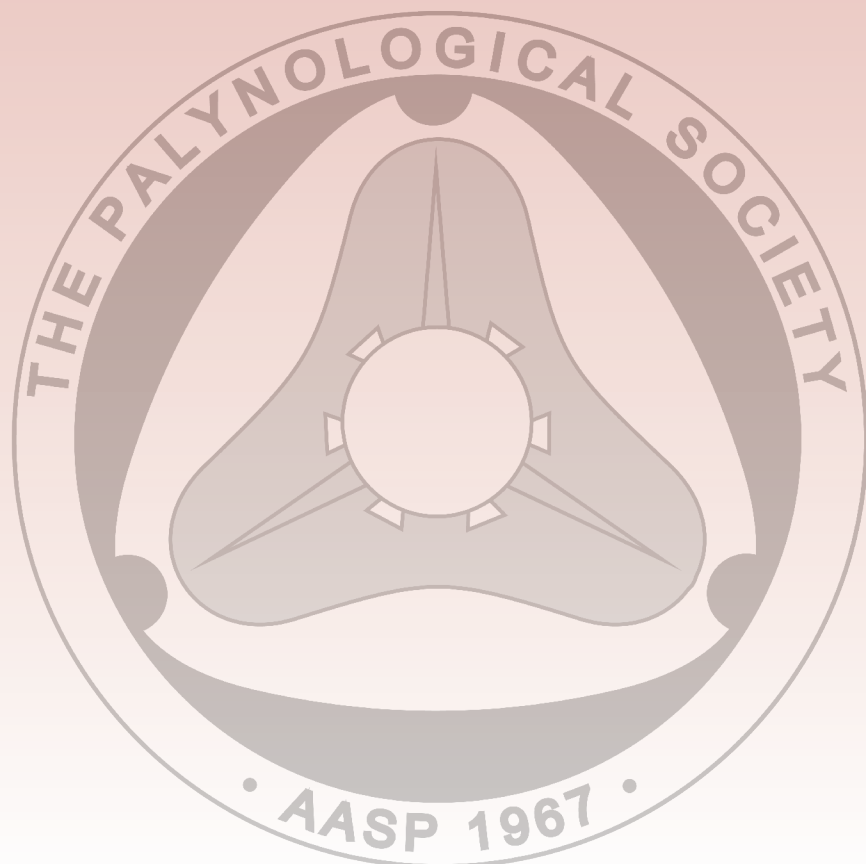


AASP- THE PALYNOLOGICAL SOCIETY



Epifluorescence of Bisaccate Pollen
Photo Courtesy of Dr. Matthew Pound

NEWSLETTER



September 2015
Volume 48, Number 3



AASP-TPS NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly by AASP - The Palynological Society

September 2015 Volume 48, Number 3

Updated list of AASP-TPS awardees	-3-
2013-2014 Board of Directors and upcoming deadlines	-4-
President's Letter	-5-
Managing Editor's Report	-6-
New Taylor & Francis Managing Editor	-7-
Important Information about the Annual Meeting (Nov. 1-4, 2015, Baltimore, MD, USA)	-8-
Congratulations to these Students!	-15-
Overview of AASP-TPS Awards	-20-
Introducing your 2015-2016 Board of Directors!	-23-
Report on Botany2015	-24-
Donations to the Foundation - Form	-25-
47th Annual Meeting	-26-
Future Meetings	-28-



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

AASP Scientific Medal recipients

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

AASP Honorary Members

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

AASP Board of Directors Award recipient

Dr. Robert T. Clarke (awarded 1994)
Dr. Thomas D. Demchuk (awarded 2014)

Teaching medal recipients

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

AASP Distinguished Service Award recipients

Dr. Robert T. Clarke (awarded 1978)
Dr. Norman J. Norton (awarded 1978)
Dr. Jack D. Burgess (awarded 1982)
Dr. Richard W. Hedlund (awarded 1982)
Dr. John A. Clendening (awarded 1987)
Dr. Kenneth M. Piel (awarded 1990)
Dr. Gordon D. Wood (awarded 1993)
Dr. Jan Jansonius (awarded 1995)
Dr. D. Colin McGregor (awarded 1995)
Professor John H. Wrenn (awarded 1998)
Professor Vaughn M. Bryant (awarded 1999)
Dr. Donald W. Engelhardt (awarded 2000)
Dr. David T. Pocknall (awarded 2005)
Dr. David K. Goodman (awarded 2005)
Professor Owen K. Davis (awarded 2005)
Dr. Thomas Demchuk (awarded 2009)
Dr. E. Reed Wicander (awarded 2014)



AASP-TPS NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly by AASP - The Palynological Society

September 2015
ISSN 0732-6041

Volume 48, Number 3
Jen O'Keefe, Temp. Editor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Jen O'Keefe
Past President	Lanny Fisk
President Elect	Guy Harrington
Secretary	Stephen Stukins
Treasurer	Thomas Demchuk
Managing Editor	James Riding
Webmaster	Mohamed Zobaa
Newsletter Editor	Sophie Warny
Directors at Large	Fabienne Marret
	Iain Prince
	Kimberley Bell

AASP NEWSLETTER CORRESPONDENTS

Niels E. Poulsen and Pi Willumsen	Nordic Countries
James B. Riding	United Kingdom
David M. Jarzen	United States
Naresh Mehrotra	India
Petra Mudie and Elena Marinova	Black Sea region
Philippe Steemans	French-speaking Belgium
Stephen Louwe	Flemish-speaking Belgium
Annette E. Götz	South Africa

AASP BOOK REVIEW EDITOR

**POSITION OPEN - PLEASE SEND LETTER OF INTEREST TO
PALYNOLOGYLEXINGTON@GMAIL.COM**

AASP WEBMASTER

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

AASP NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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

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

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

A message from our president



1. September 2015

To say that the fall semester started like a runaway freight train would be, I think, an understatement, and it shows no sign of slowing down any time soon. I look forward to seeing many of you for a bit of 'down time' at our annual meeting in November!

On a very positive note, the 2015 meeting in November is shaping up to be an amazing success! Thanks to all of you, we have MORE presentations scheduled than we did last year in Mendoza, and each and every session sponsored or co-sponsored by AASP-TPS "made," meaning that we are endorsing 79 oral presentations and 28 posters! This is an outstanding number by any measure. The presentations run the gamut from the Modern to the Proterozoic and from "traditional" palynomorphs to other microfossil groups, peat, and source rocks. If you have not yet registered, be sure to do so by the 28th of September for discounted rates; late registration is significantly more expensive!

Congratulations to all of the 2015 student research and annual meeting travel grant winners! Your early dedication to the field of palynology is an inspiration to all of us.

Congratulations to the new members of the 2015-2016 Board of Directors. This election sees some substantial changes to the board: a reduction in voting positions by two (Newsletter Editor and Webmaster are now appointed, rather than elected positions) and the election of a new treasurer.

This last letter as president has been by far the most difficult to write. We are making a lot of progress as a society, the board is evolving to reflect the needs of the times, and even in these difficult economic times, memberships have been sustained and sponsorships granted: you are all an impressive bunch. I am grateful for the trust you have placed in me for the last year, and impressed by the willingness to "help" shown by so many of you. On November 4, I will step aside as Guy Harrington steps up and assumes the presidency of AASP-TPS. It will be nice to step out of the limelight, although I will not be going far as I embrace the mantle of newsletter editorship and work with Jim Riding, Stephen Stukins, and Guy Harrington to communicate societal news and events.

Thank you all for a great year!

- Jen O'Keefe

MANAGING EDITOR'S REPORT

I do not have so much news since the June 2015 Newsletter. Palynology Volume 39 Part 3, for November 2015, has been finalised. This issue comprises six research articles including a superb 56-page paper on the dinoflagellate cyst subfamily Wetzelielloideae by Graham Williams and three co-authors. All these papers were listed in the last Newsletter and are available online at <http://www.tandfonline.com/action/showAxaArticles?journalCode=tpal20#.Vbd8KvLJDcs>. Volume 39, Part 3 will go to the printers in early October, and members should have their paper copies during November.

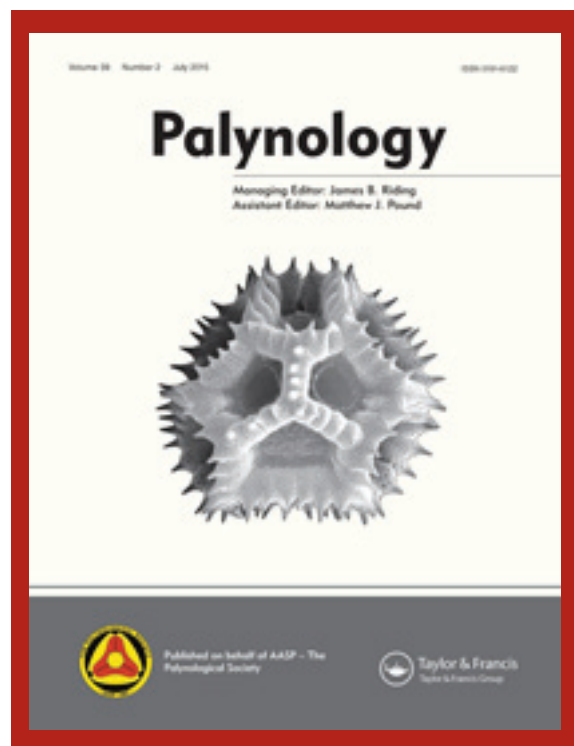
Williams et al. (2015) is a landmark paper, and will be essential reading for all those interested in the marine palynology of the Palaeogene and Neogene. It concerns a longstanding review of very important group of Palaeogene dinoflagellate cysts. The subfamily Wetzelielloideae comprise several closely-related genera which all have an identical tabulation (configuration of reflected plates). Many of the species are superb biostratigraphical markers and are used extensively in geological exploration. Graham Williams and his three co-researchers have realised that the archaeopyle (the excystment opening) is the key to the group's taxonomy. This has allowed a thorough revision of the group, and this paper will allow palynologists to identify the constituent taxa much more effectively.

As I reported last time round, some copy for Volume 40 for 2016 has already been earmarked. Next year's front cover, in the editor's humble opinion, is the best yet. It is a scanning electron microscope (SEM) image of a thecate cell of the modern heterotrophic marine dinoflagellate *Protoperidinium divergens* (Ehrenberg 1831) Balech 1974 with a specimen of the coccolithophore *Emiliania huxleyi* (Lohmann 1902) Hay & Mohler in Hay et al. 1967 serendipitously resting on the flange of the cingulum.

Finally I would like to thank all those colleagues who have done peer reviews of manuscripts for all their hard work.

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

28th July 2015





Introducing the new Managing Editor, Earth and Environmental Sciences

Dr. Andrew Kelly

My background is in chemistry and I hold a BSc Hons in Chemistry from the University of York and a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Bath for the thesis entitled 'Synthesis and Application of Novel Boronates Containing Intramolecular Nitrogen→Boron Interactions'. During my PhD, I undertook several research placements at the University of Kitakyushu, Japan, where I investigated the synthesis of helical compounds for the transfection of DNA into eukaryotic cells. Following the completion of my PhD, I spent two years as a Postdoctoral Research Officer, again at the University of Bath, working on the application of boronate compounds as electrochemical anion sensors at liquid/liquid interfaces. I have published 13 papers in academic journals and have a H-index of 9.



In 2009, I moved to Wiley-VCH in Weinheim, Germany, where I began my career in publishing as Assistant and then Associate Editor of *Angewandte Chemie* (Applied Chemistry). In 2012, I returned to the UK to get engaged to my now wife, Laura, and took up the position of Books Production Editor at Taylor & Francis. In 2014, I moved to my current role as Managing Editor of the Earth & Environmental Science journals, and have recently had the pleasure of taking on the responsibility for looking after *Palynology*, which we publish on behalf of the AASP.

My role as a Managing Editor is exceptionally varied. My main responsibility is to actively manage the titles in my portfolio, by anticipating problems and making sensible improvements through evidence-based journal development. This involves working with our Editors and Society partners to assess the strengths and weaknesses of our journals, and together put into place action plans for their development and growth, in terms of revenue, size (pages and frequency), and quality.

I act as the first point-of-call for our society partners and work proactively with Editors and Societies to inform my knowledge of the research community and author needs. I look to develop or extend our portfolio in Earth & Environmental Sciences by exploring possible new starts with Editors and Societies, making acquisitions, or signing society contracts, and I look to develop new income streams where appropriate. I also work closely with internal colleagues (in, among others, the Production, Marketing, and Electronic Systems departments) to, for example, improve the speed of publication; increase submissions from high-impact authors, authors from particular countries, or papers on particular topics; and finessing submission and publishing workflows.

I also actively communicate with the research community, which involves attending conferences to promote our titles, meeting and talking with authors and editors (new and prospective) and giving presentations or participating in workshops aimed at the research community, such as 'How to Publish' presentations.

In my spare time, I am a keen Manchester United fan and a willing (if not especially able) participant in any and every sport. I recently completed my second marathon and am currently training for the Bristol-to-Bath marathon in October.

For more information on *Palynology*, visit the Aims & Scope page on the Journal website at <http://www.tandfonline.com/tpal> or contact me at andrew.kelly@tandf.co.uk.

2015 Annual Meeting Update



As of the writing of this abstract, the call for submission of abstracts for the 2015 Annual Meeting of AASP – The Palynological Society, as part of the Geological Society of America (GSA) Annual Meeting, has come to a close and the technical program is being assembled. This year's AASP meeting will be held with GSA in Baltimore, Maryland, USA from Sunday, November 1 through Wednesday, November 4, plus additional events just before and after the conference. Co-locating the AASP Annual Meeting with the GSA Annual Meeting brings the benefits of multidisciplinary engagement, with technical sessions, field trips, and informal gatherings covering a wide

array of disciplines. Although much of the conference information will be made available on the GSA Baltimore meeting web pages, we have created an AASP2015 meeting mini-website with information on AASP-oriented activities: <https://sites.google.com/site/aaspbaltimore2015/home>. AASP activities scheduled for Baltimore include:

- Topical Sessions, seven with palynology content sponsored or co-sponsored by AASP
- Ice Breaker social event
- Business Luncheon
- Board of Directors meetings, for the outgoing and incoming boards
- Field Trips to sites examining modern and Cretaceous palynology
- Short Course, "Applied Biostratigraphy in Petroleum Exploration and Production"

"Charm City" provides a great backdrop for a conference. The convention center is located in the popular Inner Harbor area, where this historic city meets the Chesapeake Bay. The Inner Harbor and nearby areas host a variety of eateries, pubs, attractions, and activities, including the National Aquarium, Fort McHenry, and Federal Hill. GSA has reserved rooms at a number of hotels near the Convention Center and the Inner Harbor area (<http://community.geosociety.org/gsa2015/attendeeinfo/accommodations/hotels>), locations that provide easy access to the convention and the city's attractions.

The technical program includes several interesting topical sessions that AASP is organizing as the lead sponsor, and several organized by other groups that we are co-sponsoring. These sessions include:

1. T12. From Peat to Coke: Honoring the Legacy of William Spackman [GSA Coal Geology Division; AASP - The Palynological Society; Paleontological Society; Oil/Gas/Alternative Energy Discipline; GSA Coal Geology Division], oral session, Tuesday Afternoon
2. T143. What Makes a Juicy Rock? Global Climate Events and Deposition of Organic Rich Shales through Time [Geochemical Society; Oil/Gas/Alternative Energy Discipline; AASP - The Palynological Society], oral session, Wednesday Afternoon
3. T144. 200 Years and Going Strong: The Role of Paleontology in Geologic Mapping [AASP - The Palynological Society; Paleontological Society; SEPM (Society for Sedimentary Geology)], poster session, Tuesday

4. T146. Palynology [AASP - The Palynological Society; GSA Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division; Paleontological Society], which features an oral session on Sunday Morning and a poster session on Sunday
5. T155. Timing of the Origins and Evolution of Unicellular Eukaryotes [AASP - The Palynological Society; Commission Internationale de la Microflore du Paleozoique CIMP (International Commission of the Palaeozoic Microflora); Paleontological Society], oral session, Sunday afternoon
6. T190. Paleoecological Patterns, Ecological Processes, Modeled Scenarios: Crossing Temporal Scales to Understand an Uncertain Future [GSA Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division; AASP - The Palynological Society; Canadian Association of Palynology; GSA Limnogeology Division; Paleoceanography/Paleoclimatology Discipline; SEPM (Society for Sedimentary Geology); Paleontological Society] , oral session, Tuesday Morning
7. T205. Integration of Microfossils and Sedimentology in Stratigraphic Analysis [AASP - The Palynological Society; SEPM (Society for Sedimentary Geology); Cushman Foundation for Foraminiferal Research; GSA Quaternary Geology and Geomorphology Division], oral session, Tuesday Afternoon

The rosters for these sessions will be finalized and will soon be posted on the GSA website, with links provided at the AASP2015 meeting mini-website.

The AASP 2015 Ice Breaker will be held at the Pratt Street Ale House, conveniently located close to the Convention Center and Inner Harbor, on Sunday, November 1, beginning at 7 pm. This well-known Baltimore venue has a good pub menu and drink offerings, including their own house microbrews. A selection from the hors d'oeuvres menu will be served and a cash bar will be available. Ticketing can be done online (PayPal) or by check in advance or can be paid at the door; please consider registering in advance at the AASP2015 meeting mini-website, as it helps us order an appropriate amount of food.

Members are also invited to attend the AASP Business Luncheon on Wednesday, November 4, the last day of the conference, from 12:00 PM to 2:30 PM in the Ruth Room at the Hilton Baltimore, the convention's headquarters hotel. Please sign up via the GSA registration page (<http://community.geosociety.org/gsa2015/registration>) for ticketed event #38118. Cost is \$50 for professionals and free for students; GSA has indicated that they will allow registration up to 48 hours before the event. AASP student members may attend at no cost by contacting Stephen Stukins at s.stukins@nhm.ac.uk to register. AASP will also hold two Board of Directors meetings in Baltimore. The Outgoing Board Meeting will be held the evening of Saturday, October 31 and the Incoming Board Meeting will take place on the evening of Wednesday, November 3. Members interested in attending should check with a board member at the AASP booth for final meeting times and locations.

AASP is sponsoring two field trips among the GSA offerings. On Saturday, October 31, Debra A. Willard of the USGS, with colleagues Christopher Bernhardt, Cliff R. Hupp, and Wayne Newell, will lead Field Trip 410, "Coastal and Wetland Ecosystems of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed: Applying Palynology to Understand Impacts of Changing Climate, Sea Level, and Land Use." This full-day trip will cost US\$85 and has four planned groups of stops.

1. Patuxent River Park, Jug Bay Natural Area, Black Walnut Creek Nature Study Area, visiting Tidal Marsh and Cypress Swamp and the Marsh – Forested Wetland Gradient

2. George Washington Birthplace National Monument to visit Bridges Creek Landing, which illustrates impacts of both climate and land-cover changes on surficial deposits. The George Washington Birthplace Memorial House and Gardens are at this stop.
3. Westmoreland State Park, visiting Fossil Beach, Westmoreland Cliffs, Forested Wetland, and Upland Site
4. Ingleside Vineyards tour and tasting

On Thursday, November 5, Pete McLaughlin of the University of Delaware's Delaware Geological Survey, and Heather Quinn of the Maryland Geological Survey, will lead Field Trip 438, "Cretaceous Stratigraphy and Palynology of the Maryland Coastal Plain." This full-day trip has four planned groups of stops.

1. Stancill's Quarry, at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay near Perryville, Maryland, where there is a broad exposure of Potomac sediments;
2. Elk Neck State Park, south of the town of Northeast, Maryland, where bayside bluffs offer exposures of the Potomac Formation and scenic views of the upper Chesapeake Bay; we will also examine cores through this interval from a nearby borehole;
3. a tour of the Maryland Dinosaur Park, a location of Arundel Clay (Potomac Group) outside of Baltimore where dinosaur remains have been found; and, if time permits,
4. Upper Cretaceous exposure(s) on the margins of Chesapeake Bay tributaries in the region.

The trip cost is US\$120 for professionals; thanks to funding by ExxonMobil, up to 5 students may register at the discounted fee of US\$65.

Finally, we are fortunate to have the offer of an AASP short course by Iain Prince and Katrin Ruckwied (Shell Oil) entitled "Applied Biostratigraphy in Petroleum Exploration and Production." The course objective will be to examine the types of biostratigraphic data and knowledge needed to resolve geologic problems related to oil and gas exploration and production and will utilize lectures and exercises. The course will be offered on Saturday, October 31 and will be limited to 20 students. It includes course materials and refreshments. Thanks to the generous support of Shell Oil, this course will be offered at a very low cost (to be finalized when registration is online).

Expenses for the AASP 2015 Annual Meeting are partially offset by the generous support of three Silver-level sponsors, ExxonMobil, Hess, and Taylor and Francis. We greatly appreciate their support in allowing us to offer this program of activities and to welcome students to the Business Luncheon at no cost. On the behalf of myself and fellow meeting committee members Lucy Edwards and Debra Willard, we hope that the AASP membership will find this program to provide interesting and worthwhile activities as part of our joint meeting with GSA. Please join us!

Pete McLaughlin
<https://sites.google.com/site/aaspbaltimore2015/home>

Student travel & meeting registration funding opportunities through the Geological Society of America

<http://community.geosociety.org/gsa2015/funding>

Section Travel Grants

Application deadline: 28 September

GSA Sections offer travel grants to help students attend the annual meeting. Be sure to check the eligibility requirements for your Section. The application deadline is 28 September.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Student travel grant checks will not be distributed during the Annual Meeting. Per the normal process, recipients will be required to check in during the meeting at the Annual Meeting Office, show identification, verify their address and sign the check-in sheet to receive their check. The checks will be mailed to the recipient following the Annual Meeting. If a recipient does not check in at the Annual Meeting Office, their grant check will be voided. If this presents a hardship, contact William Cox no later than Thursday, 30 September to discuss alternative payment arrangements.

Student Volunteers - <http://community.geosociety.org/gsa2015/students/volunteers>

This opportunity is largely filled, but keep checking as GSA often adds "hours" closer to the meeting.

Earn FREE meeting registration when you volunteer to work at the meeting for ten hours, PLUS a US\$25 stipend for every five hours worked, PLUS get an insider's view of the meeting! Volunteer 15 hours and get a free Abstracts with Programs volume.

How to Sign Up:

1. Make sure you are a GSA Student Member in good standing. Join GSA (if not already a member).
2. Sign up as a student volunteer
3. Lastly, register for the meeting (click the "I am a Student Volunteer" button).

Important Meeting Reminders!

Did you REGISTER for the MEETING, FIELD TRIP(s), and BUSINESS LUNCHEON with GSA? <https://rock.geosociety.org/Registration/login.asp>

They will ask for your "Primary Membership Number;" we don't have membership numbers yet, so enter any integer. We will cross-check those claiming AASP membership using the email address you enter.

Did you REGISTER with AASP-TPS for the SHORT COURSE and/or ICEBREAKER?
<https://sites.google.com/site/aaspbaltimore2015/home>

Do you want to attend the outgoing or incoming board meeting? Contact Jen O'Keefe at palynologylexington@gmail.com for location information (available on 30. October 2015).

Did you arrange travel and housing, either through GSA or your own vendor?



Advice for Student Presentations for Wilson Award for Baltimore!

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.

Advice from GSA on preparing your Oral Presentation or Poster:

See full details at:

<http://community.geosociety.org/gsa2015/science-careers/sessions>

1) Oral Presentations

- The typical oral presentation length is **12 minutes** plus 3 minutes for questions.
- Presentations will be given on PC's with Microsoft Office 2013; Mac users, TEST your presentation on a PC before you upload it to GSA.
- Acceptable File Formats: .ppt, .pps, .doc, and .pdf. DO NOT use .pptx or .docx.
- Endeavor to upload your presentation to <https://gsa.confex.com/gsa/extra.cgi> BEFORE the meeting. You will need your Abstract ID and Abstract Password.
- If you can't upload your presentation before the meeting, take it to the Speaker Ready Room the day BEFORE your presentation is scheduled.

2) Poster Presentations

- GSA will provide one 8x4 foot (2.43x1.21 meter) display board and velcro hangers for each poster.
- You will have the use of half of a 6 foot x 30 inch table sitting directly below the display board for handouts, etc.
- There won't be any electricity in the poster area, so make sure your mobile devices are charged BEFORE the poster session & do not incorporate electronic displays into your presentation... unless
- You want to present a digital poster; these cost an additional \$1,025 and must be organized with Nancy Wright BEFORE 1. October, 2015.
- Posters must be hung before opening of the exhibit hall on the day of the assigned poster session; presenters are to be at their posters in the AFTERNOONS, and whenever else they are able during the day. Exact times for each date's poster session are on the GSA website.



Student Members, Don't Forget!
Your presentations are automatically entered in two competitions at the annual meeting:

L.R. WILSON BEST STUDENT PAPER AWARD

Named for Leonard R. Wilson, University of Oklahoma, a pioneer in the field of palynology who published over 200 scientific papers effectively demonstrating the relationships of plants to sediments and rocks through time. He actively advanced the idea that plant microfossils could become a powerful biostratigraphic tool. Wilson was the first scientist to perceive the common uses of palynology in oil exploration. He served as a consultant to 17 major and independent oil companies during his career.

Presenters of talks at the AASP annual meeting who are identified as students are evaluated for audibility, clarity, speed, poise and appearance of the speaker; with emphasis placed on a clear statement of the problem, methods and conclusions of the research; and on the quality of the illustrations. The award includes a certificate, cash prize, and two years membership in AASP.

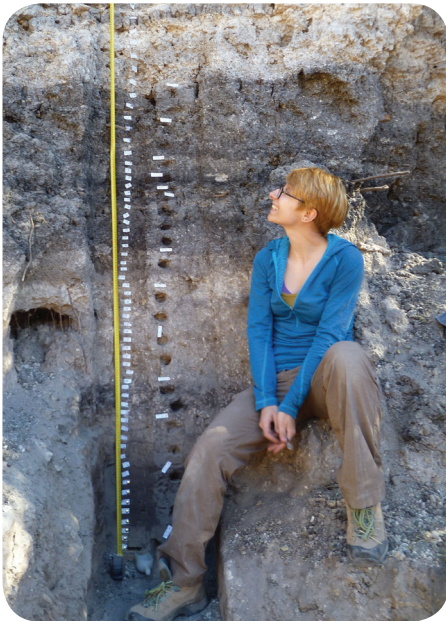
VAUGHN M. BRYANT BEST STUDENT POSTER AWARD

Judged by an ad hoc committee formed by AASP Awards Committee members at the time of the annual meeting. The criteria are established by the judging committee and should include neatness and attractiveness of the poster including its graphics; scientific merit of the research problem; clarity and innovativeness of the research methods; clarity and simplicity of the results. Awardee must be first author, should be a student, or if the awardee has formally completed a graduate degree, cannot have been employed more than 6 months before the award is made.

Awarded items include a commemorative certificate, a \$250 check, and two years paid membership in AASP.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2015 McNeilly Grant and Student Research Grants!

2015 McNeilly Grant for Research in Tropical Palynology: Magdalena Sobol, University of Toronto



Biography

I received my double major B.Sc.H in Archaeological Science and Biological Anthropology with a minor in Psychology from University of Toronto. During my undergrad, my fascination with human evolution lead me to South Africa where I have been involved in isotopic studies on archaeologically derived human tissue and archaeological excavations. Simultaneously, I was working at the Paleoecology Lab (University of Toronto) acquiring expertise in various paleoecological techniques. Upon graduation I decided to combine my archaeological background with the research experience gained at the paleoecology laboratory.

Research

My Master's application to the University of Toronto was recognized as an outstanding interdisciplinary project and I was offered a direct entry PhD. My doctoral research investigates the impact of changing climate on the savanna biome during the Quaternary in southern Africa. Ecosystems with narrow growth optima are vulnerable to climate variability. To effectively predict and accurately model the response of vulnerable vegetation to future climate

change, it is imperative to understand the climatic and ecological factors involved in maintaining these ecosystems. My research on drivers of change in southern African paleoenvironments directly addresses these questions.

Kathu Pan is a paleomarch located at the southern edge of the Kalahari basin. A high water table earlier in the Holocene promoted marsh formation and subsequent accumulation of plant organic matter. The organic deposits were exposed after the underlying carbonate rock was dissolved by ground water leading to the eventual collapse of top sediments into the sinkholes. These peat horizons provide a valuable source of concentrated paleoenvironmental proxy indicators preserved with stratigraphic integrity. In a dry region where proxy indicators are extremely scarce, Kathu Pan represents a unique record of environmental change and a critical locality for studying timing, magnitudes and drivers of past change. This research has important implications in the global context of drivers leading to desertification. It offers the opportunity to improve our understanding of past climate forcing mechanisms while contributing data for modeling of future vegetation shifts in response to changing climate.

2015 AASP Research Grant Winners

Arjen Grothe, Utrecht University

I'm Arjen Grothe (1986), a PhD student from Marine Palynology and Paleoceanography at Utrecht University. I started my PhD at this group in September 2011. Before, I studied Earth Sciences at the same university. During my Bachelor, I mainly focused on the terrestrial scope of the climate system with a strong emphasis on physical processes in (lowland) rivers and coastal systems. During my master's program, I slowly moved towards the marine realm. For my master thesis I joined a fieldtrip to the wonderful Tarim Basin (westernmost China) where my team and me sampled several sections in order to date the marine-continental transition over there. A proper magnetostratigraphy record could not be established for several reasons, and also other (radiometric) dating methods were not applicable to these sediments. Therefore the 'classic' biostratigraphy became very important and was the key tool to date this transition. I got introduced into the palynological world, predominantly dinocysts, with great help of the Utrecht Palynological team (Henk Brinkhuis, Appy Sluijs, Francesca Sangiorgi, Peter Bijl, Sander Houben). Using beautifully preserved dinoflagellate cysts, I was able to date the final marine deposits and thus the sea retreat from this basin.

Congratulations to the winners of the 2015 McNeilly Grant and Student Research Grants!



I definitively enjoyed the approach of collecting, processing and analyzing your own samples. Being involved from start to finish gives me more confidence behind the microscope. I better understand my samples and you know how much effort/risk was taken in order to obtain certain samples before you see them through your microscope.

Enjoying this approach, I was very glad to join as a PhD-student a similar project in the region of the Black Sea and Caspian Sea. This big project, which is led by paleomagnetist Wout Krijgsman, aims to figure out what happened in the Black and Caspian seas during the late Miocene Messinian Salinity Crisis (MSC). The MSC was an extraordinary geological event that is marked by thick evaporite deposition in the Mediterranean Basin and some claim that even the entire Mediterranean Sea desiccated. It was thought that the adjacent Black Sea was also affected by this extreme event, but recent studies suggest that the Black Sea was not close to desiccation during the MSC. In fact, it may have had a positive water budget and could have spilled into the (partly desiccated) Mediterranean basin. In that way, the Black Sea may have played an important role in the processes that occurred in the Mediterranean during the salinity crisis.

I will use this grant to cover costs for a fieldtrip to the Northern Black Sea coast, where we will sample a section to understand the cyclic behavior of the Black Sea sediments, which may, as stated above, yield some important information about the cyclic behavior in the Mediterranean during the latest Miocene.

Kristin Michels, University of Wisconsin-Madison



I received a B.A. in English focusing on non-fiction creative writing and cultural studies at the University of Minnesota. I subsequently earned a M.S. in Environmental Studies from San Jose State University. For my field-based master's project, I evaluated recovering coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) plant communities over time following clear-cut harvests in Mendocino County, California. Following my master's degree, I worked in environmental consulting in San Jose, California and managed projects to comply with statutes (CEQA, NEPA, etc.) to develop environmental impact reports. Currently, I am a Ph.D. candidate and teaching assistant at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the Department of Botany under Dr. Sara Hotchkiss.

For my dissertation, I am studying the impacts of adjacent land use – the edge effect – on the Sylvania Wilderness in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. To estimate these edge effects, I'm implementing a novel approach combining modern observations (over space) and historical observations (over time). Spatially, I am conducting vegetation surveys in transects that cross the Sylvania Wilderness border. Temporally, I am using paleorecords from four lakes that vary in disturbance

Congratulations to the winners of the Student Research Grants & Annual Meeting Travel Grants!

history and proximity to Sylvania: one in harvested forest west of Sylvania, one interior to the Sylvania old-growth forest, and two lakes across from one another and abutting the Sylvania border. We sampled lake sediments using freeze core methods, which preserve recent strata, as the uppermost benthic sediments are frozen in-situ. I subsequently conducted fine-interval, 3-millimeter sub-sampling using a microtome for high-resolution, sub-decadal analysis of pollen (a proxy for vegetation), charcoal (to reconstruct fire frequencies), and carbon (to estimate nutrient inwash and local environmental change). These paleorecords provide another spatial component and an additional, temporal aspect to quantifying the edge effect on Sylvania.

In anticipation of ecological shifts due to changing climate conditions, research focusing on ecosystem recovery across several timescales following land use changes is needed to quantify and project the impact of these changes. This study will increase the working knowledge of the effects of a land use boundary over multiple timescales incorporating extant and proxy data. These results will aid in the development of long-term management goals for mitigating land use impacts, delineating buffer zone on wilderness areas, and developing management protocols to reduce edge effects.

Winners of Travel Grants to Attend the Annual Meeting

We are pleased to announce that FIVE \$500 grants to support travel to the annual meeting have been awarded this year. The winners represent masters' and doctoral students from around the world who are presenting both in and outside of AASP-TPS-sponsored sessions. Be sure to see the following presentations and congratulate the authors' on their successes!

Qing Tang, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA, USA

"Organic-walled microfossils from the Tonian Gouhou Formation, Huaibei region, North China Craton, and their biostratigraphic implications"
Sunday, 1. November, 2015, 3:05 PM. T155. Timing and Origin of Unicellular Eukaryotes

The Meso-(?) and Neoproterozoic Huaibei Group in the Huaibei region, North China Craton (NCC), is emerging as a target for geobiological and tectonic studies due to its thick unmetamorphosed sediments with well-preserved organic-walled fossils. However, the lack of accurate age constraints for this sedimentary sequence dramatically hampers our ability to take full advantage of the rich geological and paleontological history recorded in the Huaibei Group. Particularly, the depositional age of the uppermost unit of the Huaibei Group, the Gouhou Formation, is a controversial issue. Although it is widely accepted that there is an unconformity between the Gouhou Formation and the overlying early Cambrian Houjiashan Formation, the magnitude of this unconformity and hence the scale of the underlying tectonic event are unconstrained due to the uncertainty of the sedimentary age for the Gouhou Formation which has been variously interpreted as Cambrian, Cryogenian–Ediacaran (~720 Ma to ~541 Ma), and Tonian (1000 Ma to ~720 Ma). To improve our knowledge about this sedimentary gap, we carried out a biostratigraphic study of the Gouhou Formation. Our investigation using a low manipulation maceration technique revealed a diverse organic-walled microfossil assemblage. A total of 22 taxa have been revealed, importantly, the co-occurrence of *Trachyhystrichosphaera*, *Valeria*, and *Dictyosphaera* in the Gouhou Formation suggests a likely Tonian age. The biostratigraphic data indicate an infra-Cambrian depositional gap of >200 myr between the Tonian Gouhou Formation and Cambrian Houjiashan Formation, perhaps driven by a major tectonostratigraphic event.



Congratulations to the winners of the Annual Meeting Travel Grants!

Regina Peplau, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX, USA

"Floral Response to the Paleocene Eocene Thermal Maximum in the Western U.S. Gulf Coast"

Tuesday, 3. November 2015, 4:15 PM. T140: Late Paleocene and Early Eocene Hyperthermal Events In Terrestrial and Marine Systems.

The Wilcox Group is an intensely studied group of sediments deposited primarily during the Laramide orogeny in the western United States and is important in paleoclimatological and paleoenvironmental studies, as it pertains to the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal Maximum (PETM). Wilcox Group sediments extend from central Texas into the deepwater Gulf of Mexico, but correlating these sediments is extremely difficult due to increased basinward faulting. In addition, a lack of macrofossils exists because sedimentation rates were high and large amounts of plant material were deposited, resulting in the destruction of calcareous fossils due to production of acids from decaying plant material. Thus, palynology remains the key to understanding these deposits.

Palynological sampling within shoaling-upward regressive deposits in the upper Calvert Bluff Fm at Red Bluff and overlying transgressive deposits of the Carrizo Fm, exposed beside the Colorado River near Bastrop, Texas, reveals a rich assemblage of well-preserved palynomorphs. This section contains an unconformity possibly equivalent to the sequence boundary between the Middle Wilcox and Upper Wilcox of the subsurface and previously thought to coincide with the Paleocene Eocene Thermal Maximum. Prior palynological work has placed the age of the Calvert Bluff here in the late Paleocene, but this study has shown that these sediments are probably Eocene, with the P/E boundary subsurface to the outcrops. Therefore, the palynomorphs present here would potentially record a response in flora during and after the PETM. My research utilizes palynology to refine the age of the sediments and produce a detailed palynological framework around the P/E boundary for this particular Wilcox interval, lending to a better understanding of the effects of the PETM along the western U.S. Gulf Coast.

Nick Wiggan, Cambridge University, Cambridge, UK

"Plankton Evolution During the Bajocian (Middle Jurassic, 170-168 MA): A Major Transition in the Modern Eukaryotic Phytoplankton"

Sunday, 1. November 2015, 4:35 PM. T155. Timing and Origin of Unicellular Eukaryotes

The Bajocian of the Middle Jurassic was a critical interval in the evolution of the modern plankton during which the dinoflagellates and coccolithophores diversified whilst the planktonic foraminifera appeared for the first time. Our detailed study of the dinoflagellate cyst record has revealed that the Early Bajocian was characterised by low dinoflagellate cyst diversity and the dominance of the genus *Dissiliodinium*. The unusually large species *D. giganteum* dominated assemblages around the outer region of the European epicontinental seaway, whereas in Australia the large species *D. caddaense* was dominant. It was during this interval that the coccolithophore genus *Watznaueria* diversified and coccolith abundance dramatically increased. Sucheras-Marx et al. (2015) proposed that this was caused by an increase in nutrient levels, as this period is marked by the collapse of carbonate production and the onset of radiolarite sedimentation in the western Tethys. The synchronous appearance of *Dissiliodinium* supports this as the size and high abundance of this genus strongly suggests that it formed blooms in response to eutrophic conditions. Moreover, a positive carbon isotope excursion at this time indicates enhanced productivity. Geochemical and mineralogical data suggest this phase of eutrophication was caused by a period of global warming, leading to enhanced weathering (and nutrient flux) in the mid-latitudes. *Dissiliodinium* declined in abundance as cyst-forming dinoflagellates radiated rapidly through the middle—Late Bajocian. This transition from low diversity/high abundance to high diversity/low abundance was synchronous with the appearance of planktonic foraminifera and a major turnover within Tethyan ammonites. These changes occurred during a time of climatic cooling which may have led to a reduction in weathering rates and thus nutrient flux. However, radiolarite sedimentation continued in the western Tethys throughout this interval suggesting that high nutrient levels persisted, at least within Europe. The synchronous diversification of dinoflagellates, appearance of planktonic foraminifera and ammonite turnover indicates a coupling between phytoplankton, zooplankton and metazoan evolution at this time, the nature of which remains unclear.

Congratulations to the winners of the Annual Meeting Travel Grants!

Pieter Gurdebeke, Ghent University, Ghent, Belgium

"Dinoflagellate Cysts in Recent Sediments from Fjords of Western Vancouver Island (British Columbia, Canada)"

Sunday, 1. November 2015, 11:15 AM. T146. Palynology.

A total of 46 surface sediment samples from 16 coastal inlets of western Vancouver Island and two shallow bays of the Broughton Archipelago NE of the island were investigated for dinoflagellate cysts and other palynomorphs. Well preserved and abundant dinoflagellate cyst assemblages have been recovered and a total of 43 cyst types of three orders were identified.

Cyst assemblages were dominated by *Operculodinium centrocarpum* sensu Wall & Dale 1966, *Spiniferites* spp. and *Brigantedinium* spp. Total dinoflagellate cyst concentrations vary two orders of magnitude between 7,279 and 918,584 cysts.g⁻¹ of dry sediment, with the highest values observed in samples from Tofino Inlet. As expected, cyst concentrations and assemblage diversity yielded higher values in the western Vancouver Island inlets, compared to the shallow bays of the Broughton Archipelago where the values were the lowest. Tofino Inlet had the highest abundance of *O. centrocarpum* sensu Wall & Dale 1966, whereas Neroutos Inlet samples were characterized by high concentrations of Arcellacean testate amoeba. Cysts of autotrophic dinoflagellates dominate in the southern inlets where the waters are warmer and less cloud cover is present; whereas, heterotrophic species increase in importance towards the north. Sedimentary biogenic silica concentrations were measured at each studied site and we find rather weak correlation to the total cyst concentrations.

Cysts of the potentially toxic dinoflagellate *Alexandrium* spp. were found in most of the samples with the highest abundance in the Kyuquot and Quatsino Sounds. Process length variation of *O. centrocarpum* sensu Wall & Dale 1966 are measured and significantly correlate with sea water density when considered in a regional context.

The dinoflagellate cyst assemblages and their distributions are related to both regional environmental parameters determined by latitude (e.g. sea surface temperature, salinity, upwelling, cloud cover), and local properties of the inlets themselves (e.g. sill depth, runoff, anthropogenic influence).



Andres Diaz, University of Caldas, Manizales, Colombia

"Palynoflora from the Volcaniclastic Sequence of Aranzazu: A Singular Record of Neogene Neotropical Vegetation in the Colombian Cordillera"

Poster #361, Sunday, 1. November 2015. T146. Palynology (Posters)

Paleopalynologic studies in the Colombian Andes (Northern South America) have been mainly focused on its eastern region (e.g. Llanos Orientales, Eastern Cordillera and Magdalena Valley). In these areas biostratigraphic and paleoecological research has been conducted in order to infer climatic and tectonic changes during the Cenozoic. In contrast, similar studies in Western Colombia (Central Cordillera and the Cauca Valley) are rare and unpublished.

This paper presents the results of a palynologic study conducted in the Aranzazu Volcaniclastic Sequence, located in the Central Cordillera in Colombia (1960 masl). This unit is ~240 m thick, and is composed of tuffaceous sandstones, pyroclastic, and mud flows interbedded with lignites, which were accumulated in fluvial environments with volcanic influence. This is the only reported unit in the Western flank of the Colombian Central Cordillera that presents organic-rich deposits associated with volcaniclastic materials, a situation that allows the integration of radiometric dating and palynologic studies.

Fifty samples were collected in organic-rich levels, mainly lignites. The palynological assemblage is dominated by spores (e.g. *Laevigatosporites* spp., *Psilatriletes* spp. and *Polipodiisporites* spp.), and palynomorphs typical from the Andean forest: *Hedyosmum*, *Ilex*, *Podocarpus*, *Sapium*, Asteraceae, Ericaceae, Poaceae and Cyatheaceae. Tropical and sub-Andean forest taxa such as Bombacaceae, Palmae and Malpighiaceae are also represented in a low proportion. Two radiometric U/Pb ages in zircons from volcanic deposits at the bottom and the top of the study interval indicate Piacenciense (~2.9-3.0 Ma) age. The pollen diagram shows changes in the relative percentages of Andean and sub-Andean forest taxa, which is probably related to climatic variations. These data provide information, hitherto unknown about flora of the Pliocene in NW South America. The palynologic association supports the existence of Pliocene mountain basins filled with fluvial and volcanic sediments, which were deformed and dissected in recent times.

SOCIETY AWARDS

Martin Farley, Awards Committee Chairman

AASP-TPS has a number of awards that recognize accomplishments of palynologists. Here I deal only with awards not directly associated with society officers or students (other than the Undergraduate Awards) or awards at the Annual Meeting.

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



Distinguished Service Award

This award recognizes individuals who have generously supported the Society with their work and resources over a number of years and whose efforts have advanced the Society. Typically, recipients have held society office, participated in committees, or dealt with publications or meetings. There have been 17 recipients of this award, most recently Reed Wicander in 2014.

Honorary Life Membership

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

Medal for Excellence in Education

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

Medal for Scientific Excellence

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

Undergraduate Student Awards

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

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

The following institutions already have approved courses from which undergraduate students may be selected: University of Southampton, Louisiana State University, University of Tennessee-Knoxville, University of Portsmouth, Morehead State University.

A faculty member, who is a member in good standing of AASP, and who teaches an appropriate course, may nominate the course using the Registration Form found under the "Undergraduate Student Award" heading at <http://www.palynology.org/student-support>. Upon approval by the Awards Committee, faculty teaching approved courses may nominate a student to receive the award at any time of the year on the basis of their qualifying criteria by reporting the name and address of the recipient to the Awards Committee Chair. The Chair will collate a list of recipients each year for presentation at the Society's Annual Meeting, in the Newsletter, and on the website.

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

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, 2015** for 2016 meetings other than the Annual Meeting.

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

The application should include the following:

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

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

Martin Farley
mbfarley@sigmaxi.net

Geology, Old Main 213
University of North Carolina at Pembroke

There will be a separate opportunity for travel support to the Annual Meeting during 2016.

2016 AASP STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS

The Society will entertain applications for Student Research Grants with a deadline of:

March 31, 2016

This year there will be three grants of US\$3000 each, two regular Student Research Grants and the McNeilly Student Research Grant.

AASP is pleased to announce that through the generosity of a donation by Juanita McNeilly to honor the memory of her late husband, Roy McNeilly, there will be a McNeilly Research Grant to support student research in Cenozoic tropical palynology. For the purposes of this Grant, Cenozoic tropical palynology covers student projects that address any scientific question using terrestrial palynomorphs or terrestrial with marine palynomorphs.

In addition, AASP offers two Student Research Grants to support research in any area of palynology. Ordinarily, the grants will be offered to beginning graduate students, but advanced undergraduates may also apply. Student Research Grants are to be used for costs directly connected to carrying out research, such as fieldwork and laboratory expenses. 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 Student Research Grants 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>. Inquiries and completed application materials should be sent electronically to the Chair of the AASP Awards Committee:

Martin Farley

Dept. of Geology & Geography, University of North Carolina at Pembroke
mbfarley@sigmaxi.net

ADVICE ON PREPARING AN EFFECTIVE APPLICATION FOR AN AASP STUDENT RESEARCH GRANT

The single most valuable piece of advice is “know and write to your audience.”

You have only a very limited space to describe your project, so use the words wisely. Writing briefly is more difficult than writing at length, but is worth the effort. Literature review should be at a minimum. Keep in mind that the Awards Committee does not know all the context for your project, and may not even have a closely related specialty in palynology. Thus it is important to write for this broader audience. It can be a good idea to show your text to someone who is not a palynologist or involved in the project to see if they understand your description well. It is fine to have a project that integrates palynology with other data, but be sure to make clear what palynological work you will be performing. If there is prior palynological work, explain how your approach is new or different.

2015 Election Results

The Ballot Committee would like to present and congratulate our elected officers and thank those rotating off of the board in Baltimore for their service!

President Elect: Iain Prince
Secretary: Stephen Stukins
Treasurer: Rebecca Hackworth
Managing Editor: James Riding
Director-at-large: Katrin Ruckwied

Changes to the bylaws were approved by the membership.

The election was conducted electronically via SurveyMonkey and the ballot distributed to all members paid through 2015. If you did not receive a ballot or an e-mail encouraging you to request a “paper” (e-mailed) ballot, and believe you should have, please contact the Secretary, Stephen Stukins, to make sure that your e-mail address and/or membership is up-to-date.

Thank you to the 169 members who voted. This represents a modest increase over years past. I encourage all of you who did not vote this year to do so next year – your voices and opinions matter!

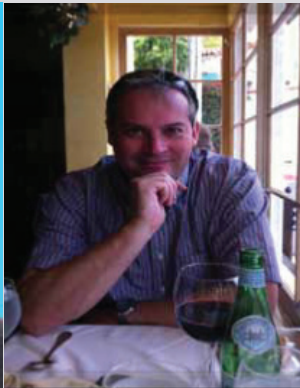
Guy Harrington, AASP-TPS president-elect

Introducing the 2015-2016 Board of Directors!

Guy Harrington
President



Iain Prince
President-elect



Stephen Stukins
Secretary



Rebecca Hackworth
Treasurer



James Riding
Managing Editor



Kara Bogus
Director-at-Large



Kimberly Bell
Student DAL



Katrin Ruckwied
Director-at-Large



Fabienne Marret-Davies
Webmaster, non-voting



Jen O'Keefe
Past-President &
Newsletter Editor

INCREASING OUR VISIBILITY: EXHIBITING AT



The AASP booth hit the road and was at the Botany 2015 Meeting in Edmonton, Alberta this summer, tapping into an underexploited market. Kimberley Bell and I handed out innumerable lanyards that many people only took to remember to look up our website, since the common response was “I have too many lanyards already”.

The booth was popular with palynologists attending the meeting from around the world, including a significant Nigerian contingent, several Europeans and, of course, many Americans, many expressing pride that we were “flying the palynology flag.” Most are already AASP members, but several had lapsed (and made a mental note to rejoin) and a few students also expressed an intention to join. Importantly, the booth also attracted botanists, phycologists and mycologists curious about how palynology overlapped with their discipline.

All of the publications Vaughn Bryant shipped us were sold by the end of the meeting and we could have sold many more of the lower-priced items- especially the ever-popular Kapp reprint. While the revenue did not come close to writing off the costs of exhibiting, we feel that the visibility was worth the expense and effort, and Kimberley and I enjoyed the presentations we were able to attend as well as the interactions with our botanical colleagues.



- Francine McCarthy, GSA Liaison

CONSIDER HELPING OUR MISSION

AASP FOUNDATION CENTURY CLUB

What?

The Century Club of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists Foundation is an organization founded by the Trustees of the Foundation in order to provide persons with the opportunity to support 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 2015 "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, 2015**.

Join!

To join the Century Club, simply 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 registered in the United States. This means that contributions to the AASP Foundation are fully deductible on 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.

2015 AASP Foundation Century Club Contribution Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Mail to: Robert T. Clarke, Treas.

AASP Foundation

3011 Friendswood Dr.

Arlington, TX 76013-2033

Contribution Enclosed: \$ _____

I wish to pledge: \$ _____



JOINT MEETING TSOP - AASP - ICCP

The Society for Organic Petrology, AASP-The Palynological Society
and the International Commission for Coal and Organic Petrology

September 18 – 23, 2016

Houston, Texas USA

SECOND CIRCULAR

We are pleased to present the second circular regarding this first historic joint meeting of these three related geological, geochemical and biological scientific societies. The purpose of this joint meeting is to bring together a diverse group of scientists to discuss the close relationships between organic petrology and palynology, to foster thoughtful discussion and address issues that may be of benefit to furthering the respective sciences. Key themes to be addressed during joint activities include source rock/source-rock reservoir resource assessment, microscope methods of characterizing microporosity, and palynofacies/kerogen.

The venue for this meeting will be the historic Magnolia Hotel in downtown Houston. The Magnolia was built in 1926 as the former Post-Dispatch Building. It was re-purposed in 2003 as The Magnolia Hotel, and further underwent a significant upgrade in 2009. The hotel is centrally located in downtown within walking distance of excellent restaurants and pubs. Over the past several years downtown Houston has undergone a major revitalization with many new office buildings, exciting arts and entertainment venues, and several world-class restaurants. We believe the downtown will provide exciting possibilities for every need and want.

After considerable discussion, a number of integrated Symposia and Theme Sessions have been proposed. At the moment these include:

1. **Microscope methodologies in recognizing and characterizing organic microporosity** (Joint TSOP/ICCP Theme Session: Monday PM)
2. **Palynofacies and Kerogen** (Joint TSOP/ICCP/AASP Theme Session: Tuesday PM)
3. **Multi-modal Characterization of Source Rocks, including Source-Rock Reservoirs** (Joint TSOP/ICCP/AASP Symposium: Wednesday All-Day)
4. **Palynofloral Contributions to Source Rocks** (AASP/TSOP Theme Session: Thursday AM)
5. Additional AASP-sponsored Theme Sessions may include an **Alfred Traverse Symposium, Palynostratigraphy and Global Biozonations, Forensic Palynology, and Wetlands Through Time**

All interested scientists are strongly encouraged to contact us and propose to submit their abstract(s) for one or more of these Themes Sessions and the all-day Wednesday Symposium. Keynote and Invited Speakers are currently being contacted for their participation in the respective sessions. Exact details regarding these sessions will be forthcoming in the next respective Newsletters, and will appear on respective websites very soon.

Two fieldtrips are currently being finalized that will be of interested to everyone. The Pre-Meeting Fieldtrip will be a 2+ day fieldtrip departing on the afternoon of the Friday before the meeting, and will visit Eagleford Formation outcrops in west Texas. The Eagleford Formation is a world-class source-rock reservoir resource in the subsurface of south Texas, and the accompanying strata have been studied extensively in stratigraphic, geochemical and

biostratigraphic studies. This trip will be organized by Core Laboratories (Houston). It will leave in the early afternoon on Friday, and return by early evening on Sunday. The Post-Meeting Fieldtrip will be either a one-day, or two-day trip to Cretaceous through Eocene strata of east-central Texas. These strata are equivalent to the important Wilcox Formation that forms major reservoirs in the subsurface of the deepwater Gulf of Mexico. Details surrounding both of these fieldtrips will appear in the next issue of respective Newsletters, and on the respective websites very soon.

On the Saturday prior to the Meeting, an integrated Short Course is being proposed, "Integrated reservoir evaluation of source-rock reservoir resources utilizing organic petrography, geochemistry and micropaleontology". Instructors are being approached and the course curriculum is currently being discussed. Final details of the class will be forthcoming in future meeting circulars and on the websites.

Multiple social activities of interest to all participants are being discussed and should be finalized in the very near future with the hotel and off-site venues. Of significance is the Monday evening Icebreaker which will take place on the rooftop patio of The Magnolia Hotel (weather permitting). The patio offers a great view of the Houston downtown skyline and sunset. On the Tuesday late afternoon, a Happy Hour will accompany an opportunity to view the posters that will be part of the technical aspect of the meeting. Drinks and finger food will be served and there will be sufficient opportunity to chat with authors about their poster displays. Finally, a dinner is being planned for the Wednesday Evening at a nearby locality in Discovery Green near the Houston Convention Center, just a short walk from the Hotel. The hope is to have an outdoor venue to view the Houston skyline and for attendees to discuss science and renew friendships in a relaxed atmosphere. Details of this dinner are still being determined. In addition to these events, attendees will have sufficient opportunity to enjoy the Houston downtown with its numerous world-class restaurants, and abundant drinking establishments.

Along with the technical and social activities, the respective Societies will have their necessary Board of Directors meetings, and Business Luncheons. These will be scheduled accordingly throughout the week as prescribed by the Societies.

Houston is a significant transportation hub and the international airport (IAH) is serviced by all major airlines from Europe and Asia. Both airports (IAH and HOU) are serviced by the major US-based airlines. Transportation to and from the hotel area from both airports is available via taxi, shuttle, and MetroBus. Further information on fares and routes from the two airports will be distributed in later circulars. Our current negotiated room rate at The Magnolia hotel is US\$179/night (single occupancy). Double- and triple- occupancy will be priced accordingly. This room-rate includes a complimentary hot breakfast, a late afternoon happy hour (complimentary beer/wine), a complimentary bedtime cookie buffet, and free internet. Alternative nearby hotels will be suggested, however, in order to meet our hotel commitments, all attendees are strongly encouraged to stay at the host Hotel.

The local Organizing Committee consists of Thomas Demchuk (Consultant), Jen O'Keefe (Morehead State U.), Thomas Gentzis (Core Laboratories) and Joe Curiale (Chevron). Over the next few months we will do our best to keep the societies and membership informed of new events and deadlines. We look forward to a great joint meeting in September of 2016.



Dino11TH FIRST CIRCULAR

11th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MODERN AND FOSSIL DINOFLAGELLATES

The next 11th dino. meeting will be held in Bordeaux (France) in mid
July 2017 (save the date!)

Organization Committee

Local organization (EPOC laboratory, Université Bordeaux):

Frédérique Eynaud, Laurent Londeix (paleoclimatology team/ biostratigraphy and paleobiodiversity),
Yolanda Del Amo (Ecology and Biogeochemistry of Coastal Systems), with the help of **Marie-Hélène Castera**,
Linda Rossignol, Ludovic Devaux (webmaster)

Honor president: Jean-Louis Turon

French partners:

- **Mohamed Laabir** (ECOSYM « Ecology of Marine Coastal Systems » Laboratory - UMR CNRS Montpellier II University, CC 093 – Place E. Bataillon – 34095 Montpellier cedex 05)
- **Rodolphe Lemée** (Observatoire Océanologique de Villefranche sur mer, Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Laboratoire d'Océanographie de Villefranche, CNRS UMR 7093 -BP 28, 06234 Villefranche-sur-mer –France)
- **Edwige Masure** (UMR CNRS/MNHN/UPMC 7207 Centre de recherche sur la paléobiodiversité et les paléoenvironnements, Université Pierre et Marie Curie)
- **Aurélie Pénard** (Laboratoire Domaines Océaniques (LDO), IUEM, Place Nicolas Copernic, Technopôle Brest-Iroise, Université de Bretagne Occidentale, 29280 Plouzané)
- **Thomas Servais** (UMR 8198 Evo-Eco-Paleo, Université Lille 1, UFR des Sciences de la Terre, 59655 Villeneuve D'Ascq cedex)

Sessions:

1. MODERN DINOFLAGELLATES
 - 1.1 Systematic and molecular approaches
 - 1.2 Dinoflagellate ecology

1.3 Toxic dinoflagellates : from cells to cysts

1.4. Marine to freshwater transition and gradient in the Dino's world

1.5. From theca to cyst: modern dinoflagellates as a sedimentary component

2. FOSSIL DINOFLAGELLATES

2.1 Quaternary and modern dinocysts in paleoceanographical studies

2.2 Phanerozoic time scales

2.3 Dinocyst systematic

2.4 dinocyst preservation / carbon cycles

2.5. integrated studies derived from "dinos": from recent past to modern scales

Scientific Committee

People who already accepted to be part of the Dino11th International Scientific Committee:

Elisa Berdalet (Institut de Ciències del Mar de Barcelona, Spain)

Kara Bogus (International Ocean Discovery Program Texas A&M University, USA)

Susan Carty (Heidelberg University in Tiffin, Ohio, USA)

Alain Couté (Muséum MNHN de Paris, France)

Anne de Vernal, (GEOTOP, Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada)

Mariane Ellegaard (Department of Biology, University of Copenhagen, Denmark)

Martin Head (Department of Earth Sciences, Brock University, Canada),

Mona Hoppenrath (German Centre for Marine Biodiversity Research, Wilhelmshaven, Germany)

Stephen Louwye (Ghent University, Belgium)

Fabienne Marret (School of Environmental Sciences, University of Liverpool, UK)

Kazumi Matsuoka (Institute for East China Sea Research, Nagasaki, Japan)

Antonella Penna (Lab. of environmental Biology, University of Urbino, Italy)

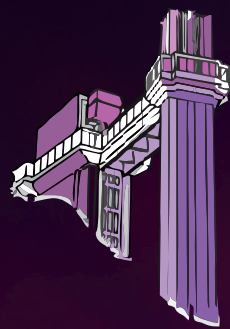
André Rochon (Institut des sciences de la mer de Rimouski, Université du Québec à Rimouski, Canada)

Sophia Ribeiro (Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland –GEUS, Denmark)

Gerard Versteegh (Organic Geochemistry Unit, Bremen University, Germany)

Karin Zonneveld (Department of historical geology/palaeontology, University of Bremen/MARUM, Germany)

More information and updates at: <http://www.laplif.org/dino11/calquedino11.htm>



XIV IPC
X IOPC

*Palaeobotany and Palynology:
towards new frontiers*

*XIV International Palynological Congress
X International Organisation of Palaeobotany Conference*

SALVADOR - BAHIA - BRAZIL

OCTOBER | 23 - 28 | 2016

FIRST CIRCULAR

Every four years the world community of palynologists and palaeobotanists are gathered to discuss the latest advances in their researches, and exchange technical developments. Hence, the meeting of these two communities will take place in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil. This will be the first time that both the XIV International Palynological Congress (IPC) and the X International Organisation of Palaeobotany Conference (IOPC) will gather together in a joint congress in the southern hemisphere. The joint event will be on 23-28 October 2016. It will be an excellent opportunity for Brazil, a country rich in plant fossil sites and boasts a highly diverse flora in the world, to host the leading experts in various disciplines and promote scientific innovations.

VENUE

Founded in 1549 by Portuguese navigators, Salvador is now the third largest city in Brazil, famous for its Carnival and its afro-Brazilian culture. Salvador is also the biggest black city out of Africa. It is rich in historical sites, which includes it to the UNESCO World Heritage List, especially the “Baía de Todos os Santos”.

The Elevator Lacerda was the first urban elevator in the world. It was built to connect two cities that existed (and exist) within the city of Salvador: the Lower Town and the Upper Town. Its choice is a reference to the theme of the event “Palaeobotany and Palynology: towards new frontiers” that is allusive to the role of Paleobotany and Palynology at the interface with new areas of knowledge. In addition, it is also a way to mark the presence of the two events together in a new land: Salvador, which has the Elevator Lacerda one of its main symbols.

The venue is situated in the beautiful beach of Salvador, and offers exceptional transport links by bus, which takes you to the city centre in just 15 minutes.

The congress sessions will be held in:

Bahia Othon Palace

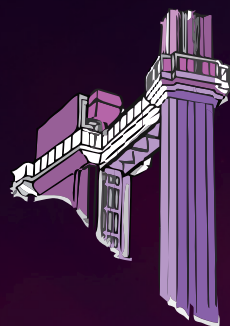
Av. Oceânica, 2294 – Ondina | Salvador - BA, 40170-010.

Phone: + 55 71 2103-7100



SYMPOSIA

A great diversity of palaeobotanical and palynological topics will be presented in symposia and poster sessions at the congress. The Organizing committee will accept symposium proposal (up to 31 October 2015), and after evaluation of Scientific Committee, the selected symposia will be presented for subscriptions. Fill in the form attached for proposing a symposium. Besides symposia, some general sections will be scheduled on many areas of Palaeobotany and Palynology (Morphology, Technique, Taxonomy, Applied Subjects and others).



**XIV IPC
X IOPC**

*Palaeobotany and Palynology:
towards new frontiers*

*XIV International Palynological Congress
X International Organisation of Palaeobotany Conference*

SALVADOR - BAHIA - BRAZIL

OCTOBER | 23 - 28 | 2016

FIRST CIRCULAR

PROPOSED SCHEDULE

Timetable	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
08:30 to 10:30	Pre-Congress Courses		Symposia and general presentations	Symposia and general presentations	Symposia and general presentations	Symposia and general presentations	Symposia and general presentations
10:30 to 11:00		Registrations	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break
11:00 to 13:00			Symposia and general presentations	Symposia and general presentations	Symposia and general presentations	Symposia and general presentations	Symposia and general presentations
13:00 to 14:30	Lunch		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
14:30 to 16:30	Pre-Congress Courses		Symposia and general presentations	Symposia and general presentations	Symposia and general presentations	Symposia and general presentations	Symposia and general presentations
16:30 to 17:00		Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	
17:00 to 19:00		XIV IPC XIOPC Opening Ceremony	Oral and poster presentations	Oral and poster presentations	Oral and poster presentations	Oral and poster presentations	XIV IPC XIOPC Opening Ceremony
19:00 to 21:00			Cultural activities	Cultural activities	Cultural activities	Cultural activities	

FIELD TRIPS (POST CONGRESS):

- Baía de Todos os Santos (Bahia State) – one day
- Chapada Diamantina (Bahia State) – four days
- Chapada do Araripe (Bahia State) - five days
- Natural Monument of the fossilized Tocantins trees (Bielândia / Filadélfia, Tocantins State) – five days



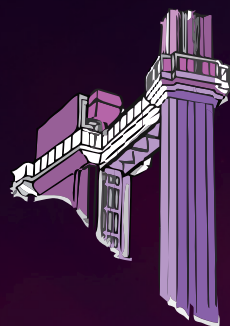
Baía de Todos os Santos



Chapada Diamantina



Natural Monument of the fossilized Tocantins trees



XIV IOPC X IOPC

Palaeobotany and Palynology:
towards new frontiers

XIV International Palynological Congress X International Organisation of Palaeobotany Conference

SALVADOR - BAHIA - BRAZIL

OCTOBER | 23 - 28 | 2016

FIRST CIRCULAR

REGISTRATION FEES

The registration fee includes:

- Access to all congress sessions and the exhibition areas.
- Ice Breaker (Welcome reception).
- Congress documentation and abstracts volume.

Periods	Professional	Student*
Up to DEC.2015	R\$ 600,00	R\$ 450,00
JAN-MAR.2016	R\$ 800,00	R\$ 550,00
APR-SEP.2016	R\$ 1.000,00	R\$ 650,00
OCT.2016	R\$ 1.200,00	R\$ 750,00
Course fee – R\$ 100,00		

*Students must be enrolled in an educational (or scientific) institution (Please send an official proof of student status by email: inscricoes@gt5.com.br)

The Congress fee is mandatory for all attendees including speakers, presenters (oral and poster) and those chairing or attending a session.

There will be grants from IFPS and IOP for those professionals and student who will attend the congress. As soon as possible rules and directions will be released.

COMMITTEES

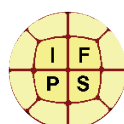
ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- Francisco de Assis Ribeiro dos Santos, UEFS, President
- Cláudia Elena Carneiro, UEFS
- Francisco Hilder Magalhães e Silva, UNEB
- Jailson Santos de Novais, UFSB
- Luciene Cristina Lima e Lima, UNEB
- Marileide Dias Saba, UNEB
- Paulino Pereira Oliveira, UEFS
- Ricardo Landim Bormann de Borges, UNEB
- Rita de Cássia Matos dos Santos Araújo, UNEB

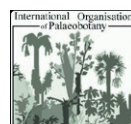
SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

- Luciene Cristina Lima e Lima, UNEB, Coordinator
- Luciano Maurício Esteves, IBt/SP
- Paulo Eduardo de Oliveira, USP
- Roberto Ianuzzi, UFRGS
- Tânia Lindner Dutra, UNISINOS
- Vânia Gonçalves Lourenço Esteves, UFRJ/MN

ORGANIZERS



IFPS



IOP



ALPP



UEFS



UNEB

CO-ORGANIZERS



SBB



UFBA



UFSB



URCA

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



+55 71 2102.6600
anapaulacarvalho@gt5.com.br
www.gt5.com.br

SYMPOSIUM PROPOSAL

The IPC / IOPC 2016 theme is "***Palaeobotany and Palynology: towards new frontiers***".

The proposed Symposia will cover several areas, such as Palaeobotany, Palaeoecology, Palaeoclimatology, Biostratigraphy, Taxonomy, Plant Morphology, Forensic Palynology, etc.

The Organizing Committee will accept only one symposium proposal from any individual who will participate in congress. Symposium organizers must be physically present to coordinate the symposium session.

Please submit your proposals to the Organizing Committee (brazil.ipc.iopc@gmail.com) until **October 31, 2015**.

FORM

Descriptive title
Key words
Organizer(s)
Contact email address:
Purpose (1,000 characters)