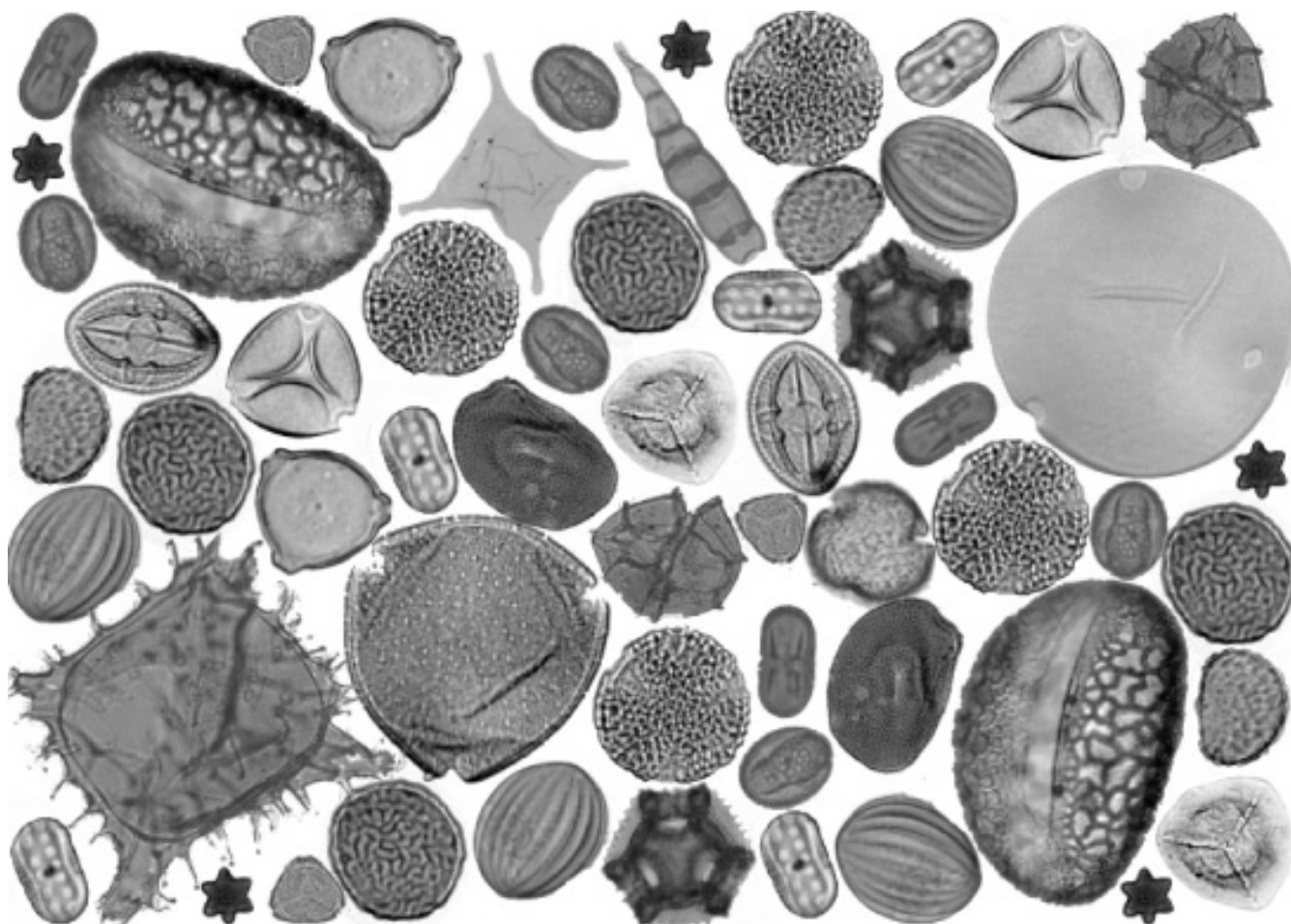




# AASP – The Palynological Society



# NEWSLETTER

December 2021  
Volume 54, Number 4

Published Quarterly



# AASP – TPS NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly by AASP – The Palynological Society

September 2021, Volume 54, Number 3

## CONTENTS

**Page 3** | List of AASP – TPS awardees

**Page 4** | Board of Directors and upcoming deadlines

**Page 5** | A Message from our President

**Page 6** | Managing Editor's Report

**Page 8** | AASP – TPS is against racism!

**Page 9** | AASP – TPS 50th Anniversary Jewelry Collection

**Page 10** | Cenex selected as the new home for the AMOCO collection

**Page 14** | Dinoquilt

**Page 15** | AASP Foundation Century Club

**Page 16** | Call to Serve - Newsletter open positions

**Page 16** | What's this palynomorph?

**Page 17** | News from...

**Page 20** | Awards News

**Page 25** | Job opportunity

**Page 26** | Upcoming meetings



# AASP

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* (quarterly), 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-TPS 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)  
Professor Vaughn M. Bryant (awarded 2016)  
Professor David Batten (awarded 2018)

#### **AASP-TPS 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)  
Dr. John E. Williams (awarded 2013)  
Mr. Paul W. Nygreen (awarded 2013)  
Professor Norman Norton (awarded 2016)  
Professor George F. Hart (awarded 2020)

#### **AASP-TPS Board of Directors Award recipient**

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

#### **AASP-TPS Medal for Excellence in Education**

Professor Aural T. Cross (awarded 1999)  
Professor Alfred Traverse (awarded 2001)  
Professor Bill Evitt (awarded 2006)  
Professor Vaughn M. Bryant (awarded 2013)  
Professor Geoffrey Clayton (awarded 2016)  
Professor Sophie Warny (awarded 2021)

#### **AASP-TPS 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)  
Professor Reed Wicander (awarded 2014)  
Professor Fredrick Rich (awarded 2016)  
Dr. James B. Riding (awarded 2016)  
Professor Martin B. Farley (awarded 2019)



# AASP – TPS NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly by AASP – The Palynological Society

September 2021  
ISSN 0732-6041

Volume 54, Number 3  
Jan Hennissen & Gilda Lopes, Editors

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## AASP NEWSLETTER GRAPHIC DESIGN (December 2021 Issue)

Filipe Barreira, Laboratório Nacional de Energia e Geologia (LNEG), S. Mamede Infesta, Portugal

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 February 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 members.**



# A Message From Our President

Dear colleagues and friends,

As we look forward to the year ahead, I wish to begin by thanking everyone who volunteers their time for the AASP – The Palynological Society. Your contributions are fundamental to the running of our organisation! 2022 promises a fresh start, and hopefully an opportunity to reconnect with colleagues from around the world.

In February, the Board of Directors will gather for the mid-year meeting, where we will discuss a range of ongoing and new initiatives to further promote our discipline and grow membership. The AASP-TPS membership currently stands around 230. I encourage you all to continue being proactive in the recruitment of new members.



*Niall Paterson, AASP-TPS President*

Despite ongoing challenges, overall, 2021 was a successful year for the society. Our conservative financial strategy has kept us on a firm footing, and our journal *Palynology* is going strong. As reported in the previous newsletter, the journal now has the highest impact factor in the three international journals on our subject, and is now in the highest quartile in the Palaeontology category. These achievements are a testament to the excellent work of our Managing Editor, Jim Riding, and the Assistant Editors, Matthew Pound and Encarni Montoya.

We greatly look forward to the society's upcoming annual meeting, which will be held in Manizales, Colombia, from the 7th to 11th August 2022 (see pages 26–31). On behalf of the board, I wish to extend my gratitude to the organisers for their tireless work behind the scenes. This promises to be a truly excellent meeting with an exciting programme of technical presentations, workshops and fieldtrips. Understandably, there may be some lingering anxiety about international travel in these times. For this reason, the conference will be a hybrid event, with both in-person and virtual presentations. We truly hope that this will enable many more people to attend and participate. For our student members, we will also be hosting dedicated early career events. In order to encourage student attendance, the society will be offering additional support this year for travel and accommodation expenses through our Student Travel Awards programme (see page 23). In other meetings, the 11<sup>th</sup> European Palaeobotany and Palynology Conference will be held from the 19th to the 22nd of June in Stockholm, Sweden. Keeping with the Nordic theme, the 14th International Conference on Paleoceanography will take place from the 29th of August to the 2nd of September in Bergen, Norway.

The New Year also brings a range of new opportunities. Firstly, the society elections will take place for the positions of President-elect, Director-at-large, and Director-at-large (Student representative), in addition to the rolling annual positions of Secretary and Treasurer. The candidates will be announced in the next newsletter, and I highly encourage you all to vote!

I take this opportunity to thank Tuba Aydin Ozbek who is departing as our newsletter correspondent for Asia. Tuba has served in this role since 2019, and we are extremely grateful for all of her contributions during this time. Consequently, we are now seeking a new Asia correspondent. This is an excellent opportunity to become more involved in the society, so if you are interested, then please do not hesitate to contact our Newsletter Editor, Jan Hennissen.

Finally, while things continue to be difficult in industry, there are some encouraging signs with companies actively recruiting palynologists again (see page 25). I believe that palynology still has a hugely important role to play in the energy sector, particularly with respect to the energy transition and the application of carbon capture and storage. Therefore, we will hopefully see many more opportunities in this exciting new field in the coming years.

I wish you and your families a happy and peaceful holiday season, and a healthy and prosperous 2022!

Niall



# Managing Editor's Report

Since the previous *Newsletter*, Part four of the 2021 volume of *Palynology* has been published. It was issued online during the first week of November and includes 11 research articles which are listed below. Like a team sports manager, I don't normally single any individual out for special mention but the paper on the Pliocene of Azerbaijan by Keith Richards and his co-authors is a genuine classic.

Parts three and four of Volume 45 will now be printed and posted to members who have opted for hardcopy very shortly. You will receive this mailing well before the Christmas rush. Part four completes the current volume, which weighs in at 862 pages in total; I think this is a record for our journal.

We already have several papers destined for Volume 46 which have been typeset. The cover in 2022 will feature one or more dinoflagellate cysts, and will be either grey or black. Manuscript submission rates continue to be excellent; as ever, thank you very much for your support of the journal.

James B. Riding  
Managing Editor, AASP – The Palynological Society  
E-mail: [jbri@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:jbri@bgs.ac.uk)

## The contents of *Palynology* Volume 45, Part 4 (November 2021)

1. Richards, K., Vincent, S.J., Davies, C.E., Hinds, D.J. and Aliyeva, E. Palynology and sedimentology of the Pliocene Productive Series from eastern Azerbaijan. 569–598.
2. Mete, D., Şahin, A.A., Hamzaoğlu, E. and Pinar, N.M. Pollen morphology applied to species delimitation of Turkish *Dianthus* L. (Caryophyllaceae). 599–625.
3. Duarte, A.F.T., Ribeiro, P.G., Moreira, A.L., Queiroz, L.P. and Santos, F.A.R. Pollen morphology of *Senegalia* Raf. species and related genera (Leguminosae: Caesalpinioideae: mimosoid clade). 627–639.
4. Çilden, E., Özmen-Baysal, E. and Yildirimli, Ş. Comparative palynological survey of the species of *Reseda* L. (Resedaceae) from Turkey. 641–656.
5. Kondas, M. and Filipiak, P. Organic tentaculitoids from the Kowala Formation (Devonian) of the Holy Cross Mountains, Poland. 657–668.
6. Quamar, M.F. and Stivrins, N. Modern pollen and non-pollen palynomorphs along an altitudinal transect in Jammu and Kashmir (Western Himalaya), India. 669–684.
7. Riding, J.B. The literature on Triassic, Jurassic and earliest Cretaceous dinoflagellate cysts: supplement six. 685–696.
8. Pound, M.J. and McCoy, J. Palaeoclimate reconstruction and age assessment of the Miocene flora from the Trwyn y Parc solution pipe complex of Anglesey, Wales, UK. 697–703.
9. Kroeck, D.M., Eriksson, M.E., Lindskog, A., Munnecke, A., Dubois, M., Régnier, S. and Servais, T. Morphological variability of peteinoid acritarchs from the Middle Ordovician of Öland, Sweden, and implications for acritarch classification. 705–715.
10. Gravendyck, J., Fensome, R.A., Head, M.J., Herendeen, P.S., Riding, J.B., Bachelier, J.B. and Turland, N.J. Taxonomy and nomenclature in palaeopalynology: basic principles, current challenges and future perspectives. 717–743.
11. Macphail, M. The Sabrina microfloras of East Antarctica: Late Cretaceous, Paleogene or reworked? 745–752.



## **AASP-TPS is against racism!**

AASP- The Palynological Society takes great pride in being home to a diverse group of early career and professional members internationally. We therefore aim to promote and embody an inclusive and equitable culture that is free from discrimination.





# AASP – TPS 50th Anniversary Jewelry Collection

*Exclusive, Custom-made 50th Anniversary Jewelry*

*Limited-Edition and availability*



Special thanks to John Firth and Ingrid Romero for palynomorph images.

**Celebrate the 50th anniversary of AASP – The Palynological Society with a beautiful, sterling silver palynomorph necklace.** The Society board worked with jeweler and designer, 'Science-inspired jewelry', to create these one-of-a-kind, unique necklaces in honor of our golden anniversary. There are a limited number available of two designs, a dinoflagellate cyst of ***Diphyes recurvatum*** and a pollen grain of ***Macrolobium multijugum***. They are sterling silver and each measure c.3/4" diameter.

Each necklace comes with a commemorative information card that includes a picture and description of the palynomorph. **The society is selling them for \$150.00 (for members) and \$170.00 (for non-members).** This is a wonderful way to support AASP and is a great conversation starter!

Payment can be arranged by contacting the AASP-TPS Treasurer, Vladimir Torres, at [vladimir.torres@exxonmobil.com](mailto:vladimir.torres@exxonmobil.com). Necklaces can be mailed at your request.

# CENEX selected as the new home of the Amoco Palynology Collection

Gunner Boler<sup>1,2</sup>, Merrell A. Miller<sup>3</sup>, Sophie Warny<sup>1,2</sup>

It's not every day that a palynology collection of over 10000 slides that took generations to assemble from around the world is transferred safely across states in the back of an LSU Ford Voyager van. However, this is just a small detail of what happened October 10<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup>, 2021. The collection donated to LSU consisting of primarily Mesozoic-Cenozoic palynology slides was originally part of the collections of the former Amoco Production Company, having been assembled beginning in the late 1950s by their team of biostratigraphers (G.W. Barker, D.N. Beju, D.G. Benson, W.W. Brideaux, A.T. Cross, C.A. Dawson, L.E. Eames, D.W. Engelhart, J.F. Grayson, R. Guilory, R.W. Hedlund, E.J. Kidson, R.A. Laseski, F.X. Miller, M.A. Miller, D.R.M. Mischell, K. Newman, G. Norris, David T. Pocknall, R.L. Ravn, K. Segroves, J.A. Stein, H.J. Sullivan, C.F. Upshaw, G.L. Wannders, D. Wall, G.L. Williams, G.D. Wood, and J.H. Wrenn), and curated by Amoco staff before the company merged with British Petroleum in December 1998.

Following the merger, the collections were donated, curated, and stored at the Gulf Coast Repository of the International Ocean Discovery Program (IODP) in College Station, TX. This year, it was decided that the collections would be more effectively used if they were housed at a university with an active paleopalynology program; thus discussion about the transfer of the collection started between IODP, Dr. David Pocknall (former Amoco/BP/Hess palynologist) and Dr. Sophie Warny (CENEX director), and the transfer was initiated.



▲ Merrell Miller and Jim Bergen studying slide sets to determine if they are useful for future research.

◀ The Amoco palynology collection at IODP before being reorganized and packed.

The first step in transferring such a large palynology collection was to become familiar with the history and cataloging of the slides. This could not have been possible without the assistance of Mr. Merrell A. Miller, Dr. James "Jim" Bergen, and Dr. Michelle L. Penkrot. Merrell, a palynologist, and Jim, a nannofossil biostratigrapher, are former Amoco Tulsa Research Center personnel. Both knew the details behind many sample localities. Michelle, the Gulf Coast Repository Curator at IODP, went through years of data involving the collection and compiled everything possible at IODP to assist in the curation and transfer process.



▲ *Sample boxes separated and labeled with sticky notes to denote the region/project from which the samples came.*

On October 11<sup>th</sup>, Merrell and Jim explained how the collection was originally assembled and curated. They explained that the slides were accompanied by hardcopy taxon and locality folders. Initially, a biostratigrapher created a locality folder for each collecting site; these have the locality name, geographic lo-



▲ *Michelle Penkrot examining a dinoflagellate color transparency. These Ektachromes are also part of the donation.*

cation, stratigraphic sampling information, and were assigned a unique locality number. The stratigraphic position of samples was recorded relative to a fixed datum (marker bed, formation contact, core depth, etc.). Some folders contain detailed stratigraphic sections augmented by photographs and interpretive summaries. Upon sample analysis, identified species were documented in hardcopy taxon folders, assigned to a genus, given a sequential species number, and a unique number. Each taxon folder contained a species description, reference to an Amoco type specimen, synonyms, comments on age and paleoenvironments, where possible. This information provided consistent identifications for palynologists in the operating regions. Finally, the locality and species occurrence data were entered in Amoco's paleontological database for range chart generation and graphic correlation.



The amount of information associated with the collection is truly extensive. Still, unfortunately, immediate access to all the associated data is not currently possible. Some are in hardcopy form within the 13 linear feet of locality folders accompanying the nannofossil collection, and others may reside at universities in Kansas, Iowa, Oklahoma, and Utah. This made organizing the slide boxes in a way that could be useful for future research daunting, but at that point, there was only one thing to do: open a box and dive in.

After reviewing slides in a few boxes, it was decided first to separate boxes of samples that contained a labeled P number, which is a number unique to every palynology sample, and a labeled locality number that could be potentially referenced back to its locality folder. Most slides that met these criteria came from the Tulsa Research Center. Without locality information, the samples are not useful for research. It wasn't long until samples with no discernably useful information were found. Merrell and Jim examined the orphaned collections and reminisced about projects during the good old days.

One by one, slide boxes were removed, opened, examined, and reorganized on different shelves where sticky notes were used to denote the region or project from which the samples came. It was truly a team effort. At the end of the day, there were sticky notes everywhere denoting samples from all over the world: Alaska, Canada, Kenya, Romania, France, Tunisia, Yugoslavia, and Pakistan; to cite a few! CENEX was also lucky to receive samples, reports, and photos from the collection of the late Dr. Gordon D. Wood, who primarily studied Paleozoic acritarchs, chitinozoans, and miospores. CENEX is grateful to have some of his work in our possession. We miss his yearly guest-lectures on floral evolution in the Paleozoic for Warny's GEOL 4012 Micropaleontology course.



▲ Gunner sealing slide boxes and loading them into cardboard boxes for transport.

Once the slide boxes were separated and organized, it was time to pack them into cardboard boxes for the trip back to Baton Rouge. The Texas A&M IODP student workers were an immense help during this step of the transfer process. Each slide box was lined with bubble wrap or a paper towel to prevent shaking of the glass slides and then taped shut. Each cardboard box was lined with bubble wrap to ensure a safe trip. There was a total of 67 cardboard boxes packed with slide boxes, with each cardboard box being able to fit approximately 14-16 slide boxes. The slide boxes were originally stored on six bookshelves, which were loaded into the van to be transferred to CENEX.



Everything loaded into the van included six bookshelves, 47 cardboard boxes, and two boxes of supplemental reports/information. The remaining 20 cardboard boxes were shipped directly to CENEX. The drive back to Baton Rouge was understandably slow, as this was Gunner's first time traveling with a palynology collection valued at over two million dollars at the time of its original donation to IODP. The collection was then unloaded with ease at CENEX with the help of CENEX's post-doc, Dr. Vann Smith, CENEX graduate student, Tiffany Nordstrom, and Andrew Webb, the building coordinator for the Department of Geology and Geophysics.



▲ *The bookshelves being deconstructed after the removal of the sample boxes.*



▲ *Packed boxes on the carts waiting to be packed into the van for the final transfer to LSU.*

▶ *Lining cardboard boxes with bubble wrap to protect the slide boxes during transport.*



# To keep you warm this winter: the “dinoquilt”

By Rex Harland

Having reached the tender age when your children have all grown up and left home, and now your grandchildren are doing the same I thought that members of the society might be interested in the following. My second born grandchild has just had an eighteenth birthday with all the attendant celebrations including presents, a cake and party with lots of friends and relatives including Pat and myself. As part of these celebrations, and as a sort of family tradition Pat decided to make a

quilt. This unique quilt, illustrated in the photograph, consists of a number of embroidered dinoflagellates or cysts on panels of different colours. Some of the subjects are definitely associated with me and my career, whilst others were chosen for their appeal. Dinoflagellates and their cysts certainly lend themselves to artistic interpretation as they have a certain striking beauty. My very best wishes to all those you know or remember me.



# 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 2020 "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, 2021**.

### 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.

---

## 2021 AASP Foundation Century Club Contribution Form

Mail to: Thomas D. Demchuck  
AASP Foundation Chair and Trustee  
14419 Lotusbriar Ln.  
Houston, TX 77077

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_





# Call to Serve: Newsletter open positions

Not sure that you want to run for office but want to help the society?

Become a newsletter correspondent, either formally or informally! We welcome student and professional news, book reviews, reports on meetings, workshops, etc. Submissions are due on February 15, May 15, August 15, and November 15 annually.

The AASP - The Palynological Society Newsletter is a publication with an ISSN number (ISSN 0732-6041), which helps your CV!

Our newsletter is only as good as the news we receive.  
Please stay in touch!

Jan Hennissen - [aaspnews@gmail.com](mailto:aaspnews@gmail.com)  
Newsletter Editor



## What's this palynomorph?

Have you looked down the microscope and don't immediately recognise what you see? Not even after wading through countless publications and even more species diagnosis? Tired of cursing publishers for providing only low resolution, poorly scanned images of holotypes?

If this sounds familiar, why not send a picture (remember the scalebar!) to the newsletter? You will reach an audience of around 400 palynologists from around the world and with expert knowledge across the entire stratigraphic column.

Send pictures of your unknowns including the approximate age/sample location and if possible formation to [aaspnews@gmail.com](mailto:aaspnews@gmail.com) and we'll drop it in the quarterly Newsletter!



# News from...

## Germany

**By Alex Wheeler & Julia Gravenyck**

We would like to welcome Alex Wheeler to the Institute for Geology at Leibniz University as a postdoctoral researcher funded by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. He joins Julia Gravenyck as part of a growing group of palynologists and geochemists led by Dr. Ulrich Heimhofer with an interest in examining the palaeofloras, palaeoenvironment and palaeoclimate in deep time. Alex's project will focus on a multidisciplinary examination of deglaciation at the end of the Late Palaeozoic Ice Age in eastern Australia, using coal deposits as an archive of macro- and microfloras and stable carbon isotope records. We hope to better understand the timescales over which these deglaciation events occur along with the effect of climate amelioration on the diversity and composition of these high latitude floras.



*Julia Gravenyck and Alex Wheeler*

Julia is examining the taxonomy and morphology of angiosperm pollen in the earliest Cretaceous gaining insight into the adaptations that would lead angiosperms to incredible success in the Late Cretaceous and Palaeogene. Here in Hannover, we are lucky to exchange also with Dr. Annette Götz from the LBEG, who shares her deep experience in stratigraphy and palynology. It is hoped that over the next few months we will build up our capabilities with an acid-free palynological processing lab and attract new projects and funding. We are excited to share the results of our work with you all in the coming months and hope there will be lots more to report in the future!

## India

**By Nivedita Mehrotra**

A National virtual training program- Training on Quaternary Palynology , 'Let's explore the fascinating world of pollen & spores' was organized by the Association of Quaternary Researchers (AOQR), in association with Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences (BSIP), Lucknow, February 22-24, 2021. The training was coordinated by Dr. Binita Phartiyal and Dr. Santosh K. Shah, both AOQR Governing Body members and Scientists at BSIP, Lucknow. The experts were from BSIP, Lucknow and the French Institute of Pondicherry, Puducherry who trained 62 participants from 33 institutes across India to learn through the virtual platform in the first ever online training organized under the banner of AOQR.

On the first day, February 22, 2021, Dr. Vandana Prasad, Director BSIP, Lucknow and



▲ Quaternary Palynologist and experts (BSIP Lucknow) for the training course and AOQR Team.

President, AOQR formally opened the training session to the participants and the expert panel. The first talk was delivered by Dr. Anjum Farooqui on the applications of palynological studies with a special reference to mangrove forests. Their significance to explain the past paleo-shoreline changes across different sites in the Indian subcontinent was showcased. Dr. Ratan Kar lectured on the basic sampling techniques involved in palynological investigations. He presented to the participants the various types of samples collected through trenches, sediment cores as per the sampling sites involved ranging from Himalayan sediments, lake bed, soft sediments and sediments found in remote regions of Arctic and Antarctica for fossil pollen records, and also other type of samples such as spider webs, honey, tree barks, surface sediments, etc collected for modern vegetation studies. He elaborated on the equipment used, field techniques and sampling protocols for palynological investigations and which are

the first and primary requisites for any such studies. The final lecture of the day was by Dr. Firoz Quamar on the understanding and details of pollen morphology for distinct pollen types yielded by various pollen producing plant types existing in the plant kingdom. The systematic variation in pollen structure through variations in external features such as shape, size, aperture, wall structures, and sculptures etc., as tools for palynologist to study the large numbers of pollen produced by plants and preserved spatio-temporally in the Quaternary sediments.

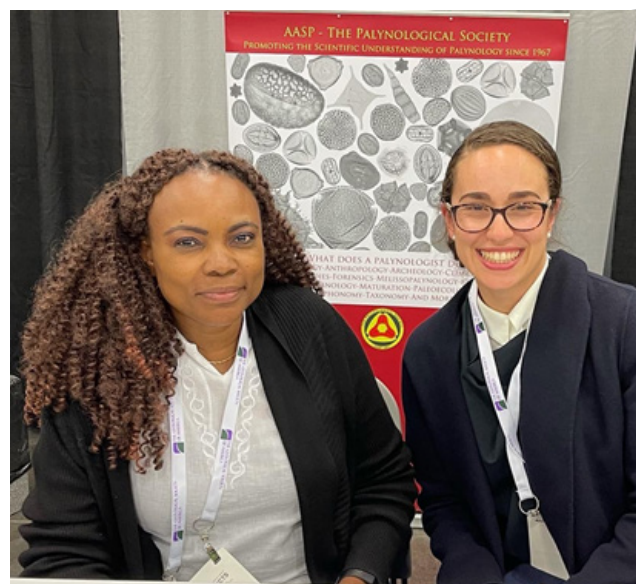
On, February 23, 2021, the second day of the training, recorded video of the sample processing techniques were shown to the participants by experts from BSIP, Dr. Shilpa Pandey, Dr. Swati Tripathi, and Dr. Firoz Quamar. The experts elaborated on the application of palynological analysis through various case studies across India. In these lectures the BSIP palynologists presented their findings,

In these unimaginable times of COVID-19, AOQR has taken a leap forward especially for students and young researchers. This training was organized to give them an understanding and gain from the information provided by some of the finest known Quaternary Palynologist of India about the details and particulars of palynological research carried out on the

I regret the delay in communicating this news as I myself am a COVID-19 survivor and recently recovered from the infection. This was a major event early this year but unfortunately India suffered a lot after the same and henceforth there were no such events or news. I hope our readers are safe and our scientific community can come forth more vigilantly after these very difficult times.

**By Francisca Oboh-Ikuenobe**

*Francisca and Vera at the AASP booth at GSA Connects 2021*





# Awards News

By Marie Thomas

## Society Awards

AASP–The Palynological Society has several awards that recognize outstanding service to the Society or to the discipline of palynology.

The basic nomination procedure is similar for most awards (main letter of nomination accompanied by letters of support, which include documentation of the accomplishment).

Details of the procedures for each award can be found at <https://palynology.org/award-procedures/>. The deadline for submission of society awards nominations is **March 1 of each year**.

A complete list of previous winners can be found on the third page of this newsletter.

### Distinguished Service Award

This award recognizes individuals who have generously supported the AASP–TPS with their work and resources over several 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 twenty recipients of this award, most recently Martin Farley in 2019.

### Honorary Life Membership

This is the oldest AASP–TPS award, with the first awards dating to 1975. This award is either bestowed upon individuals who have made a fundamental contribution to the discipline of palynology, or to people who have given devoted service to the AASP–TPS (or both). Honorary Life Membership has been awarded to seventeen individuals, most recently to George Hart in 2020.

### Medal for Excellence in Education

This medal recognizes leaders in palynological education. Nominees are expected to have considerable experience and accomplishment in aspects of academic education involving palynology. The medal has been awarded six times, most recently to Sophie Warny in 2021.

### 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 thirteen times in the history of the Society, most recently to David Batten in 2018.



## Medal for Scientific Merit and Outstanding Promise

This newly established award recognizes individuals in their mid-career who have made important contributions to the science of palynology and who show the promise of continued excellence in the discipline. Typically, nominees will have no more than 15 years' experience beyond their M.Sc. or Ph.D. graduation (excluding time spent in industry or on leave).

## Student Research Awards

### Call for Applications

AASP–The Palynological Society is pleased to announce its program of Student Research Awards. For 2022, there will be two awards of \$3000 (US) each, to support research in any area of palynology. Student Research Awards are to be used for costs directly connected to carrying out research, such as fieldwork and laboratory expenses, but not for travel expenses to attend a meeting. Typically, these awards are provided to students in the preliminary stages of their doctoral research, but MSc. and advanced undergraduate students may also apply.

Basis of awards: The qualification of the student, the novelty and imagination of the proposed project, and the likelihood of significant contribution to the science of palynology are factors that will be weighed in the selection process.

### Application procedure:

Please download the application form: <https://palynology.org/student-research-grants/>

**Part A** of this form is to be completed by the student, and **Part B** by the student's faculty supervisor. Applications **must** be accompanied by a photograph of the student (.jpeg format) for publication in the society's newsletter.

Additional material will not be considered.

The applicant's supervisor must submit both parts A and B of the form to the Awards Committee Chair, either as Word document or as a PDF:

Dr. Marie L. Thomas  
AASP–TPS Awards Committee Chair  
[aaspawards@gmail.com](mailto:aaspawards@gmail.com)

Please ensure that you have completed both parts A and B of this application form.

The deadline for applications is **March 1, 2022**. Late or incomplete applications, as well as those that exceed the stated word limits in sections A or B will be disqualified. As per society awards policy only students who are registered AASP–TPS members are eligible to apply (<https://palynology.org/join/#join>). Applications from non-members will not be accepted.



## Undergraduate Student Awards

To support the teaching of palynology at the undergraduate level and to encourage and reward student achievement, AASP–The Palynological Society offers the Undergraduate Student Award. Each award consists of one year's free membership to the Society. This free membership includes access to digital issues of the Society's publications, the journal *Palynology*, and the quarterly newsletter; discounted registration fees at Society meetings; and eligibility for Society awards.

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

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

Additionally, course instructors who are members in good standing of AASP–TPS, and who teach an appropriate course, may nominate their course using the Registration Format found below. This should be cut-and-pasted into a word document and sent to the Awards Committee Chair at: [aaspawards@gmail.com](mailto:aaspawards@gmail.com)

Upon course approval, instructors may nominate a student to receive the award by sending the name, institutional address, and email address of the recipient to the Awards Committee Chair and Society Secretary ([s.stukins@nhm.ac.uk](mailto:s.stukins@nhm.ac.uk)) at any time of the year. Additionally, faculty must send the name of the winner, a paragraph about their achievements, and a photograph to the newsletter editor ([aaspnews@gmail.com](mailto:aaspnews@gmail.com)) for inclusion in the March (awards between July and December) or June newsletter (awards between January and June) each year.

Undergraduate Student Award, Course Registration Form

- Nominating faculty member:
- University/Higher Education Institution:
- Course Name:
- Course Description and level:
- Average number of students registered in the course annually:
- Number of hours of palynological instruction:
- Criteria used to determine the winning student:
- Date:

# Student Travel Award – Manizales, Colombia 2022

AASP–The Palynological Society is pleased to announce its Student Travel Awards program for 2022. These awards are designed to support travel for student members who intend to present a talk or poster at the annual meeting in Manizales, Colombia, August 7-11, 2022. Applicants who were selected to receive travel awards for the cancelled Baton Rouge conference in 2020 are invited to reapply for special consideration if they will still be students at the time of the Manizales conference.

## Application procedure:

Please download the application form: <https://palynology.org/student-travel-awards/>

**Part A** of this form is to be completed by the student, and **Part B** by the student's faculty supervisor. Applications must be accompanied by a photograph of the student (.jpeg format) for publication in the society's newsletter.

The **applicant's supervisor must submit both parts A and B** of the form to the Awards Committee Chair, either as Word document or as a PDF:

Dr. Marie L. Thomas  
AASP–TPS Awards Committee Chair  
[aaspawards@gmail.com](mailto:aaspawards@gmail.com)

Please ensure that you have completed both parts A and B of the application form.

The deadline for applications is **March 1, 2022**. Late or incomplete applications **will not** be considered. As per society awards policy, only students who are registered AASP–TPS members are eligible to apply (<https://palynology.org/join/#join>). Applications from non-members will not be accepted.



# Student Research Award Update

## Kelsey Koerner

Kelsey was awarded \$3000 USD in May 2020 to support her project "Changes in sea surface conditions over the last ca. 4000 years in the North Water (NOW) polynya, northern Baffin Bay." We received an update from her describing how her project is progressing in September 2021.

Due to the COVID19 pandemic, the beginning of my PhD project started off predominately within the confines of my apartment. However, here in Canada we were fortunate enough to make some progression on certain aspects of my PhD. This past year we began some of the analyses on the three marine sediment cores I will be using for my project. These three sediment cores were collected in northwestern Baffin Bay and will be used to document the long-term trends in sea-surface conditions and regional primary production over the late Holocene. First, we were able to complete high-resolution MSCL and

XCT scans on all three cores, which allows us to see the internal structure of the cores prior to splitting and sub-sampling. The cores were additionally scanned using a portable XRF to obtain the elemental composition of the sediment. All three cores are composed of predominately silty-clay and the upper portions of the cores are quite organic-rich. Second, we sub-sampled the cores, and began preparing the samples for  $^{210}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  analyses to develop an age model. Based on other sedimentation rates in the region these cores will span ca. 150 to 500 years. This summer we will begin preparing and analysing both the dinocyst and diatom assemblages to infer changes to sea-surface conditions.

*Kelsey and two of the three collected cores*





# Job opportunity

## NEW TECHNOLOGY SCIENCE AND SOLUTIONS

### Senior Geoscientist - Palynologist

As a global geoscience technology leader, CGG provides a comprehensive range of data, products, services and solutions for complex natural resource, environmental and infrastructure challenges.

Our Geology & Engineering experts provide valuable insight for natural resource exploration and development and support our clients' geothermal, CCUS and environmental Energy Transition programs.

We are looking for an enthusiastic, talented and highly motivated Palynologist to join our Geology team based in North Wales (Llandudno).

Our team of multi-disciplinary scientists provide innovative solutions to our clients challenging problems within the Energy Sector. We strive to continually evaluate our workflows to ensure we stay at the forefront of geoscience.

To do this, we are looking for someone who can contribute to projects using a range of techniques, software and processes relating to the areas of Palynology and Stratigraphy, whilst independently and accurately generating and interpreting data and preparing professional reports.

To find out more information and to make an application visit:  
<https://smrtr.io/74FW3>



SEE THINGS DIFFERENTLY



# Upcoming Meetings

## **54th Annual Meeting of AASP-The Palynological Society**

**Manizales, Colombia**

**August 7th – 11th, 2022**

Organized jointly with

**The Latin America Association of Paleobotany and Palynology (ALPP)**

**The Online Pollen Catalogs Network (RCPoL)**

In 2022, the annual meeting of the AASP-TSP will be held in Colombia for the first time and for the second time in South America. For this reason, we want to celebrate the palynological diversity of the Neotropics and make this event an opportunity to include the diversity of the palynological community.

This meeting will have a hybrid format (in-person/online). This meeting will also include the participation of the Latin American Society of Paleobotany and Palynology (ALPP), and the Online Pollen Catalogs Network (RCPoL). The meeting will take place in Manizales, a traditional coffee city.

Manizales and the Institute of Investigations in Stratigraphy (IIES) at Universidad de Caldas will welcome the global palynological community.



## Transportation

Manizales has a regional airport, La Nubia, located 10 Km west of downtown Manizales. International flights will have a connection in Bogota at El Dorado International Airport or in Medellin at the Airport Jose Maria Cordova.

## Accommodations

Manizales has a variety of hotels and hostels spread across the area. Here is a list of some possible accommodations:

- Hotel Varuna <http://hotelvarunamanizales.com/>
- Hotel Estelar el Cable <https://www.estelarelcable.com/?partner=6458>
- Hotel Belen Boutique, Manizales
- Hotel Boutique San Antonia Manizales <https://www.hbsanantonio.com/>
- Casa Hotel Viscaya Manizales

## Venues

The conference will take place at the **Rogelio Salmona Building** and the **IIES - Instituto de Estratigrafía y Sedimentología at the Universidad de Caldas**.

The Rogelio Salmona Building is a cultural center with a modern architecture built to celebrate the culture of Manizales and to promote innovation, education, and research.





The IIES is a research institute that focused on the development of research projects related to biostratigraphy, palynology, nannofossils and foraminifera, petrography, sedimentology, and geochemistry.

## Registration Fees

Online registration is available [here](#).

All in \$	In-person attendance			Online only	
	Early reg.	Regular	At event	Early	Regular
Student	60	80	100	10	20
Professional member	100	120	150	25	30
Professional non-member	140	160	190	30	40
Retired	90	110	140	20	25

## Other activities

### AASP Business Luncheon cost

- Students: 20 dollars
- Professionals: 30 dollars

## Workshops

- Workshop in SDAR: Stratigraphy in R and other applications in biostratigraphy  
Instructor: John Ortiz  
Cost: TBD
- Course of Non-acid preparation of palynological material  
Instructor: Jim Riding  
Cost: TBD
- Course of palinostratigraphy  
Instructor: Mercedes di Pascuo  
Cost: TBD





## Field trips

### Nevado del Ruiz volcano and Laguna Negra (Quaternary)

Max. participants: 25

Cost: 40 dollars students; 60 dollars professionals

Los Nevados National Natural Park is located in the Central Cordillera (Colombian Andes) and is a volcanic area with the higher point in the Nevado del Ruiz Volcano (5321 mamsl). This area is part of the Ring of Fire, along the Pacific Ocean.

In this park, it is possible to observe different glaciers, which were formed during the Last Glacial Maximum. In the past 40 years, a notorious decrease in the ice cover of surrounding peaks has been detected along with an increase in anthropogenic activity. This park is characterized by its high biodiversity, it has also several touristic landscapes, and the variety of lakes and peat bogs serve as a water reservoir for more than 2 million people.

This region is a great archive for the climatic and environmental history of the Andes. At 3000 mamsl, the Paramo, endemic from the Andes, is characterized by Poaceae, Lycopodiaceae, Asteraceae, and Ericaceae. At a lower altitude, the mountain forest is characterized by *Quercus* (Fagaceae), *Hedyosmum* (Chloranthaceae), *Viburnum* (Adoxaceae), and Cyatheaceae. In wetlands, the vegetation observed is Cyperaceae, *Plantago* (Plantaginaceae), *Senecio* sp. (Asteraceae), Apiaceae (Hydrocotyle), *Lachemilla orbiculata* (Rosaceae), and *Gunnera magellanica* (Gunneraceae).

Additional activities: Visit hot springs of the volcano and a hummingbird aviary



### Pliocene sections around Manizales and Cenicafe tour

Max participants: 25

Cost: 60 dollars students; 80 dollars professionals

The region of Chinchina is located in the Central Cordillera, at 800 to 1100 mamsl, and is in the area around the Chinchina River Valley, affluent of the Cauca River. The vegetation is characterized by a sub-Andean forest, and the most important families of plants are Orchidaceae, Araceae, Piperaceae, Asteraceae, and Melastomataceae.

This region is characterized by complex geology with metamorphic rocks from the Permian-Triassic, related with the aperture of Pangea, and volcanic rocks from the Cretaceous associated with a part of the Caribbean Plate. This complex geomorphology is covered by volcanic sediments from Los Nevados, which are characterized by Pliocene palynomorphs.

This region is located in the region of the major production of Colombian coffee. Some of the additional activities in this field trip include a tour of the company Cenicafe to learn about the production of coffee, including testing in coffee farms.



## Conference plan

### Sunday, August 7th

- Pre-meeting field trip Volcano Nevado del Ruiz and Laguna Negra (Cuaternary)
- Pre-meeting workshop 1
- Pre-meeting workshop 2
- Outgoing Board Meeting
- Early career night

### Monday, August 8th

- Registrations
- Morning session
- Afternoon session
- Posters session
- Welcome Happy hour

### Tuesday, August 9th

- Registration table
- Morning session
- Afternoon session
- Posters session
- Happy hour

### Wednesday, August 10th

- Registration table
- Morning session
- Students/Mentors Lunch
- Afternoon session
- Group photo
- Posters session
- Closure event
- Business Dinner AASP-TPS

## Thursday, August 11th

- Post-meeting field trip to Chinchina and coffee production farm
- Post-meeting workshop 1
- Post-meeting workshop 2
- Incoming Board meeting

## Organising Committee

Andres Pardo

Ingrid Romero

Angelo Plata

Damian Cardenas

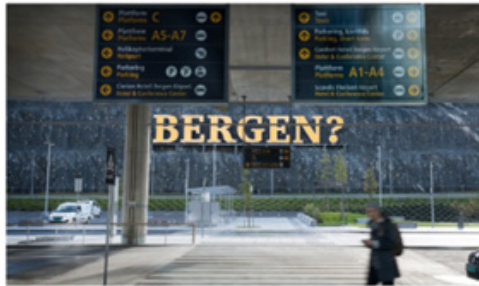
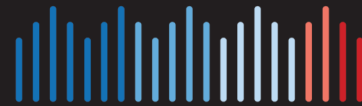
Contact information: [meet.aasp.tps.palynology@gmail.com](mailto:meet.aasp.tps.palynology@gmail.com)



29 August–2 September 2022

# ICP14 BERGEN

14th International Conference on Paleoceanography



Source: VisitBergen.com



Source: VisitBergen.com

Bergen welcomes you to the 14th edition of the International Conference on Paleoceanography, the first ICP held in the Nordic Countries.

**Registration and abstract submission are now open for ICP14!**

You can explore the [program, speakers, social activities](#) and [travel information](#) on our updated website. And don't forget to check the [highly reliable weather forecast for 2022](#).

We are looking forward to receiving your abstracts!

If you would like to receive future updates on ICP14, enter your email address here and click Submit:

Registration and abstract submission for the 14th International Conference on Paleoceanography in Bergen (Norway) is opened today. The updated website with all information is here: <https://icp14.w.uib.no>