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the President or by the Board of Directors.

In addition, he or she shall have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds of the corporation, receive and give receipts for all monies due and payable to the corporation from any source whatsoever, and deposit all such monies in the name of the corporation in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of Article 8 of these by-laws. He or she may disburse funds in payment of normal, recurring obligations of the corporation. For non-recurring obligations, he or she may also disburse, on his or her own authority, amounts not in excess of two thousand dollars (\$2000.00) in payment for items for which the corporation may become obligated; amounts in excess of two thousand dollars (\$2000.00) shall be disbursed by him or her only with the approval of the majority of the Board of Directors. He or she shall report on the corporation's financial and membership status at the Annual Business Meeting, to the Board of Directors, and at other times upon request of the President. He or she shall prepare and submit to appropriate governmental agencies all financial and administrative forms required to obtain and maintain a tax exempt status as a nonprofit corporation.

NEW WORDING:

Secretary

5.07 The Secretary shall keep corporate membership records in one of more books provided for that purpose; give all notices in accordance with the provisions of these by-laws or as required by law; be custodian of the corporate membership records; keep current lists of the membership of all committees; keep a register of the post office address of each member which shall be furnished to the Secretary by each member; and, in general, perform all duties incident to the office of Secretary and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the President or by the Board of Directors. He or she shall report on the membership status at the Annual Business Meeting, to the Board of Directors, and at other times upon request of the President.

Treasurer

5.08. The Treasurer shall keep corporate financial records in one of more books provided for that purpose; give all notices in accordance with the provisions of these by-laws or as required by law; be custodian of the corporate financial records; and, in general, perform all duties incident to the office of Treasurer and such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him or her by the President or by the Board of Directors.

In addition, he or she shall have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds of the corporation, receive and give receipts for all monies due and payable to the corporation from any source whatsoever, and deposit all such monies in the name of the corporation in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as shall be selected in accordance with the provisions of Article 8 of these by-laws. He or she may disburse funds in payment of normal, recurring obligations of the corporation. For non-recurring obligations, he or she may also disburse, on his or her own authority, amounts not in excess of two thousand dollars (\$2000.00) in payment for items for which the corporation may become obligated; amounts in excess of two thousand dollars (\$2000.00) shall be disbursed by him or her only with the approval of the majority of the Board of Directors. He or she shall report on the corporation's financial status at the Annual Business Meeting, to the Board of Directors, and at other times upon request of the President. He or she shall prepare and submit to appropriate governmental agencies all financial and administrative forms required to obtain and maintain a tax exempt status as a nonprofit corporation.

ALL SUBSEQUENT SUB-HEADINGS WITHIN ARTICLE FIVE WILL BE RE-NUMBERED ACCORDINGLY

ARTICLE EIGHT
CONTRACTS, CHECKS, DEPOSITS, AND FUNDS

Checks and Drafts

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

NEW WORDING:

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

ARTICLE FOURTEEN
AMENDMENTS TO THE BY-LAWS

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

NEW WORDING:

***14.01** Amendments to these by-laws may be proposed by the (1) Board of Directors or, (2) submitted to the Secretary by petition and signed by at least twelve (12) members in good standing. The Board of Directors shall review each proposed amendment for clarity of meaning and to insure compatibility with other parts of the by-laws. Proposed amendments, if approved by the Board of Directors, and with the approval of the petitioners, shall (1) be submitted to the members together with a mail or electronic ballot which shall state a closing date for ballots to be received by the Ballot Committee, such date to be not less than forty-five (45) days after ballots are sent or, (2) the amendment(s) may be voted who have executed proxies in writing or by their duly authorized attorneys-in-fact as prescribed in Article 3.07 of these by-laws, and in either case shall be passed by a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members voting. "Members" as used in this Article refers to members in good standing as defined in Article 2.08 of these by-laws.*

Student Scholarships

2014 AASP Student Scholarships



An early reminder that the application deadline for the AASP Student Scholarship is March 31, 2014.

AASP Student Scholarships are awarded annually to support studies in palynology. These comprise scholarships for US\$2000 each. Ordinarily, the scholarships will be offered to beginning graduate students, but advanced undergraduates may also apply. 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 the 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 these students need not be members of AASP.

Application forms can be downloaded from our website at

<http://www.palynology.org/student-support>

Student Travel Support

Early Announcement for Student Travel Support Other than the Annual Meeting

The Society will entertain applications for student travel support with a deadline of December 1, 2013 for 2014 meetings other than the Annual Meeting. This opportunity allows students to request support for any meeting at which they are presenting their palynological results.

The application should include the following:

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

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

Martin Farley

mbfarley@sigmaxi.net

Geology, Old Main 213

University of North Carolina at Pembroke

There will be a separate opportunity for travel support to the Annual Meeting in Mendoza in mid-2014.



Advice for Student Presentations for Wilson Award

Martin Farley with assistance from Reed Wicander

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

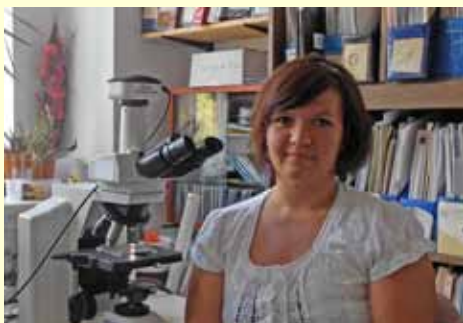
Practice your talk more than once. Leave some time to allow for pauses. For example, you may have to stop talking to twist around to aim the laser pointer at a screen located in the most inconvenient possible place from the speaker's point of view. You will not be able to know this until you see the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

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2013 AASP-TPS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Carlos D'Apolito was born in Brazil, where he majored in Biology in 2007. After completing his studies in biology he embarked upon a two years master course in Tropical Botany at the National Institute for Amazon Research (INPA) at Manaus in the Amazon, where he studied Quaternary palynology. Following this he joined Carlos Jaramillo's research group at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI), in Panama, to work on a Cretaceous Palynostratigraphy project. In 2012, Carlos was awarded with a PhD scholarship from the Brazilian program 'Science without Borders' and since then has been a graduate student in Earth Sciences at the University of Birmingham - UK, under the supervision of palynologist Guy Harrington. Carlos' PhD project aims to elucidate questions from both palynostratigraphical and palaeoecological perspectives of Neogene and Quaternary sequences from western Amazonia. In this area, basin infill was pronounced during the Tertiary due to Andean uplift, and consequently drainage patterns changed substantially, especially in the upper Neogene, culminating with the birth of the major rivers which currently dominate the region including the Amazon. These drastic geographic shifts co-occur with equally significant environmental shifts: the ending of an extensive marshland area (elsewhere referred to as the Pebas system), marine incursions reaching parts of the region and climatic

changes such as the Middle Miocene climatic optimum (MICO) coupled with a subsequent cooling trend. Palynology is being applied to better date the Formation and describe its palaeoenvironments, and pollen data will be used to estimate plant diversity and assess its changes over time. One of the key research questions is whether the drastic geographic and environmental changes that are seen in the Neogene had any effect on plant diversity. The 2013 AASP research grant will be of great aid to help finish the laboratory work for this study.



I am **Viktória Baranyi**, graduate student at the Eötvös University, Hungary since September 2012. I started my BSc in Earth Sciences at the Eötvös University, Budapest, Hungary in 2006 with a focus on Geology. From 2008 to 2010 I was involved in the research of the Hungarian Dinosaur Expedition working on a Late Cretaceous (Santonian) dinosaur site at Iharkút, Hungary. I provided the biostratigraphic framework for the research using palynostratigraphy, especially pollen grains of the Normapolles group, under the guidance of Ágnes Siegl-Farkas (Hungarian Geological and Geophysical Institute) and Ágnes Görög (Eötvös University).

I started MSc in Geology with a focus on Geology-Palaeontology in 2009. From 2009 to 2012 I worked on Lower Jurassic dinocysts and sporomorph assemblages from the Mecsek Mts. (SW Hungary) under the guidance of Ágnes Görög and József Pálfy (Palaeontological

Research Group, Hungarian Academy of Sciences). My research focused on the Toarcian Anoxic Event and its impact on the organic walled microplankton assemblages. I analysed dinocysts and spore-pollen assemblages and conducted palynofacies analysis. Publication of the results is in progress.

My PhD research deals with the dinoflagellate assemblages of the Neogene Lake Pannon from Hungary. I prepare my thesis under the supervision of Ágnes Görög and Imre Magyar (MOL Hungarian Oil & Gas Plc.) and in strong cooperation with Koraljka Bakrač (Croatian Geological Survey). During Late Miocene (Pannonian in regional geochronology) the Pannonian Basin (Central Europe) accommodated a long-lived brackish lake, Lake Pannon. The lake formed after the isolation from the Mediterranean region ca. 12 million years ago and hosted a remarkable endemic brackish fauna and flora. Dinoflagellates of the lake underwent an endemic evolution and radiated in the lake during Late Miocene. Many of them originated from marine Paratethyan taxa and some species evolved in the lake and later migrated to the Mediterranean region, or to the Caspian Sea.

My objective is to revise the taxonomy of endemic dinocysts and to provide a reliable biostratigraphic subdivision of the basin fill. The Upper Miocene is of major interest for oil and gas industry in Hungary and in neighbouring countries, therefore a reliable biostratigraphic tool in this non-marine basin will be appreciated and used in hydrocarbon exploration as well. First results show that the modification of previously established dinocyst zonation may be necessary. A new dinoflagellate species will be published in the close future. I analyse samples from Hungary and Croatia, too, and combine palynological data with seismic stratigraphy. In the future I am going to study material from the Slovakian part of the Danube Basin in collaboration with researchers from the Comenius University, Bratislava to establish correlation of the dinocyst zones across the political borders.

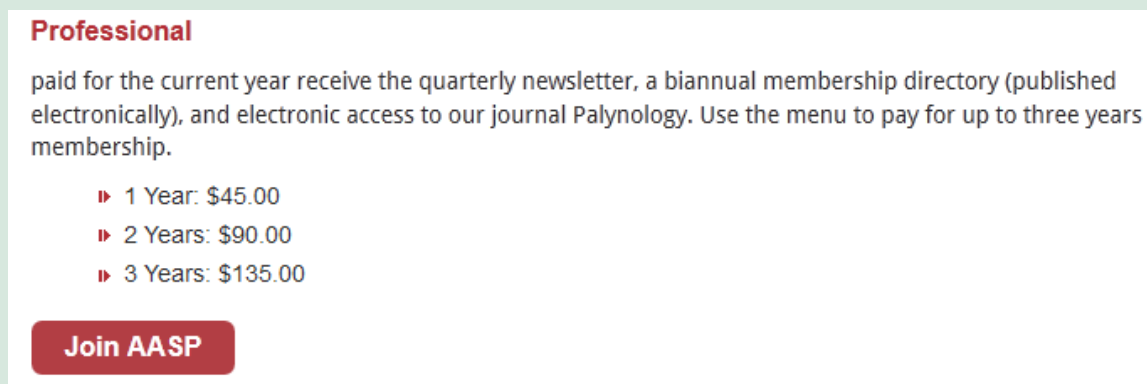
I am going to use the AASP Student Scholarship for covering preparation expenses, because at my institution there is no laboratory at my disposal. Additionally, I would like to use it for international conferences and workshops scheduled for 2014.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL INSTRUCTIONS

Mohamed Zobaa, AASP-TPS Webmaster

1- Go to the membership page (<http://www.palynology.org/membership>) in the AASP website.

2- Choose the appropriate membership type and click “Join AASP”, see image below.



Professional

paid for the current year receive the quarterly newsletter, a biannual membership directory (published electronically), and electronic access to our journal Palynology. Use the menu to pay for up to three years membership.

- ▶ 1 Year: \$45.00
- ▶ 2 Years: \$90.00
- ▶ 3 Years: \$135.00

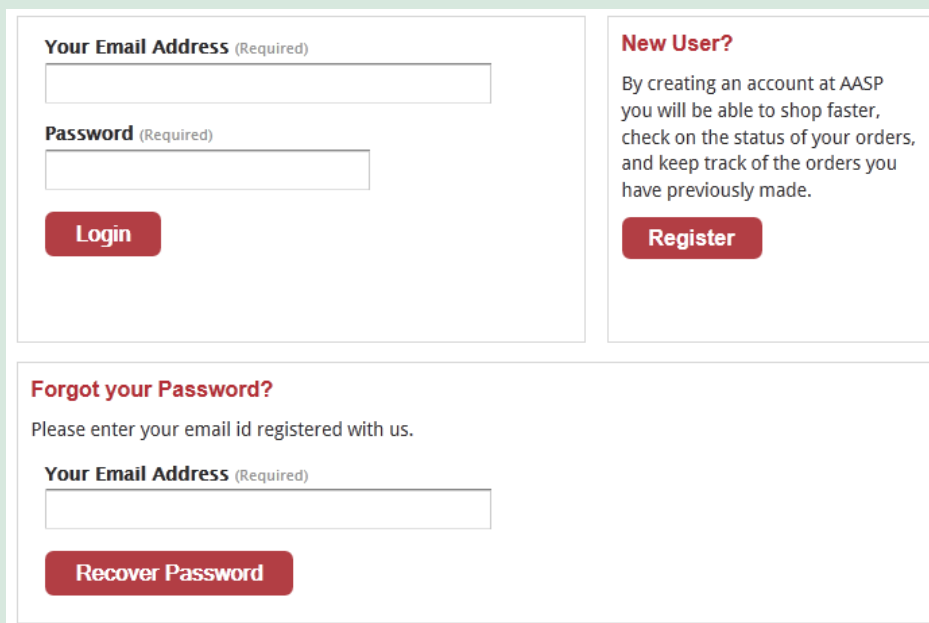
Join AASP

3- You will then be directed to the login page where you can:

a- directly login, if you have registered before in the NEW WEBSITE

b- create a new account, if you have NOT registered before in the NEW WEBSITE

Note: The new system will not recognize you as a member until you pay your dues thru it.



Your Email Address (Required)

Password (Required)

Login

New User?

By creating an account at AASP you will be able to shop faster, check on the status of your orders, and keep track of the orders you have previously made.

Register

Forgot your Password?

Please enter your email id registered with us.

Your Email Address (Required)

Recover Password

4- Once logged-in, click on the “Join AASP” link under the “Membership” title.

MY ACCOUNT

» My Account
» Order History
» My Files
» Edit Profile
» Edit Shipping Address
» Change Password
» Logout

PROFILE
[Edit Profile](#)

Name: test test
Email: test@mail.com
Phone: 123456789
Address1: 1 street
Address2: city
Country: US
State: state
City: city
Zip: 12345
Password: [Change Password](#)

MEMBERSHIP
[Join AASP](#)

You are not a member of AASP

5- Check the desired membership type/numbers of years, then click submit.

Professional
☐ 1 Year \$45.00 ☐ 2 Years \$90.00 ☐ 3 Years \$135.00

Student
☐ 1 Year \$30.00 ☐ 2 Years \$60.00 ☐ 3 Years \$90.00

Retired
☐ 1 Year \$15.00 ☐ 2 Years \$30.00 ☐ 3 Years \$45.00

Submit **Cancel**

6- You will then be transferred to the PayPal website to complete your payment process.

The AASP Foundation

Your order summary

Description:
Student Membership: 3 Year: \$90.00

You'll be able to see your order details before you pay

Choose a way to pay
PayPal securely processes payments for The AASP Foundation

Have a PayPal account?
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And pay with your debit or credit card, or with Bill Me Later®

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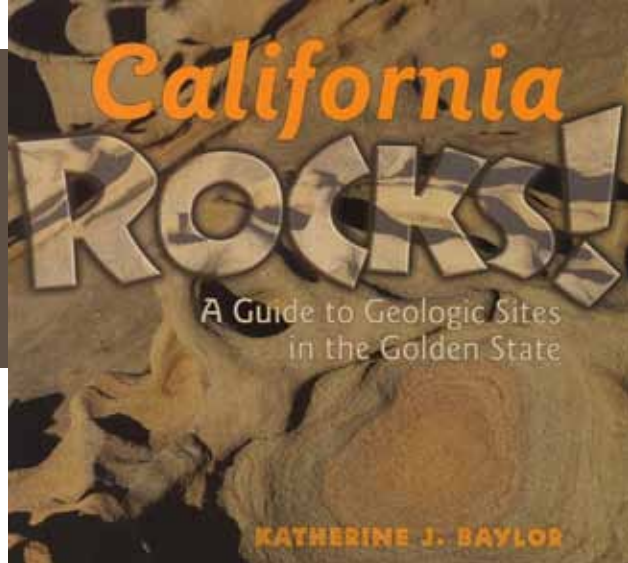
Country: United States

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Payment Types: VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover



CALIFORNIA ROCKS!

A book review provided by Reed Wicander
Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
Central Michigan University
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859

Similar to **Geology Underfoot in Yosemite National Park**, this book by Mountain Press Publishing Company covers, not just one area of California, but rather, the entire state. Dividing the state into eight regions, Katherine Baylor takes the reader on a geologic journey through the “Golden State.” As she states in the back cover, “Californians live on the edge . . . of a tectonic plate, that is. In this geologically tenuous location, where a tsunami, earthquake, or volcanic eruption is just another hazard, the rocks and landforms are dynamic too.” With more than 25 national parks, 270 state parks, and numerous regional and local parks to choose from, the author has selected 65 geologic sites at parks and publicly accessible places to tell the story of this geologically active state. The geologic summaries of each site are kept intentionally short, with an emphasis on what is visible to the casual observer.

Following the Table of Contents is a one-page Geologic Time Scale, with notations to important events in the geologic history of California, such as its oldest rocks (> 1 billion years), the age of the granitic rocks of the Sierra Nevada and Peninsular Range and when they formed (210-80 million years ago), as well as when the San Andreas Fault began forming and slipping (~30 million years ago). A short discussion on plate tectonics and how it relates to California rounds out the introductory material.

The rest of the book is divided into eight regions – Northeast California, North Coast, San Francisco Bay Area, Sierra Nevada, Eastern Sierra, Central Coast, South Coast, and Deserts, and several sites are highlighted for each region. A short one-page overview of each region is given with a nice index map showing the locations of the selected sites. Most of 65 sites are covered in one page,

with a few deserving sites allotted an additional page or more. Although this might not seem like one can do justice to a site in such a short amount of space (including a photo or two and sometimes a location map), Katherine Baylor does an excellent job conveying the essence and importance of each site, with the requisite geology, and, in many cases, interesting sidebars about the site.

Like **Geology Underfoot in Yosemite National Park**, each site in **California Rocks** has a title and short catchy phrase to grab the reader’s attention, such as 14. Point Reyes National Seashore: *The San Andreas Fault and the Rocks It Brought with It*; 32. Yosemite National Park: *Sculpting by Water and Ice*; 39. Horseshoe Lake: *Carbon Dioxide Tree Kill*; 54. La Brea Tar Pits: *Ice Age Fossils*.

In my opinion, the author has done an admirable job in selecting sites that are easily accessible, geologically interesting, and also just fun to visit. All of the standard and familiar sites are here such as Mt. Shasta, Lassen Volcanic National Park, Napa Valley, Point Reyes National Seashore, Lake Tahoe, Yosemite, Kings Canyon, and Sequoia National Parks, Morro Bay State Park, Devils Postpile National Monument, La Brea Tar Pits, Death Valley National Park, and many others, both well known and not as well known, but nonetheless deserving of a visit.

The last part of the book contains a Glossary, Site Contact Information for each site covered, a Further Reading section, and an Index.

Having grown up in California, many of these sites are very familiar to me. However, what I especially liked about this book was that the photos for each site really captured the flavor of the area and illustrated what the geology was of that site. For those that don’t want the detail of a *Roadside Geology* book, this is the perfect companion for your next road trip in and around California.

AASP Foundation Century Club

WHAT ?

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

WHY ?

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

HOW ?

Your tax-deductible contribution of \$100 or more to the AASP Foundation entitles you to belong to the Century Club. The 2013 "membership" drive is on now. Your contribution may be made by personal check or by a pledge which is *payable on or before December 31, 2013*.

JOIN !

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

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

2013 AASP Foundation Century Club Contribution Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Mail to:
Robert T. Clarke, Treas.
AASP Foundation
725 Sam Hill St.
Irving, Texas 75062-7548

Contribution enclosed: \$ _____

I wish to pledge: \$ _____

Reflecting on the Pollen and Spore Master Class – July 2013 – Utrecht, The Netherlands

by Kimberley Bell, University of Calgary



The Second Edition of the Pollen and Spore Master Class took place at the TNO (Netherlands Geological Survey) earlier this summer in the vibrant city of Utrecht. The course offered lecture topics which included most of the time scale spanning from the Cambrian to the Quaternary as well as a mid-week field trip to Maastricht, Netherlands. This short course was led by co-convenors Timme Donders (University of Utrecht), Roel Verreussel (TNO, Utrecht), Thomas Demchuk (Conocophillps, USA) and James Eldrett (Shell, UK). Thirty participants, from various academic and professional backgrounds, were educated in a series of terrestrial palynology themes by 12 different instructors. Approximately 18 countries were represented by the all the participants combined.

The course kicked off on Sunday night with an ice breaker in the shadow of the fourteenth century Dom Tower, the highest church tower in the Netherlands. Monday morning started with lectures by Timme

Donders (Utrecht University) on plant relations and evolution as well as taphonomy and quantitative techniques. The Early Paleozoic was introduced by Paul Strother (Boston College) followed by Michael Stephenson (British Geological Survey) whose lectures focused on the Paleozoic of the Middle East. Tuesday the lecture topics shifted into the Mesozoic with a lecture by Wolfram Kuerschner (University of Oslo) on the Permian-Triassic transition and Triassic palynostratigraphy. Jim Riding (British Geological Survey) delivered interesting lectures on the Jurassic, followed by the Jurassic to Cretaceous transition address by Roel Verreussel (TNO, Utrecht). Tuesday was wrapped up with a lecture by Mercedes Prampero (CONICET, Argentina) on the South American Cretaceous.

On Wednesday the course participants boarded a bus and drove down to the southern tip of the Netherlands for the mid-week field trip. The first stop was the Natural History Museum in Maastricht where

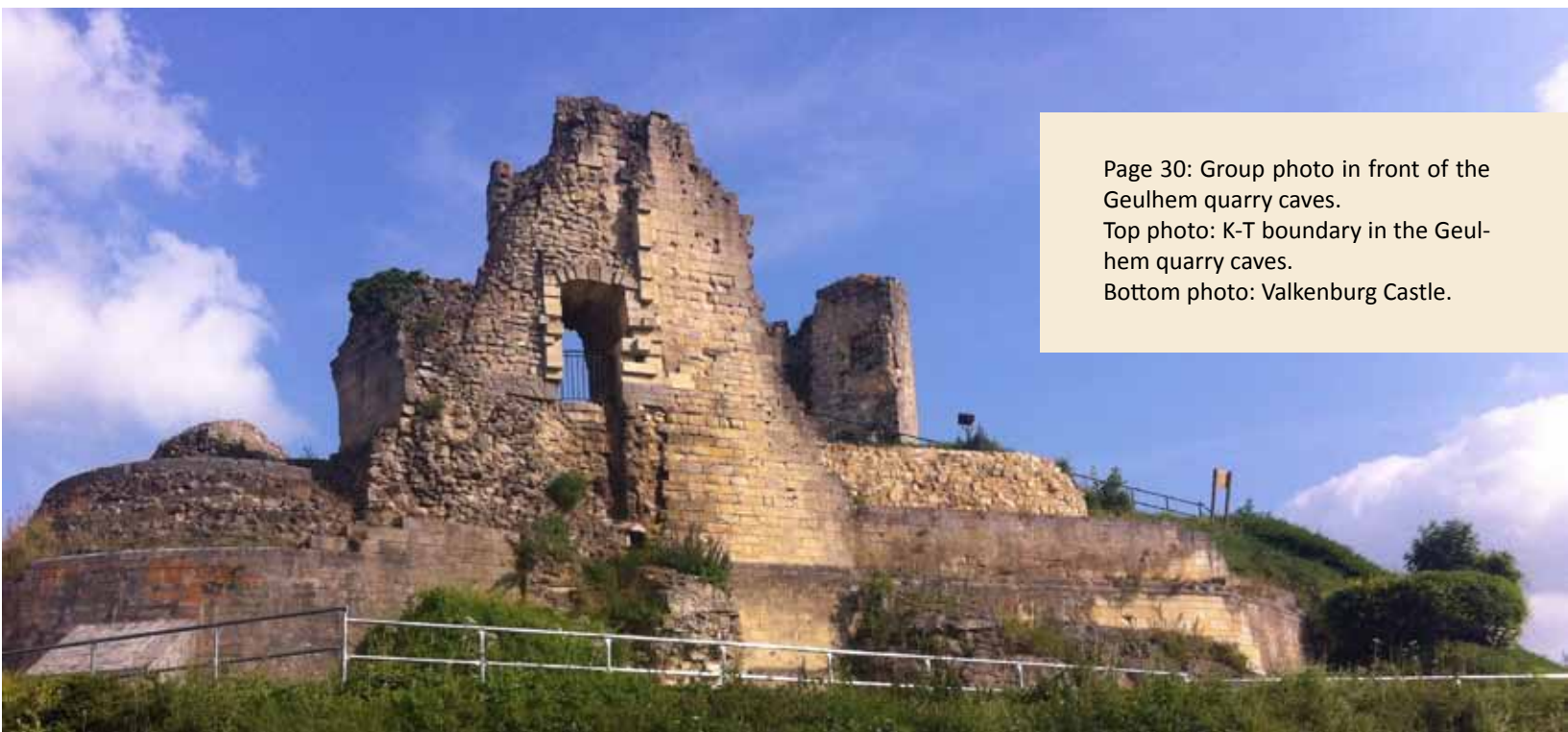
Anne Schulp gave a presentation on a local Mosa-saur discovery. Participants were then given time to explore the city of Maastricht before heading to the Geulhem quarry caves to check out the K-T boundary. The field trip wrapped up with dinner adjacent to the Valkenburg Castle where participants enjoyed a magnificent view and a fantastic meal.

On Thursday we wrapped up the Mesozoic theme and transitioned into the Cenozoic with a lecture by David Pocknall (Hess Corp.) on the Cretaceous-Tertiary of Australia, New Zealand and Antarctica. Guy Harrington (Birmingham University, UK) followed with Boreal High-Latitude Cenozoic. In the afternoon things turned tropical with lectures by Bob Morley (Palynova, UK) on the tropical Cenozoic of Southeast Asia and Atlantic Margin/Africa. Friday, the final day of the course, continued on the tropical Cenozoic theme with lectures by Carina Hoorn and colleagues from the University of Amsterdam focused on South American flora. Timme Donders (University of Utrecht) made a second appearance to share his knowledge about the Late Neogene and Early Pleistocene continental stages in northwestern Europe. The final lecture of the course was delivered remotely by Surangi Punyasena (University of Chicago) on statistical methods. The participants gathered for a short wind up in the foyer of the TNO building where everyone said farewell.

I would like to extend a big thank you to Timme



Donders (University of Utrecht), Roel Verreussel (TNO, Utrecht), Thomas Demchuk (Conocophillps, USA) and James Eldrett (Shell, UK) for putting on such a tremendously organized meeting. I would also like to thank the University of Utrecht, Shell, Conocophilips, TNO and the AASP-The Palynological Society for their generous sponsorship. On a more personal note, I found the experience extremely beneficial. As a graduate student, the opportunity to take in lectures by a panel of experts and to meet other academics and professionals in the palynological community was an invaluable experience. I highly recommend this course to anyone who is looking to network and expand their knowledge of terrestrial palynology. I am grateful that I had opportunity to attend this year's edition of the Pollen and Spore Master Class, and I hope to see it continue into future years.



Page 30: Group photo in front of the Geulhem quarry caves.
Top photo: K-T boundary in the Geulhem quarry caves.
Bottom photo: Valkenburg Castle.



Leonard V. Hills

1933-2013

An obituary by Thomas D. Demchuk (Houston, TX),
Dennis Braman (Drumheller, AB), Hans Speelman
(Calgary, AB) and Art Sweet (Calgary, AB)

Dr. L.V. Hills, Professor Emeritus at The University of Calgary passed away on August 4th, 2013. Len was one of the Founding Fathers of the Department of Geosciences, and taught from 1966 through 1996, but continued to be active in undergraduate and graduate activities right up to his passing.

Len was born in Judah, Alberta in 1933 a short distance from the Peace River. He attended class through Grade 9 in a single teacher school and helped out extensively on the family farm. His interest in geology began as a geophysical crewmember in 1951, and shortly thereafter he enrolled at the University of British Columbia where he received his B.Sc. (Honours) in 1960, followed by a M.Sc. in 1962. He then began his Ph.D. studies at the University of Alberta under the guidance of Dr. Charles Stelck. Len subsequently graduated in 1965. After working for a very short time as an exploration palynologist with Shell Canada, he joined the young geoscience faculty at the University of Calgary in 1966 where he remained active until most recently.

During his time at The University of Calgary, Len taught 18 different courses in Geology at both the undergraduate and graduate level. He directly supervised 15 Ph.D.'s, 80 M.Sc.'s and 41 undergraduate theses: it is further documented though, that he served as supervisor or examiner on well over 330 Ph.D. and M.Sc. committees in Geology, Biology and Archeology. In 1995 Len was awarded the University of Calgary Graduate Students Association Teaching Excellence Award. In 2003 Len was awarded the Order of University of Calgary for all his teaching efforts. During his tenure at the University, he was also an Adjunct Scientist at the Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology, and an Adjunct Professor in the Faculty of Environmental Design (University of Calgary).

Over his academic career, Len published over 200 peer-reviewed articles, mostly in Geology but also on topics in Biology and Archeology. Len is likely best known as co-author of the Jansonius & Hills Genera Card File of Fossil Spores and Pollen. He also co-authored many articles which appeared in Palynology, and co-authored an AASP Foundation Contributions Series. Len was co-Chief Organizer of the 1984 International Palynological Congress which was held in Calgary. Many of Len's Ph.D. and M.Sc. students have gone on to extremely successful careers in palynological research, and in the petroleum industry worldwide. Len served as President of the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists in

1979, Editor of the CSPG Bulletin from 1967-1976, he edited CSPG Memoirs 2 and 3, a 1978 CSPG fieldguide on the rock formations of southern Alberta (among many other fieldguides), the Lexicon of Canadian Stratigraphy (v.2: 1981) and the 1989 Geophysical Atlas of Western Canada Hydrocarbon Pools. He was honored with the CSPG President's Award in 1980 for outstanding service to the Society, and was made an Honorary Member of the CSPG in 1996.

Len's scholarly passions and interests extended well beyond palynology. From the years 1978 through 1982 he was Editor of the journal Arctic (the journal of the Arctic Institute of North America). For his duties he was named a Fellow of the Institute in 1980. Len was also longtime Chair of the Northern Studies Committee and assisted numerous students obtain funding through the Northern Scientific Training Program. After his retirement from full time teaching, he became very involved with the Calgary Chapter of the Archeological Society of Alberta investigating Pleistocene animal trackways, and studying the interaction of humans with the extinction of horses and camels in North America. Len was very interested in the migration pathways of the trumpeter swan through southern Alberta, particularly as they migrated through the small lakes and ponds near his home just west of Calgary: his work was documented through numerous interviews for the major TV networks in Calgary. During geological fieldtrips for the students, Len's teaching went well beyond geology involving aspects of geography, archeology, and Alberta history. Since his youth when he learned to hunt, he was a lover of the outdoors. One story which sticks in my mind was when he went hunting on a snowy Saturday late in the Fall. He said he found a tree stump and sat down to simply admire his wondrous natural surroundings: it was several hours later when he finally realized he was completely covered with snow. He did not find any game, but he said it was still a great day.

For those of us who were fortunate to have studied under Len, we all know the efforts he put forward and the sacrifices he made for us. For those who were fortunate to cross Len's path in life, they were most likely rewarded with one of his wonderful stories over a cup of coffee. The University of Calgary has lost an exemplary Professor, the geological community has lost a great colleague, and many of us have lost a great friend and mentor.

Conference, Courses, News and Updates



46th Annual Meeting
AASP – The Palynological Society
San Francisco, U.S.A.
October 20-24, 2013



FOR ALL MEETING DETAILS, GO TO:
www.palynology.org/conference2013/index.html

REGISTER TODAY!

46th Annual Meeting
AASP – The Palynological Society
San Francisco, U.S.A.
October 20-24, 2013



Photo Wiki Commons

♪ Are You Going to San Francisco? ♪ Be Sure to Wear Some Flowers in Your Hair

Please feel free to either sing or hum along. It has been said (albeit without statistical support) that there have been more songs written about San Francisco than about any other city in the world. Think of the classics: “We built this city (on rock and roll)” by Jefferson Starship, “When the lights go down in the city” by Journey, “Sitting on the dock of the bay” by Otis Redding, “Little boxes on the hillsides” by Pete Seeger, and “Are you going to San Francisco?” by Scott McKenzie. Well, are you going to San Francisco? San Francisco is a magical place, a place to dream about, a place everyone should visit at least once in their lifetime. And now you have a reason – an excuse if you wish – an opportunity really to visit the “City by the Bay”, maybe waste a little time sitting on a dock, and possibly write off the whole trip as a business expense!

The 46th annual meeting of **AASP – The Palynological Society (AASP-TPS)**, meeting jointly with **Dino10**, the **Canadian Association of Palynologists (CAP)**, the **North American Micropaleontology Section of SEPM (NAMS)**, and **Commission Internationale de la Microflore du Paléozoïque (CIMP)**, will be held literally in the heart of San Francisco at the Hotel Whitcomb only one block from the brass plaque that reads “Heart of San Francisco”! You do not want to miss this opportunity to visit “The

City” – “The City by the Bay”. San Francisco is a fabled tourist destination recognized worldwide with such major attractions as the Golden Gate Bridge, Alcatraz Island, Fisherman’s Wharf, Haight Ashbury, cable cars, beautiful beaches, redwood forests, Napa Valley wine country, Silicon Valley, Berkeley, etc., etc. These hugely popular features attract visitors and their families from around the world to vacation in the “Bay Area”. To take advantage of the excellent weather during early Fall, the meeting is scheduled for 20-24 October 2013 – 30 years to the week after the 16th annual meeting held in SF in 1983. If you don’t think that you can wait another 30 years for a reason to come to San Francisco, you better come this year!

When you come to “The City by the Bay”, in memory of the ‘60s “Be sure to wear flowers in your hair”. (Are you still singing?) But be forewarned that what happens in Las Vegas may stay in Las Vegas, but what happens in San Francisco stays on YouTube!! Whatever happens during your stay in San Francisco, we can promise you one thing. When you leave the meeting, you will be singing “I left my heart in San Francisco” by Tony Bennett.

Questions? Contact Co-Chairpersons Lanny H. Fisk (Lanny@PaleoResource.com) or Joyce Lucas-Clark (jlucclark@comcast.net)



☮ PEACE, LOVE AND PALYNOLOGY ♡

**46th Annual Meeting
 San Francisco, California, USA
 October 20-24, 2013**



A Joint Meeting With These Scientific Societies:



**Canadian Association of Palynologists
 Association Canadienne des Palynologues**



NAMS
 North American Micropaleontology Section, SEPM



FINAL MEETING AGENDA - NOTE SOME IMPORTANT CHANGES!

Saturday 19 October – pre-meeting workshop on palynological databases – part 1. Out-going AASP-TPS Board Meeting.

Sunday 20 October – pre-meeting workshop on palynological databases – part 2. Pre-meeting field trip to Napa Valley, Calistoga Petrified Forest, Muir Redwoods, Golden Gate Bridge, etc. Evening Ice-Breaker/ Welcoming Reception at the Hotel Whitcomb.



The **Ice Breaker Reception on Sunday evening (October 20th from 6:00-9:00 pm)** is not a costume party, but rather “come as you are”. However in memory of San Francisco in the ‘60s, if you were there you would be square not to beware of what to wear. Come as you were, not as you are. After all, the theme of the meeting is **Peace, Love, and Palynology**. Please feel free to dress groovy. Many others are planning to.

☮ **PEACE, LOVE AND PALYNOLOGY** ♥

Monday 21 October – presentations/posters in the conference hotel. Tour of San Francisco sights for spouses/guests. Workshop on dinoflagellate assemblages as paleoclimatic proxies. Evening free.

Tuesday 22 October – presentations/posters in the conference hotel. Workshop on TimeScale Creator. Evening Conference Dinner aboard a pleasure ship cruising San Francisco Bay.

The **San Francisco Bay Dinner Cruise** will be held on Tuesday, October 22nd evening at 6:00pm. We will sail under the Golden Gate Bridge, past Alcatraz and the ports of San Francisco and Oakland. Not only will you see all the sites of The City from the Bay, we will also sail past the giant cranes that lift the shipping cargo containers off the boats and onto the docks. These cranes are what gave George Lucas (a Bay Area local) the idea for the creation of the “All Terrain Armored Transport”, or “AT-AT walkers” in Star Wars.



Wednesday 23 October – presentations/posters in the conference hotel. Workshop on dinoflagellate morphology and taxonomy. Evening free.

The **46th annual AASP – TPS Business Luncheon** will be held at the Whitcomb Hotel on Wednesday, October 23d from 12:00 – 1:50pm. This is where presentations of all the awards are made, including the Student Paper Awards, Honorary Member and Medal of Scientific Excellence. The business meeting will summarize all the past year’s activities, review the budget and call for any new business suggestions for the Board of Directors to consider.

Thursday 24 October – presentations/posters in the conference hotel. Paleoclimate Symposium. Noon Business Luncheon at the conference hotel. Focus group on dinoflagellate phylogeny. In-coming AASP-TPS Board Meeting.

Friday 25 October – post-meeting field trip from SF to either Sierra Nevada or Santa Cruz.

San Francisco Registration Fees



Full Meeting, Professional Member	\$190 by 01 October \$240 late/on-site
Full Meeting, Professional Non-Member	\$240 by 01 October \$290 late/on-site
Full Meeting, Student	\$90 by 01 October \$100 late/on site
One Day, Professional Member	\$100 by 01 October \$120 late/on site
One Day, Professional Non-Member	\$120 by 01 October \$140 late/on site
One Day, Student	\$50 by 01 October \$60 late/on-site
Guest Registration, Full Meeting	\$50 by 01 October \$60 late/on-site
Dinner Cruise around SF Bay	\$95
Business Luncheon	\$45
Workshop on Palynological Databases Part 1 and Part 2 (1 day each)	Each part : \$30
Workshop on Dinocysts as Proxies (half day)	\$30
Workshop on TimeScale Creator (half day)	\$30
Workshop on Dinocyst Morphology and Taxonomy (half day)	\$30
Pre-meeting field trip to Napa Valley, plus	\$80
Post-meeting field trip to Sierra Gold Country	\$120
Post-meeting field trip along Pacific Coast	\$80

Tweet it out!



Here is your mission should you choose to accept it: tweet out to anyone potentially interested that the 2013 46th annual meeting of AASP-The Palynological Society, meeting jointly with Dino10, CAP, CIMP, and NAMS, will be in downtown San Francisco, California, USA, from 20-24 October. In memory of the '60s, the theme of the meeting is

☺ PEACE, LOVE AND PALYNOLOGY ♡

Use tweets and other social media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, Flickr, Reddit, Pinterest, Second Life, Latitude, Foursquare, forums, blogs, chats, etc.) to get the word out. Be the first to start a thread that goes round the world and throughout the social media network. Refer anyone interested in the Meeting to our website at www.palynology.org/conference2013.



Call for Abstracts

www.palynology.org/conference2013

**It's still early, but it's later than you think.
Only one month until abstract deadline: 01 October 2013.**

The Organizing Committee for **San Francisco 2013** – a joint meeting of AASP-TPS, Dino10, CAP, CIMP, and NAMS – invite you to submit an abstract for the conference to be held 20–24 October 2013 at the Hotel Whitcomb in downtown San Francisco, California.

The conference will offer a four-day, dual-track technical program featuring both oral and poster sessions on all aspects of palynology – both fossil and modern, dinoflagellates / pollen / spores, *plus* other microfossils as proxies for paleoclimate interpretations. Research results from studies concentrating on any portion of the fossil record are welcome – as are studies on any aspect of modern pollen, spores, and/or dinoflagellates. In addition to specialized sessions, symposia, and workshops, there will be sessions devoted to “General Palynology”. If you call yourself a palynologists (or anything close), your presentation will no doubt fit into one of the planned sessions. And, if not, we’ll plan a new session that will include your research.

As a speaker or poster presenter at **San Francisco 2013**, you will have the opportunity to engage in live, real-world discourse with your fellow presenters and attendees concerning your research. This is your chance to present your latest research to the top experts and professionals in palynology and possibly get some help with identifications or interpretations from the international community. This may also be your chance to meet potential research advisors, future research collaborators, or even potential future employers!

Presentation Format: We invite abstracts for either poster or oral presentations. When you submit your abstract(s), you will be asked whether you would prefer to present your research orally, as a poster, or either. Session organizers would like to maximize flexibility by communicating with presenters and requesting that your presentation be moved from poster to oral (if we need a talk to fill out a session) or moved from oral to poster (if we have too many oral presentations for a session).

Abstract Format: Please format your abstract following the guidelines for the AASP-TPS journal *Palynology* (see a recent issue of the journal or visit www.tandfonline.com/tpal for the style guide).

Abstract Submission: Actual abstract submission will be via the AASP-TPS website www.palynology.org. More detailed instructions are available on the website. If you have any difficulties at all submitting your abstract(s), you can contact either or both of the meeting co-chairs listed below.

Abstract Submission Deadline: Deadline for all abstracts is **Tuesday 01 October 2013**. For those authors making presentations as part of a special session, symposium, or workshop (see information elsewhere in this Newsletter), please plan to submit your abstract early to the convener(s) for their approval. We look forward to receiving your abstract submissions...sooner rather than later.

Inquiries: Contact either **Lanny H. Fisk** (Lanny@PaleoResource.com or toll free at +1 (888) 887-9745) OR **Joyce Lucas-Clark** (jluclark@comcast.net).

**To help make the meeting
affordable for students, please
consider donating.
All donations are tax-deductible!**



SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

\$5,000 (Platinum Level)

- Recognition of Platinum Level sponsorship on conference promotional materials and website.
- Special recognition as the sponsor of five students attending the conference.
- Opportunity to have a booth in conference lobby and products available at the meeting.
- Five free tickets for conference dinner cruise and business luncheon.
- Full-page display ad in the conference program.

\$3,000 (Gold Level)

- Recognition of Gold Level sponsorship on conference promotional materials and website.
- Special recognition as the sponsor of three students attending the conference.
- Opportunity to have a booth in conference lobby and products available at the meeting.
- Three free tickets for conference dinner cruise and business luncheon.
- Half-page display ad in the conference program.

\$1,000 (Silver Level)

- Recognition of Silver Level sponsorship on conference promotional materials and website.
- Special recognition as the sponsor of one student attending the conference.
- Opportunity to have a booth in conference lobby and products available at the meeting.
- One free ticket for conference dinner cruise and business luncheon.
- Quarter-page display ad in conference program.

\$500 (Bronze Level)

- Recognition of Bronze Level sponsorship on conference promotional materials and website.
- Special recognition as a sponsor of either a mid-morning or mid-afternoon coffee/tea break.
- Opportunity to have a booth in conference lobby and products available at the meeting.
- One free ticket for business luncheon.
- Business card display ad in conference program.

For other levels of sponsorship, please contact Joyce Lucas-Clark (jlucark@comcast.net), Lanny Fisk (lanny@paleoresource.com) or Irina Delusina (idelusina@ucdavis.edu)

Hotel Whitcomb

Historical Building as the Venue for Our 2013 Annual Meeting



INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO RESERVE A ROOM AT THE HOTEL FOR THE 2013 SAN FRANCISCO MEETING

A large block of rooms has been reserved at the conference hotel, including a variety of comfortable, affordable individual rooms with a queen-sized bed and rooms with two double-sized beds. The hotel has guaranteed us the lowest rate available, **not to exceed \$159/room/night** vs. regular rates of \$249 to \$489/room/night. You will not need to search the internet (Expedia, Travelocity, Orbitz, etc.) for the lowest rate; **you are already guaranteed the lowest rate available, period!** End of search! Of course, for a few hundred dollars more per night, you and your partner may wish to stay in the Marilyn Monroe Suite or the Governor's Penthouse Suite. The AASP Group Rate applies only to standard Queen and standard Double/Double rooms, and not to Superior Queen, King, Superior King, Superior Double/Double, or King Parlor Suites. The room rates on these larger rooms will be as posted on the hotel's reservation page.

To make your reservations :

Go to: <http://www.palynology.org/conference2013/htmls/hotel.html>

Select "Hotel Reservations" on the website and follow the instructions. This section of the website also contains detailed directions on how to get to the Hotel Whitcomb.

If you have any difficulties at all with this procedure, please feel free to call the Hotel Whitcomb reservation desk at 415-626-8000.





Dino10 2nd Circular and Call for Abstracts

MEETING DEDICATION
A tribute to the work of William R. Evitt

For details, registration, and abstract submission, go to: www.palynology.org/conference2013

Organizing Committee: Dr. Joyce Lucas-Clark (jlucark@comcast.net)

If you have already submitted an abstract but have not received a confirmation, please submit a copy directly to Joyce Lucas-Clark: jlucark@comcast.net

Please indicate up to two sessions for presentation of talk or poster; please indicate if it is a student presentation.

Abstract Deadline is OCTOBER 1, 2013!



Workshops and Focus Group

The San Francisco 2013 meeting will provide the opportunity to participate in multiple workshops and one focus group on subjects that may interest you. These include two pre-conference, one-day workshops and four half-day workshops during the meeting. Please note that workshops and the focus group will be concurrent with either field trips or oral sessions. Check the Preliminary Program on the website for conflicts before registering.

Workshops 1 and 2: Palynological Databases

Hands-on Computer Workshop (Parts 1 and 2)

Dates and Times: Pre-Conference – Part 1: Saturday 19 October (9:00am-5:00pm)

Part 2: Sunday 20 October (9:00am-5:00pm)

Instructors:

Eric C. Grimm is Chair of Botany and Director of the Landscape History Program at the Illinois State Museum. He is the developer of Tilia and is a PI on the Neotoma project.

Simon Goring is a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the Department of Geography at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He is developing the Neotoma API R package.

Simon C. Brewer is Assistant Professor in the Geography Department at the University of Utah.



Description:

This workshop will provide training in the use of various software packages with application to palynology, with emphasis on the **Neotoma Paleocology Database** (www.neotomadb.org), but also including **Tilia** and **RNeotoma**, an R package for **Neotoma**. The workshop will be held over two days, and persons can register for both days or only the introductory session on Saturday. Both days of the workshop will include lecture material and hands-on computer work with actual paleoecological data. The first day of the workshop will be geared toward users with limited experience, who are hoping to use paleoecological data at a broad spatial or temporal scale to improve their understanding of the Pliocene and Quaternary. The second day will go further into data manipulation and end with a roundtable discussion meant to spur further software and data capabilities. On both days of the workshop, time will be allotted for participants to work with their own data. Individuals interested in participating in only the more advanced session and round table discussion are asked to contact the workshop organizers before registering for only the second day to be sure that they have sufficient experience to skip the first-day, introductory session.

Neotoma is a multiproxy paleodatabase for the Pliocene and Quaternary that includes the **North American Pollen Database**, as well as other fossil datasets including diatoms, ostracodes, charcoal, vertebrate fauna, and geochemical data. The accessibility and broad scale of **Neotoma** data provides an excellent opportunity for researchers. The aim of this workshop is to help develop skills that will take researchers from data exploration to data exploitation. On the first day of the workshop participants will learn how to search and acquire multiple data types using standard web tools, and to browse the data using online mapping functions.

On the first day of the workshop participants will also become familiar with **Tilia**, a program well known to many palynologists for plotting pollen diagrams. The first day of the workshop will provide training on the use of **Tilia** for data entry, metadata entry, age-model construction, cluster analysis, and construction and editing of pollen diagrams. Workshop participants will use the most recent version of **Tilia**, learning how to use the basic functions and the newer capabilities, including **Tilia's** new capability to interface with **Neotoma**. On the second day of the workshop participants will continue to work with both **Tilia** and **Neotoma**.

Neotoma provides an API (Application Programming Interface) to the database. The API allows developers and programmers to gain remote access to the database without having to download the entire database. These capabilities will be demonstrated; however, most users will access the database using software tools that automatically utilize the API.

The workshop will also introduce an **R** package that utilizes the **Neotoma** API. **R** is a popular open-source software environment for statistical analysis and graphing. The workshop will provide a general introduction to **R**, focused on paleoecological data, including capabilities for mapping, spatio-temporal analysis, transfer functions, graphing, and ordination. However, the focus of this workshop will be the **R** package for obtaining data from the **Neotoma** database and undertaking some basic analysis.

The second day of the workshop will conclude with a round-table discussion focusing on the analytical needs of paleoecologists, sources of confusion, and opportunities for the future development of additional analytic tools, software packages.

What to bring: Participants should bring a laptop computer that can run Windows programs. A training edition of the latest version of **Tilia** will be distributed at the workshop, so participants should have administrative rights to install new software on their laptops. Participants should have downloaded



and installed **R**, and the program **RStudio**. Both are free to download and work on multiple platforms. Workshop participants will receive more detailed instructions prior to the workshop to help them get started with **R** and **RStudio**, and we will endeavor to accommodate all skill levels from novice to advanced.

Workshop 3: Dinoflagellate Assemblages as Proxy of Sea-Surface Conditions: towards Quantitative Approaches in Late Cenozoic Paleoceanography

Dates and Times: During-Conference Workshop – Monday 21 October (1:00pm-5:00pm)

Instructors:

Ann De Vernal is Professor in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences at Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada, where the general theme of her research focuses on oceanographic, climatic, and environmental changes in marine environments of medium to high latitudes across the past several thousand years. In particular, her research program emphasizes the relations that link the distribution of dinoflagellates cyst assemblages and hydrographic and environmental conditions, the aim being to develop transfer functions for purposes of paleoceanographic reconstructions.

Description:

The development of databases from the analyses of dinocyst assemblages in surface sediment samples permits the application of various techniques to study past environmental conditions in the marine realm. Global databases, which are not yet standardized with respect to laboratory procedure and taxonomy, can be used for semi-quantitative treatments (presence vs. absence) and qualitative reconstructions. When the prerequisite of data standardization is met, quantitative techniques can be applied. They include calibration approaches (e.g., artificial neural network = ANN) and similarity approaches (e.g., modern analogue techniques = MAT). Both approaches have their advantages and disadvantages. MAT, which is based on interpolation from reference modern data, provides more conservative results than calibration approaches. Hence, MAT is more commonly used than other techniques for estimating sea-surface parameters such as temperature, salinity, sea ice cover, and productivity.

This workshop will offer the opportunity to examine the advantages and disadvantages of dinocyst assemblages as compared to other paleoceanographical proxies. It will also offer the opportunity to get acquainted with quantitative techniques for reconstructing sea-surface conditions based on dinocysts, with emphasis put on MAT. The workshop will be divided in three parts with complementary objectives as follows:

- (1) To provide an overview of the hemispheric distribution of dinocyst assemblages in relationship with sea-surface conditions (~ 45 minutes);
- (2) To provide a basis on the principles of the calibration and similarity approaches, with indication on their respective limits of application (~ 45 minutes);
- (3) For those interested, to get training with the use of the R software to run MAT for reconstructions (tutorial activities for about one hour).

Participants should bring their own laptops so that they can install necessary software.



Workshop 4: TimeScale Creator and PalynoStrat Workshop

Dates and Times: During-Conference Workshop – Tuesday 22 October (1:00pm-5:00pm)

Instructors:

James G. Ogg is Professor of Geology in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, USA. He is the primary developer of TimeScale Creator project. He earned a Ph.D. from

Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, and his primary research interests are in paleomagnetism, paleoceanography, sedimentology, and marine geology.

Description:

TimeScale Creator, a free JAVA package (www.tscreator.org) developed under the joint auspices of the US National Science Foundation and the Subcommittee on Stratigraphic Information of the International Commission on Stratigraphy (www.stratigraphy.org), allows you to create both on-screen and downloadable stratigraphic charts of any portion of the geologic time scale with your choice of bio-, magnet-, chemo-, litho-, and other events in Earth History. The program enables on-screen exploration and creation of charts of any portion of the geologic time scale from an extensive suite of global and regional events in Earth History. The internal database suite encompasses over 20,000 biologic, geomagnetic, sea-level, stable isotope, igneous provinces, bolide impacts, and other events. All events are calibrated to *Geologic Time Scale 2012* (Gradstein *et al.*, June 2012, Elsevier) and *Concise Geologic Time Scale* (Ogg *et al.*, 2008, Cambridge Univ. Press). The on-screen display has a variety of options, including “hot-cursor-points” to open windows providing additional information on events, zones and boundaries. Columns can include images (e.g., global reconstructions) or age-calibrated regional transects. User-customized charts can be saved in SVG or PDF formats.

The **TimeScale Creator** workshop will include both an introductory session for novices; and an advanced session on making datapacks with images/evolution for regular users. The entire combined 4-hour fast-paced workshop will be palynology-oriented. Workshop participants will receive some general posters on the Geologic Time Scale 2012 and demo/poster for the **TSCreator** systems; plus a large poster to illustrate typical palynology-microfossil-type outputs.

TimeScale Creator is an extensive time-scale database with visualization software package in JAVA (which should work on most platforms). Our dream is to create a general portal to Earth history, plus flexibility in user-generated charts. Most of the datasets are oriented toward geologic history.

Additional datapacks in the **TimeScale Creator** library include selected regional themes (e.g., British Isles facies successions, Phanerozoic biostratigraphy of Russian Basins, New Zealand range charts, Gulf of Mexico biozonations) and specialized stratigraphy (e.g., Cenozoic oxygen-isotope data sets, ice cores and Milankovitch cycles, and archeological culture intervals). We are striving to eventually include details for all regional geologic histories. For example, a joint program with Geoscience Australia has compiled an extensive Australian regional biostratigraphy and a full array of basin stratigraphies (lithologic columns, with each formation linked to public lexicons) of all Proterozoic through Phanerozoic basins – over 5,000 events plus hot-cursor links to oil-gas reference wells. A “PRO” version enables one to add their own datapacks.

The databases and visualization package are envisioned as a convenient reference tool, chart-



production assistant, and a window into the geologic history of our planet.

NOTE: Try our prototype web-delivery one at: <http://vip1.ecn.purdue.edu:3000/>. It even has a palynology suite as the initial chart for the North Sea; then you can select other fossil groups. The pop-ups for each fossil have additional images and URL links.

Basic Functions of *TimeScale Creator*:

(1) **Screen display** of user-selected time-span and selected columns of geologic time scale information (stages, paleontology, magnetics, sea-level, chemistry, impacts, other planets, etc.). The user, can change the vertical-scale, column widths, fonts, colors, titles, ordering, range chart options and many other features. Mouse-activated pop-ups provide additional information on columns and events.

(2) **Save** the final graphic as a SVG (scalable vector graphics) for direct import into Adobe Illustrator or other common drafting software, PDF, etc. You can also save your “settings” to recreate an on-screen chart.

(3) **Upload additional datapacks** of regional geology and transects, high-resolution isotopes, ancient cultural episodes, etc.; plus create and upload your own datasets. Sections in “meters” can be uploaded for cross-plot and depth-age conversion routines. The **Pro** version, after uploading such datapacks, allows you to save the associated graphic files and to re-save merged datasets. The “Pro” website has additional specialized datapacks (e.g., Gulf of Mexico, North Sea, image-heavy microfossil sets, etc.). **Internal Database** (*approximately 30,000 event-ages in this version*): There are over 300 stratigraphic columns grouped into categories, mainly spanning the past 550 million years of Earth’s history (the Phanerozoic Eon). You can download a full listing of columns, plus the main references, from the website.

Workshop 5: Morphology and Taxonomy of Organic- and Calcareous-Walled Dinoflagellate Cysts

Dates and Times: During-Conference Workshop – Wednesday 23 October (3:00pm-6:00pm)

Instructors:

Vera Pospelova is Associate Professor in the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, University of Victoria, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, where she uses organic-walled microfossils (dinoflagellate cysts, foraminiferal organic linings, pollen and spores, etc.) and geochemical proxies as indicators of past and present environmental conditions.

Martin Head is Professor in the Department of Earth Sciences at Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada, where he studies modern and fossil (especially late Cenozoic) marine dinoflagellate cysts for their intrinsic value in understanding the development of modern plankton, and for their utility in solving stratigraphic and palaeoecological problems.

Kazumi Matsuoka is Professor in the Department of Ecosystem Sciences and a researcher at the Institute for East China Sea Research at Nagasaki University, Nagasaki, Japan, where his research



focuses on paleoceanographical reconstruction of the East China Sea and paleovegetation in its coastal regions during the late Quaternary time by using fossil dinoflagellates, pollen, and spores. His research studies also include elucidating the evolution and paleoecology of dinoflagellates and taxonomical and ecological studies of harmful and toxic microalgae.

Kenneth Mertens is a Postdoctoral Researcher in the Department of Geology and Soil Science at Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium, where the primary emphasis of his research is on organic-walled phytoplankton from marine Neogene and Quaternary deposits from the North Sea basin, Atlantic and Pacific realm (biostratigraphy, paleoecology,

palaeoenvironment).

Karin Zonneveld is Associate Professor in the Department of Geosciences at the University of Bremen, Bremen, Germany, where her research includes dinoflagellate cyst distribution in surface sediments and use of dinoflagellate cysts as proxies for quantitative reconstruction of surface ocean conditions.

Description:

The focus and aim of this workshop is to review our knowledge of morphology, taxonomy, distribution, and ecology of late Quaternary dinoflagellate cysts, with the emphasis on organic- and calcareous-walled cysts from Recent marine sediments.

Focus Group: Tree of Life – Focus Group on Future Research Priorities in Dinoflagellate Ecology, Evolution and Systematics

Dates and Times: During-Conference Focus Group – Thursday 24 October (1:00pm-5:00pm)

Instructors:

Charles F. Delwiche is Professor in the Department of Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics at the University of Maryland where his research interests focus on understanding the early evolution of photosynthetic life, particularly dinoflagellates.

Description:

This Focus Group will meet to identify community priorities in dinoflagellate systematics. This four-hour meeting will build on the foundation laid by the symposium “Ecology and Diversity of Living Dinoflagellates” and will consist of focused discussions on problems, prospects, and priorities for understanding the phylogeny of dinoflagellates. Among the topics to be addressed are: key dinoflagellate taxa that remain understudied; methods for integrating paleontological and neontological data; reconstruction of the biology of the common ancestor of all dinoflagellates; the evolution of dinoflagellate genomes; dinoflagellate plastid biology; identification of early dinoflagellate acritarchs and novel biomarkers; and evolution of dinoflagellate cell biology. The objective of the focus group will be to develop a prioritized list of key questions in dinoflagellate evolution, systematics, and phylogenetics, and ultimately in a white-paper for submission to the *Journal of Phycology*.

Participation in the Focus Group is by invitation, but a number of seats remain open. For further information, or to express interest in participation, contact gwarman@umd.edu. This focus group is sponsored in part by funds from USA National Science Foundation’s Tree of Life program.



Field Trip Descriptions

The 2013 meeting in San Francisco provides the opportunity for multiple field trips to areas of interest. One pre-conference field trip and two post-conference field trips are planned.

1. Pre-Conference Napa Valley Field Trip – Sunday October 20

This field trip will provide participants with an overview of the geology, paleontology, vegetation, climate, soils and their relationship to wines produced in the Napa Valley. During the trip we will tour wineries and take time to do some tasting of wines from different parts of the valley. This trip will also include a visit to Calistoga Petrified Forest with the first report on palynology of the middle Pliocene Sonoma Volcanics that entomb its giant redwood logs. Next we will visit a possible modern equivalent to the Petrified Forest and other Neogene fossil plant localities, the coast redwood forest at Muir Woods National Monument and discuss the modern pollen and spore flora of Muir Creek in comparison to Neogene fossil leaf floras, such as the Bridge Creek Flora in central Oregon. Finally, we will examine the geology of Marin Headlands at the north entrance to the Golden Gate Bridge, with hopefully a clear, scenic, and photogenic view of the entire bridge with the City of San Francisco in the background. Our goal on this fieldtrip is to get merely a taste of the Napa Valley and other areas. We know if you do, you will want to come back to visit again and again.

2. Post-Conference Sierra Nevada Gold Country Field Trip – Friday October 25

The Gold Country Field Trip will take us first to the Sierra College Museum of Natural History to see a fine display of fossils. Then we head up to the Gold Country in the Sierra Nevada mountains and stop at the North Star Power House and Pelton Wheel Mining Exhibit in Grass Valley. At the North Star

you will find displays of gold mining equipment and artifacts from the 1880's. On display is the largest Pelton Wheel ever constructed and used to generate power for mining operations. You will also see the largest operational Cornish pump. The museum has a secluded picnic area next to Wolf Creek where we can sit at tables alongside this rushing creek and enjoy our lunch (we will provide lunch for you). Time permitting we will tour the Empire Mine gold mine and State Park. The Empire Mine State Historic Park is the site of the oldest, richest, hardrock gold mine in California. We will then visit the Eocene Chalk Bluffs Flora sites, and have the opportunity to collect plant fossils and palynology samples. The Chalk Bluffs plant fossils were described by Harry MacGinitie in 1951. Later Estella Leopold studied the palynoflora and published a short description and illustration in Tschudy and Scott (1969 p.356). The palynoflora is currently under study by field-trip leaders. Presently there exists a controversy over the age of the flora, with some recent radiometric dates indicating an Oligocene age. After visiting and collecting fossils at the Chalk Bluffs, we will head back to Grass Valley for wine tasting at the Sierra Star Vineyard Tasting Room and cap our evening off with dinner and entertainment at Kane's Restaurant in Grass Valley. Lunch, museum and Mine entrance fees, fossil collecting, wine tasting, dinner, entertainment and transportation are all included in your field trip registration fee.

3. Post-Conference Coastal Field Trip – Friday October 25 (concurrent with trip 2 above)

The Coastal Field Trip will explore the geology, paleontology, and vegetation of the central California coast from San Francisco south to Santa Cruz. In addition to scenic Pacific Ocean beaches, we will see sea cliffs with exposures of primarily Neogene and Quaternary sediments containing abundant fossils. We will start the trip with picturesque stops near the south headlands of the Golden Gate Bridge within the City of San Francisco. As we proceed south we will make stops at Fitzgerald Marine Reserve near Half Moon Bay to examine well exposed strata of Mio-Pliocene Purisima Formation containing abundant marine fossils. From here we will continue south along the coast observing the exposed geology and vegetation, including some of the southernmost coast redwood forests. Finally, in the vicinity of Santa Cruz we will examine a series of Pleistocene marine terraces and high sea cliffs exposing Purisima Formation overlain by Pleistocene terrace deposits. Field trip leaders are currently studying the palynoflora including dinoflagellates from both the Purisima Formation and overlying Pleistocene terrace deposits from this locality and will discuss the study results. From Santa Cruz we will return to San Francisco via a different route than got us here. Oh yes, if there is time, we will make a short stop for wine tasting somewhere along the field-trip route.

Top 10 Things Not to Miss in San Francisco

One of the nicest things about visiting San Francisco is that, although the city is “big” in terms of attractions and amenities, it is geographically small – only 49 square miles. Consequently, it is very easy to see and do a great many things in a short period of time. However, it is also easy to spend weeks in San Francisco and still not experience everything “The City” has to offer. So, here is a list of the top 10 things not to miss in San Francisco, according to the San Francisco Travel Association:

1. The Golden Gate Bridge, the most famous bridge in the world, manages to impress even the most experienced travelers with its stunning 1.7-mile span. Approximately 120,000 automobiles drive across it every day. A pedestrian walkway also allows the crossing on foot, and bikes are allowed on the western side. The Golden Gate Bridge is said to be one of the most photographed things on Earth.

2. Cable cars have been transporting people around San Francisco since the late 19th century (see picture to the right, by S. Warny). The cars run on tracks and are moved by an underground cable on three routes. Their familiar bells can be heard ringing from blocks away. Tickets (\$5) may be purchased at the cable car turnarounds at the ends of each route. Each one-way ride will provide spectacular views of the city’s celebrated hills as well as exhilarating transportation. (www.sfcablecar.com)

3. Alcatraz, the notorious former prison, is located on an island of the same name in the middle of San Francisco Bay. Some of the United States’ most notorious criminals were incarcerated there. Though several tried, no inmate ever made a successful escape from “The Rock.” The prison was closed in the 1960’s but stories about Alcatraz are still legendary. A visit to Alcatraz today is fascinating. Recorded cell-house tours are available, allowing visitors to learn about the prison as they explore the buildings and grounds. To reach the island, take an Alcatraz Cruises ferry from Pier 43. Advance reservations are recommended, 415-981-ROCK (7625). (www.alcatrazcruises.com)

4. Fisherman’s Wharf is also home to Pier 39, a festive waterfront marketplace that is one of the city’s most popular attractions. A community of California sea lions has taken up residence on the floats to the west of the pier and visitors line the nearby railing to watch their antics. From Fisherman’s Wharf it’s only a short walk to the Wax Museum, Ripley’s Believe It or Not! and the famous crab vendors selling walk-away crab and shrimp cocktails.

5. Union Square is the place for serious shoppers. Major department stores and the most exclusive designer boutiques line streets like Post, Sutter, Geary, Grant, Stockton, and Powell. The Westfield San Francisco Shopping Centre houses the largest Bloomingdale’s outside of New York City and the second largest Nordstrom in the U.S.

6. North Beach, the city’s Italian quarter, isn’t a beach at all. It’s a neighborhood of romantic European-style sidewalk cafes, restaurants, and shops centered near Washington Square along Columbus and Grant avenues. The beautiful Church of Saints Peter and Paul is a beloved landmark. Coit Tower atop Telegraph Hill offers a splendid vantage point for photos of the bridges and the Bay. Inside the tower, floor-to-ceiling murals painted in the 1930s depict scenes of early San Francisco. (www.coittower.org).

7. The entrance to Chinatown at Grant Avenue and Bush Street is called the “Dragon’s Gate.” Inside are 24 blocks of hustle and bustle, most of it taking place along Grant Avenue, the oldest street in San Francisco. This city within a city is best explored on foot; exotic shops, renowned restaurants, food markets, temples, and small museums comprise its boundaries. Visitors can buy ancient potions from herb shops, relax and enjoy a “dim sum” lunch, or witness the making of fortune cookies.

8. Dining in San Francisco is an attraction in itself. Known as America’s best restaurant city, San Francisco chefs excel at combining the freshest local ingredients, authentic international flavors, and a touch of creative genius. Choose your cuisine – Chinese, Japanese, French, Italian, Spanish, Moroccan, Indian, Malaysian, Mexican, Greek, Russian, or “fusion,” a combination of any or all of these influences. Visit our dining section for a list of San Francisco’s hottest restaurants, a calendar listing of food-related news and events, and a weekly insider’s blog by Marcia “The Tablehopper” Gagliardi.

9. Nightlife in San Francisco is a constantly changing scene. The “hottest” clubs currently are in the South of Market and Mission districts, with live and recorded rock and Latin music. Jazz, blues, swing, and “oldies” music can be found all over town. For a complete list of nightlife options, visit our Nightlife section.

10. The symphony, opera and ballet: A visit to San Francisco would not be complete without a cultural experience. The city is home to internationally recognized **symphony, opera and ballet** companies. Playwrights such as Sam Shepherd and Tom Stoppard routinely introduce their works in San Francisco and avant-garde theatre and dance companies dot the city. The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, the Asian Art Museum, the de Young Museum, the Palace of the Legion of Honor, and other **museums and galleries** are devoted to the finest of classical and contemporary arts. San Francisco is also home to the California Academy of Sciences – the only place on the planet with an aquarium, a planetarium, a natural history museum, and a 4-story rainforest all under one roof.

Photos: p. 36 Santa Cruz, p. 37 San Francisco (by S. Warny)



Keep you inform



Web CIMP news



CIMP 2014

Ghent - Liège, Belgium



As you probably know, the next CIMP congress will take place in Belgium early July 2014 (most probably: 06th - 11th July). The conference is organized jointly by **Jacques Verniers**, at the Ghent University, and by **Philippe Steemans**, at the Liège University.

We hope to see you in Belgium
Jacques and Philippe

Jacques Verniers

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4TH INTERNATIONAL PALAEOLOGICAL CONGRESS

The history of life:
A view from the Southern Hemisphere



September 28 - October 3, 2014
MENDOZA, ARGENTINA



Dear Colleagues,

The Organizing Committee of the Fourth International Palaeontological Congress, Mendoza (Argentina), 2014 is sending the **May IPC4 Newsletter** to keep you informed about the most recent advances. Please, you can also forward it to the colleagues you think may be interested.

Mendoza is waiting for you

Come and join us in Mendoza, the first American City to be the host of an IPC. This 4th IPC edition will offer you an excellent opportunity to share your scientific experience with palaeontologists all over the world. Take the chance to enjoy exciting field trips in unforgettable landscapes. Delight in Mendoza, renowned for its location at the foothills of the Andes in central western Argentina.

Venue

We have a new venue. Please, note that it has been moved to the Sheraton Mendoza Hotel which is situated within downtown area of Mendoza and offers a unique environment to meet with colleagues in a relaxing atmosphere. The Hotel has a well-equipped Convention Center with the latest technology including High Speed Internet Access and Wi-Fi, and a large area for poster exhibition. You can check at the [Sheraton Mendoza Hotel website](#) for further information.

Register early and save up to 20%

Please, do not miss the chance for an early registration with a reduced fee. The deadline is **June 27th 2013**. You can visit the [IPC4 registration website](#) for further information about registration deadlines and fees.

Programme News

Special Session of the IGCP 596

We are pleased to announce that the International Geoscience Programme IGCP Project 596 "Climate change and biodiversity patterns in the Mid-Palaeozoic" —jointly with the Subcommittee on Devonian Stratigraphy— will organize a Special Session in the frame of the 4th International Palaeontological Congress. For further information please visit: [IGCP Project 596-Senckenberg](#) and [The Subcommittee on Devonian Stratigraphy](#)

Five Plenary Lectures are already scheduled:

1. **Palaeontology in the southern world: benchmarks in the history of discovery and research**
by Beatriz Aguirre - Urreta.
2. **Recovery from the greatest mass extinction of all time: data and models**
by Michael Benton.
3. **Ordovician origins exceptional preservation and the history of marine life**
by Derek E.G. Briggs.
4. **Lower Palaeozoic vertebrates from South America: Why are they so rare and so strange?**
by Philippe Janvier.
5. **The evolution of giants: selection, productivity, and geography of gigantism in plants and animals**
by Geerat Vermeij.

A new symposium has been recently added:

Palaeobiogeography of Late Cretaceous dinosaurs.
Organizers: Phillip Currie - Rodolfo Coria.

Remember that all proposals for symposia addressing uncovered topics will be considered by the scientific committee. If you are planning to submit a proposal, please take note that the deadline for symposium proposals is June 7th. You may check at the [IPC4 symposia website](#) for the topics a proposal should include, or directly contact the Symposium and Workshop Coordinator, Gabriela Mangano, at gabriela.mangano@usask.ca



The Geology Department at Rhodes University hosts the

2013 Shell Lecture Series Workshop

Biostratigraphy for Palaeoenvironmental Reconstructions and Correlations

November 11th – 15th 2013

Rhodes University, Grahamstown, South Africa

This Workshop is free for students and academics

The workshop covers all aspects of industrial biostratigraphy on an awareness level. The focus will be on palynology and palynofacies as these are tools applicable to the Karoo Basin (coal and hydrocarbons) as well as in the Cretaceous sediments offshore South Africa, but other fossil groups will also be covered. The workshop will be composed of lectures, microscopic examinations and exercises. Participants will get an overview on biostratigraphy and will learn which microfossil groups to use in which stratigraphic interval and lithology. Exercises will focus on palaeoenvironmental reconstructions as well as on correlations.

The content of the course is highly applicable to academic and industrial problems in marine as well as in terrestrial sedimentary basins.

Audience: PhD and MSc students, researchers, as well as industry employees that are working in exploration and production (coal, hydrocarbons).

Presenters



Dr. Katrin D. Ruckwied works as Biostratigrapher for Shell. Before she joined Shell in Houston she worked 4 years in the Netherlands in the Shell Centre of Expertise. Her background is palynology of Palaeozoic and Mesozoic sediments. Besides other projects Katrin is specialized in the biostratigraphy of the Karoo Basin.



Dr. Iain M. Prince is Principal Technical Expert for Biostratigraphy in Shell. Before joining Shell he was Biostratigraphy Advisor in Statoil and has worked in NW Europe, West Africa, South America, Gulf of Mexico and onshore USA. Iain's background is palynology of Cenozoic and Mesozoic sediments.



Prof. Annette E. Götz works on sedimentary basins world wide, applying palynofacies analysis to high-resolution cyclo- and sequence stratigraphy. From 2012 she joined Rhodes University as the Geology Department's sedimentologist. Her recent research focusses on coal deposits as palaeoclimate archives.

Contact, further information and registration: Prof Annette E. Götz, Rhodes University, Email: a.gotz@ru.ac.za



Important GSA Diversity Initiative

As a result of our 2012 Diversity Committee meeting in Charlotte NC, GSA is embarking on a major “On To the Future” (OTF) initiative, aimed at involving the entire society! The goal is to bring 125 students from underrepresented groups to the 125th Anniversary Annual meeting in Denver. Timing is critical and OTF will be GRASS ROOTS, leveraging multiple resources to pull this off. We are asking and challenging individual GSA Members to identify and to support OTF students to attend their first Annual meeting where they will: 1) experience the richness of our professional meetings and interactions, and 2) receive recognition, meeting registration, and support for travel, food, and lodging expenses.

I can’t tell you how major this is. When in GSA’s history has any effort like this even been attempted? This initiative can be pivotal culture shift for GSA. We have had incredible support from GSA President George Davis, and the GSA staff. We now need YOUR help by spreading the word, encouraging donation support, identifying students, and volunteering to assist with activities. If you or someone you know can volunteer time to help this OTF cohort during the meeting, and organizing activities, etc., please contact Gary Lewis (glewis@geosociety.org) at GSA.

The goal is to bring 125 students from underrepresented groups to the 125th Anniversary Annual meeting in Denver.

A major discussion item for the Denver committee meeting will be how to sustain this OTF program. We are on a very positive trajectory. Our committee is changing from one that languished for years, to now one that GSA members are asking if they can serve on! Chris Suczek will officially take over as chair of the Diversity Committee as of July 1, 2013, but I anticipate remaining involved to see the OTF initiative through the 2013 Annual meeting.

Students are absolutely the future and lifeblood of GSA. This is a tremendously exciting opportunity that we ask you, your colleagues, and your institutions/companies to actively participate in. The new OTF webpage has been set up at: <http://community.geosociety.org/OTF>.

Please help us make this a huge success that will have a wave of ripple effects through our society for the next 125 years. More diverse students will move GSA “On To the Future”!

Margie Chan
2012-2013 GSA Diversity Chair
May 10, 2013