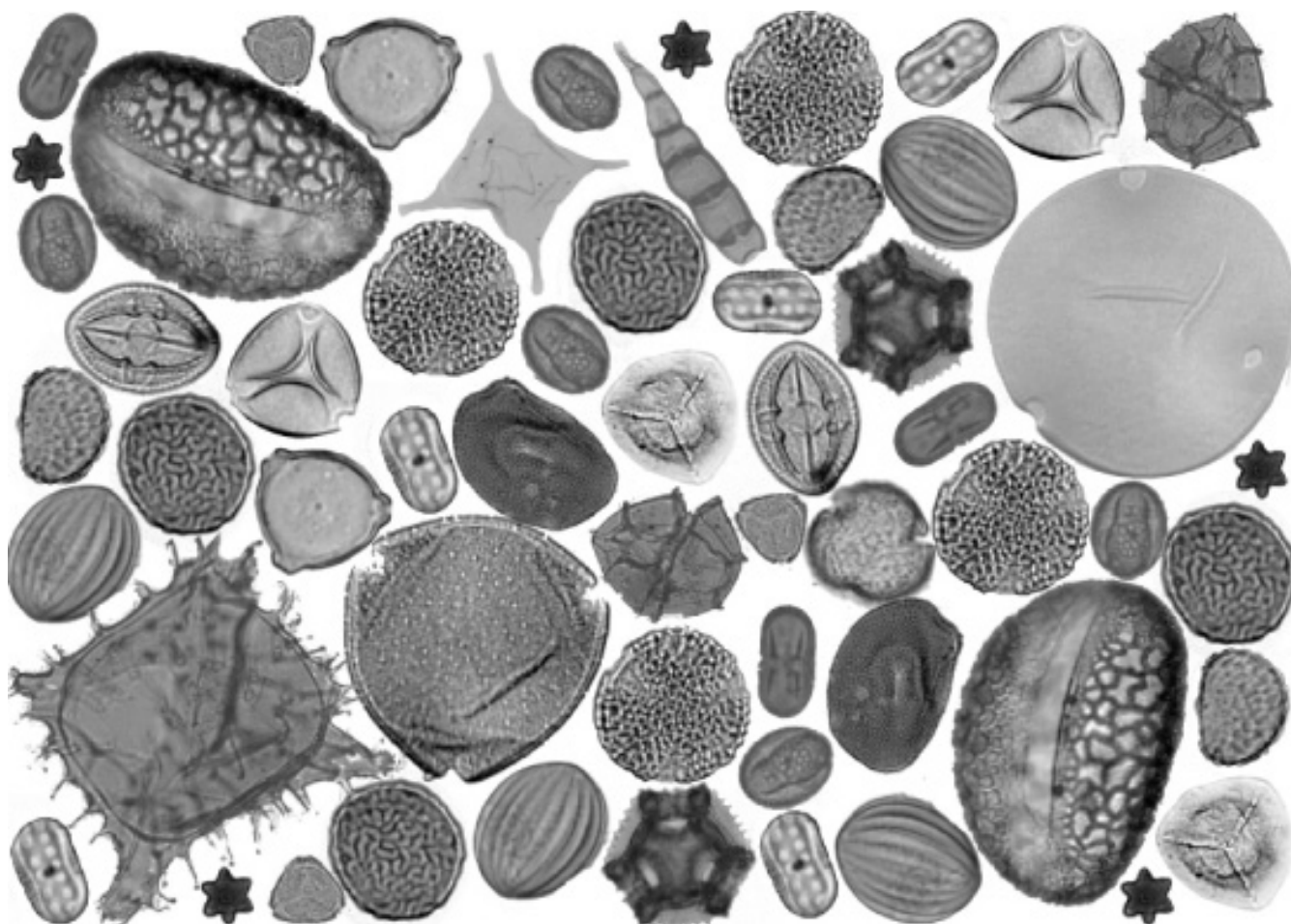




AASP – The Palynological Society

Promoting the Scientific Understanding of Palynology since 1967



NEWSLETTER

December 2022

Volume 55, Number 4

Published Quarterly



AASP – TPS NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly by AASP – The Palynological Society

September 2022, Volume 55, Number 3

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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 200 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 Aureal 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 Aureal 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

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Jan Hennissen, Editor

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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 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 members.**

A Message From Our President

Dear colleagues and friends,

As we rapidly approach the end of another busy year, I wish to begin this letter by thanking everyone who has generously volunteered their time to AASP - The Palynological Society during the last 12 months. Whether you are a longstanding board/ committee member, or an early career member, I am extremely grateful for your contributions, and your role in shaping and promoting our society.

I feel that 2022 was an excellent year for our society. In particular, the annual meeting in Manizales was a huge success. The event was well-attended and provided a great showcase for the exceptional palynological research being conducted in Latin America. Through the course of the year, we have also made some fairly significant updates to our website, which will hopefully help to further increase the visibility of our society internationally. Additionally, 2022 has been another positive year for the journal (8-9).

Looking ahead to 2023, the Board of Directors will gather for the mid-year meeting in January. As is tradition in these meetings, discussions on expanding our membership base will be high on the agenda. As a not-for-profit organisation, member support and engagement are absolutely essential. By growing our membership, we can help ensure that we remain in a strong financial position, thereby allowing us to provide funding for student travel, awards and early career events, and supporting initiatives such as reduced fees for members in low, low-middle and upper-middle economies. Fundamentally, by keeping our membership numbers high, we can help maintain the strength and visibility of our discipline. I feel this is very much a shared responsibility, therefore I ask that we all make



a combined effort towards member recruitment and retention over the coming year.

Our next annual meeting will be held in Lexington in June, so please save the dates in your calendar. Preparations are well under way (see pages 10-11) and I look forward to seeing you there! For our early career members, I wish to highlight that we will be offering student travel support for the meeting. Full details on the application procedure and deadlines will be published on the website by early 2023 (see also pages 12-15).

Annually, the AASP - TPS offers several professional award for service to the society, and more broadly, for significant contributions to the discipline. Full details on these can be found on the award pages on the website, with an application deadline of March 1. Notably, the Awards Committee received rather few nominations during the pandemic years. Therefore, if you have any colleagues that you feel are particularly deserving of recognition, perhaps now is the time to consider preparing a nomination package.

With that, I wish you and your families a happy and peaceful holiday season, and a healthy and prosperous new year!

Niall



Where is our 2025
Annual Meeting?

Call for Proposals

Still enjoying the memories of a fantastic meeting in Colombia?

We are now looking for our destination for the meeting in 2025!

Could you and your institution imagine hosting us?

Then please support our society and make a formal proposal to the board of AASP- The Palynological Society (via the secretary Steve Stukins: S.Stukins@nhm.ac.uk).

All we need from you is a rough idea/ bullet points for the following:

1. WHO is hosting (please enclose a statement that those named are willing to host the meeting)
2. WHICH institution (check with them)
3. WHERE (country, city, venue, how many people per auditorium) and maybe you already have an idea about:
4. ACCOMODATION (options, rough pricing per night)
5. Ideas for FIELD TRIPS
6. WHAT makes your location special?

Still unsure how to write it? Then just write to us and we can send you an example!

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 pollen grain ***Macrolobium multijugum*** (a) and a dinoflagellate cyst of ***Diphyes recurvatum*** (b).

Each necklace comes with a commemorative information card that includes a picture and description of the palynomorph. **The society is selling them for \$120.00.** This is a wonderful way to support AASP-TPS and is a great conversation starter!

Payment can be arranged by contacting the AASP-TPS Treasurer, Vladimir Torres, at vladimir.torres@exxonmobil.com.

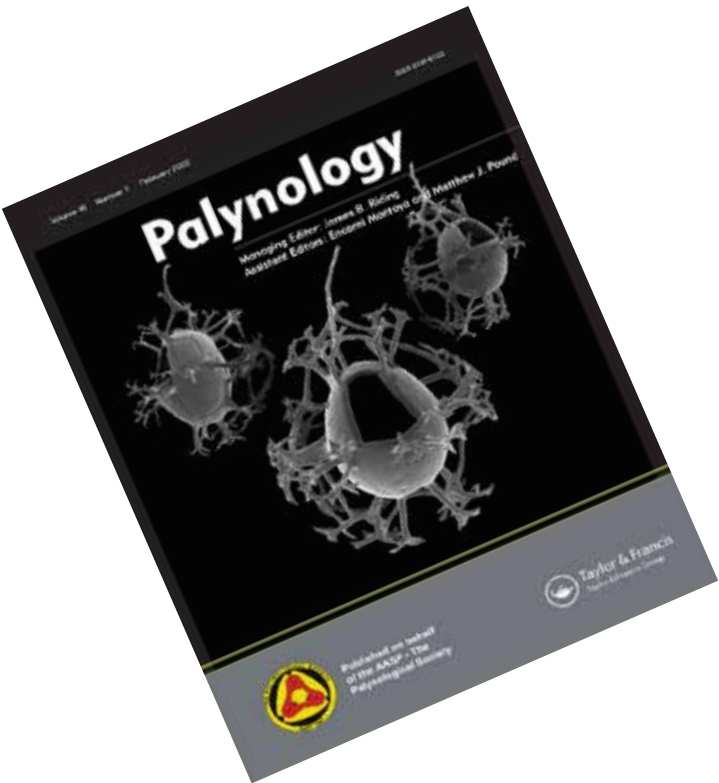
Managing Editor's Report

Since the previous Newsletter, Part Four of volume 46 of *Palynology* has been published online and in print during early November and includes 15 articles which are all listed below. The part runs to 210 pages, and completes Volume 46 which in total has 801 pages. This volume is not a record breaker as there were no Supplements this year.

Selected highlights of Part Four are superb papers by Calian Hazell and co-authors, and Dafna Langgut on archaeology, plus several excellent pollen morphological studies by, for example, Choi et al., Quamar et al. and Tsymbalyuk et al. Parts Three and Four of Volume 46 have been printed and posted to members who have paid for hardcopy.

We already have a substantial number of papers which are destined for Volume 47 (2023) that have been typeset. The cover next year will feature a superb Late Permian taeniate bisaccate pollen grain. Manuscript submission rates continue to be excellent. As ever, thank you very much for your support of the journal.

James B. Riding
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United Kingdom
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The contents of *Palynology* Vol. 46, Part 4 (November 2022)

1. Narváez, P.L., Mego, N., Nieto, D.G.S., Prámparo, M.B. and Cabaleri, N.G. The angiosperm pollen *Volkheimerites labyrinthus* gen. et sp. nov. from the earliest Paleogene (Danian) of Patagonia, Argentina. Article number 2023681, 13 pp.
2. Choi, B., Rhu, J. and Jang, T-S. Can pollen exine ornamentation contribute to species delimitation in Korean *Iris* L. taxa (Iridaceae)? Article number 2061064, 9 pp.
3. Hornby, S., Benn, J., Vinkenoog, R., Goldberg, S. and Pound, M.J. Methods in mellissopalynology: colour determination of pollen pellets for colour vision deficient individuals. Article number 2062476, 7 pp.
4. Tsymbalyuk, Z.M., Çelenk, S., Bell, C.D., Nitsenko, L.M. and Mosyakin, S.L. Comparative palynomorphological study of the genus *Symphoricarpos* (Caprifoliaceae): exine sculpture and implications for evolution. Article number 2052993, 14 pp.
5. Kanarkina, A., Zavialova, N., Orlova, O. and Joshi, A. Sporoderm ultrastructure of some Devonian and Permian representatives of *Biharisporites* and their botanical affinity. Article number 2054876, 20 pp.
6. Hazell, C.J., Pound, M.J. and Hocking, E.P. High-resolution Bronze Age palaeoenvironmental change in the Eastern Mediterranean: exploring the links between climate and societies. Article number 2067259, 20 pp.
7. Patel, N.U., Greenwood, D.R., Greenwood, C.L., Galloway, J.M. and Desautels, M. A reconstruction of the early Palaeocene palaeovegetation of Turtle Mountain, southwestern Manitoba, Canada. Article number 2064555, 16 pp.
8. Quamar, M.F., Singh, P., Garg, A., Tripathi, S., Farooqui, A., Shukla, A.N. and Prasad, N. Pollen characters and their evolutionary and taxonomic significance: using light and confocal laser scanning microscope to study diverse plant pollen taxa from central India. 13 p./112 p. Article number 2070294, 13 pp.
9. Higgs, K.T. Palynology of the Freshwater East Formation (Upper Silurian, Pridoli), Pembrokeshire, South Wales, UK. Article number 2070785, 23 pp.
10. Tripathi, S., Garg, A., Shukla, A.N., Farooqui, A., Pandey, A., Tripathi, T. and Singh, V.K. Pollen micro-morphometry of two endangered species of *Rauvolfia* L. (Apocynaceae) from the Indo-Gangetic plains of Central India using LM, CLSM and FESEM. Article number 2072966, 15 pp.
11. Özkök, A., Sezer, O., Koyuncu, O. and Erkara, I.P. Palynomorphological and taxonomical investigations of some Apiaceae taxa from Bilecik, Turkey. Article number 2094014, 16 pp.
12. Langgut, D. Prestigious early Roman gardens across the Empire: the significance of gardens and horticultural trends evidenced by pollen. Article number 2089928, 17 pp.
13. Kürşat, M., Özdağ, N., Başer, B., Özbey, F. and Emre, I. A palynological investigation of some taxa of the genus *Ranunculus* L. (Ranunculaceae) in Turkey and its taxonomic value. Article number 2095053, 13 pp.
14. Berry, K. Revisiting R.H. Tschudy's fern-spore spike concept 40 years later: connecting Tschudy's 'disaster taxon' concept with paleopolyploidization in *Stenochlaena* J. Sm. Article number 2103196, 11 pp.
15. Gottschling, M., Elbrächter, M. and Tillmann, U. Comments on Mertens et al. (2022): the taxonomic identity of *Micrakanthodinium setiferum* (Lohmann) Deflandre (Dinophyceae incertae sedis) remains elusive, and its epitypification is not achieved. Article number 2106322, 3 pp.

Upcoming Meetings



Department of Physics,
Earth Sciences, and
Space Systems Eng.

55th Annual Meeting of AASP-TPS
Joint with the Commission Internationale Microflore Paléozoïque
(CIMP)

Cortland Eble, Kentucky Geological Survey, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
and

Jen O’Keefe, Earth Systems Science Program, Department of Physics, Earth Science &
Space Systems Engineering, Morehead State University, Morehead, KY

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: 6-10 June 2023

**Location: UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY CAMPUS – William T. Young Library and Mining
and Mineral Resources Building**

Meeting Format: HYBRID

Free Events:

Pre-Meeting Workshops, 9-11:30 & 1:30-5 pm, Tuesday, 6 June:

- 1) **Cenozoic Fungal Palynology in honor of Bill Elsik, Jan Jansonius, and Ramajant Kalkutkar.** Presented by the “Fungi in a Warmer World” team. Participants will learn modern methods of fungal identification and analyses in this microscopy-rich workshop. Participants will receive a draft copy of the forthcoming book on Miocene Fossil Fungi.
Format: HYBRID
Limit: 25 participants
- 2) **CIMP-sponsored overview of local Paleozoic Palynology.** Presented by the Kentucky Geological Survey/Cortland Eble. Participants will receive an overview of Paleozoic Palynology Collections held by the Kentucky Geological Survey, focusing on those from Pennsylvanian coal-bearing rocks in this microscopy-rich workshop.
Format: HYBRID
Limit: 25 participants

Opening Reception

Ticketed Events:

Conference Dinner: \$60/person
Business Luncheon: \$30/person

Pre-meeting field trip, Wednesday, 7 June

Pennsylvanian geology & paleobotany of the Jackson, KY area
Roadcuts along KY highway 15 near Jackson, Kentucky, approximately one and a half hours east of Lexington, provide excellent exposures of upper Lower and lower Middle Pennsylvanian strata on the western margin of the central Appalachian basin. Controls on coal formation and Pennsylvanian stratigraphy will be investigated, as will facies and sequence stratigraphic surfaces, including examples of marine flooding surfaces and scour-based sequence boundaries. Luncheon will be at the City of Jackson park along KY-15, catered via Subway.
Departure: 7:30 am
Return: 5:00 pm
Limit: 20 participants
Fee: \$50/person

Post-meeting field trip, 10 June

Natural Bridge & Red River Gorge
A pre-meeting trip to Natural Bridge State Resort Park (<https://parks.ky.gov/slade/parks/resort/natural-bridge-state-resort-park>), located approximately 80 miles SE of Lexington is planned. This will provide attendees a chance to enjoy one of Kentucky’s most scenic areas. The centerpiece of the park is a “natural arch” of early Pennsylvanian sandstone that has been undercut by erosion. The park is transected by several well-maintained walking trails that afford easy access to this beautiful area. The park also has a very comfortable lodge and restaurant. Following luncheon, we will continue to the Red River Gorge and explore additional arches and erosional features that earned the park its designation of a “National Geological Area.” Guidebook will be PDF only and distributed at no cost to participants; Luncheon will be at the Natural Bridge State Resort Park Lodge.
Departure: 7:30 am
Return: 5:00 pm
Fee: \$35/person

Meeting Registration

	Face-to-face	Online Only
Non-Member:	\$220	\$170
Members:	\$150	\$100
Members, low-income country:	\$85	\$75
Students and ECR’s:	\$75	\$50

Conference website, registration information, abstract submission coming in February 2023! See www.palynology.org or contact Cortland Eble (eble@uky.edu) or Jen O’Keefe (palynologylexington@gmail.com) or for more details.

Awards Committee News

By Marie Thomas

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/student-support/professional-awards/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.

Society Awards

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 2023, 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

The application form can be downloaded from this webpage: <https://palynology.org/student-support/student-awards/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

Please ensure that you have completed both parts A and B of this application form. The deadline for applications is **April 15, 2023**. 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.

Student Travel Award – 55th Annual Meeting, Kentucky, USA 2023

AASP–The Palynological Society is pleased to announce its Student Travel Awards program for 2023. These awards are designed to support travel for student members who intend to present a talk or poster at the 55th annual meeting of AASP - The Palynology Society in Kentucky, USA.

Application procedure:

The application form can be downloaded from this webpage: <https://palynology.org/student-support/student-awards/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

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

The deadline for applications is **March 31, 2023**. 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 Travel Award Winners – 54th Annual Meeting, Manizales, Colombia 2022

The following students received travel awards to attend the annual meeting in Manizales this past summer. The Awards Committee felt lucky to be able to sponsor so many deserving students after our long-Covid hiatus without meetings.

1. Alexander C. Ball – The University of Sheffield
2. Christopher Card – University of Aberdeen
3. Salma Hamed – Khartoum University
4. Shaan Heydenrych – University of Aberdeen
5. Marcelina Kondas – University of Silesia in Katowice
6. Juan Felipe Montenegro – Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia
7. Opeyemi Taiwo – University of Aberdeen
8. Axel Adrián Tejada – Universidad Federico Villarreal

Student Presentation Award Winners – 54th Annual Meeting, Manizales 2022

Two awards are traditionally given at the AASP – TPS annual meeting. **The L.R. Wilson Best Student Paper Award** is named after Leonard R. Wilson from the 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. **The Vaughn Bryant Best Student Poster Award** is named after Vaughn Bryant a world-renowned palynologist, respected teacher at Texas A&M University, and long-time leader and member of The Palynological Society.

Although many excellent presentations and posters were given at the annual meeting this past summer, two students were particularly deserving of awards.

The L.R. Wilson Best Student Presentation award was given to **Emily Ellefson** from Stanford University who presented "The Upper Jurassic - Lower Cretaceous in the Richardson Mountains (Northwest Territories, Canada): palynostratigraphy and palynological insights on the tectono-stratigraphic architecture of the Canadian Arctic mainland."

The Vaughn Bryant Best Student Poster award was given to **Shaan Heydenrych** from the University of Aberdeen who presented "Biostratigraphy and palynology of Triassic sediments, Norwegian North Sea."



News from...

India

by Nivedita Mehrotra on the work of Dr. Anjum Farooqui

Dr. Anjum Farooqui is currently working as a Senior Scientist 'F' at Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences (BSIP) Lucknow, India. She has contributed immensely to the Indian palynological community and pioneered the understanding of coastal palynology across the Indian coastline during the Holocene and beyond. She has provided a long service to her institution BSIP, and to the palynology community of India. Now she is towards the completion of her final year of her service period at BSIP Lucknow. To honour this achievement, I would like to share some of her research highlights and journey in palynological sciences during her inspiring career.

Dr. Farooqui carried out her research on environmental botany, ecosystem variability, sea-level and climate fluctuations over the last 36 years. She began her career with studying the reuse of wastewater from tannery industries for crop production, particularly pulses. This also included the use of aquatic plants (*Lemna*) for removal of heavy metals from wastewater and she earned her PhD degree for this work.

This stimulated her interest in work related to heavy metal pollution in the atmosphere and its mitigation by plants. Experimental results conducted for geobotanical and biogeochemical prospecting of heavy minerals using plants, allowed her to gain knowledge in the flora of the gangetic plain and mineral bearing regions of India while she was affiliated to CSIR- National Botanical Research Institute, Lucknow.

She joined the BSIP in 1994 where she focused on studying present and past climatic changes based on palynological investigations.

Dr. Farooqui advanced the understanding of the present flora in different geographical regions, acclimatized to a variety of climatic conditions studied through pollen/spores in surface sediments. She investigated the variability in climatic conditions of southern western ghats, east coast, west coast and the gangetic plain of India through sedimentary archives collected through extensive field-work. She took up both terrestrial and coastal palynology to understand climate and sea level changes accompanied by landscape changes during Pleistocene-Holocene (~140 ka to present).



Dr. Anjum Farooqui

Aside from palynology, Dr. Farooqui also studied supporting proxy-data such as testate amoebae, sponge spicules, phytoliths and several marine palynomorphs as she investigated various types of sedimentary archives along the coast and offshore.

She successfully executed several projects and documented the extent of sea water incursions on land along the east and west coast of India during the Holocene. She inferred that about 1–1.5m rise in sea level due to global warming would inundate about 20–25 km of coastal land. These were her significant findings documented and related to the past global sea level rise between ~6-7 ka.

Dr. Farooqui presented her research work in several National and International Conferences, symposia and workshops. In the last few years, she executed an Indo-Norwegian project for four years and worked on solving problems related to oceanic water connections and climate change in the Arctic Circle during the Pliocene-Pleistocene. Prior to the Northern Hemisphere Glaciation, the Arctic was vegetated with atmospheric concentration of CO₂ and temperature like the present day. The consequences of enhanced CO₂ concentration and warming of Earth in the future appears to be detrimental for ice-covered regions and coastal areas.

During her research tenure Dr. Farooqui has to her credit about 120 publications and about 11 reports and articles documenting various proxy-data that can be efficiently used for inferring varied geobotanical changes induced by natural forcing factors. The vegetation-climate relationship is obvious in all her publications supported by other biotic and abiotic data with the advancement in analytical and microscopic technologies.

Dr. Farooqui has contributed immensely towards the palynological and climatological understanding of the Indian coastal regions where sea-level change has caused iden-

tifiable vegetational and geomorphological changes. She will soon complete her service period to her host institution but the Indian scientific community looks forward to her second-innings and expects major contributions towards palynological sciences with her expertise.



Call to Serve: Newsletter open positions

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

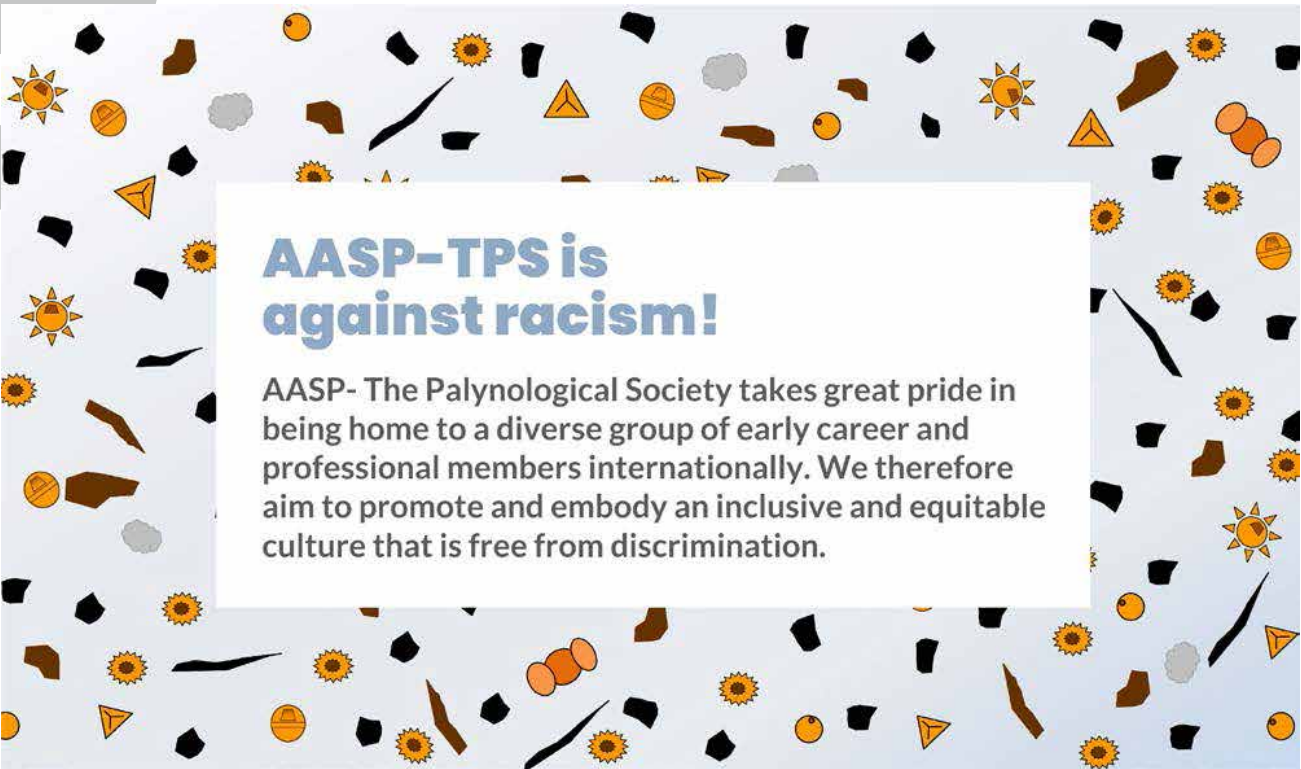
Become a newsletter correspondent, either formally or informally! We welcome student and professional news, book reviews, reports on meetings, workshops, etc. Submissions are due on February 15, May 15, August 15, and November 15 annually.

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
Newsletter Editor



Director-at-Large Nomination

The AASP-TPS Board of Directors are looking for candidates for next year’s society election. Would you like to be part of the running of the society? We are looking for a Director-at-Large. It is open to any member and the role is the most flexible on the board. Below is the biography of one of the nominees to serve as a DaL.

Alex Wheeler

I am currently a postdoctoral fellow at Leibniz University Hannover funded by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. My research is focused on terrestrial signals of deglaciation following the Late Palaeozoic Ice Age in eastern Australia with a particular focus on the development peat-forming wetlands. I have a strong interest in multidisciplinary datasets and the use of palynology as an interface between the realms of biology and geology.

My first experience in palynology came during my undergraduate degree at Rhodes University, South Africa with a project under Prof. Annette Götz and a palynology short course series taught by Iain Prince and Katrin Ruckwied. In 2015, I conducted by master’s project at the University of Pretoria examining signals of climatic changes in the early Permian captured in the coals of the Witbank Basin.

In 2016 I moved to Brisbane, Australia to start my PhD under Prof. Joan Esterle at The University of Queensland examining palynological changes immediately preceding and immediately following the end-Permian Mass Extinction. The four years I spent in Australia expanded my interest in sedimentology, geochemistry and coal petrology and the ways in which they can be linked with palynology for much more robust environmental and climatic interpretations. During this time, I also

gained an interest in the use of acid-free palynological techniques and the nuances of processing coal samples.

AASP-The Palynological Society has been a great source of support throughout my research career both in terms of student research and travel grants and through the strong connections I have been able to make with colleagues during the annual meetings. I would be grateful to serve the members of AASP-TPS and help make the wider palynology community a place that inspires communication and collaboration.



Dr. Alex Wheeler

Meet the Board...



Stephen Stukins
Secretary

After studying a BSc in Geological Sciences at University of Leeds I undertook the MSc in Micropalaeontology

at University College London in '05-'06. It was at UCL I first discovered palynology and went on to use it in my final project studying the onset of the Toarcian OAE from the Yorkshire coast under the supervision of Susanne Feist-Burkhardt and Andrew Henderson.

I then ventured on to the University of Aberdeen for my PhD, supervised by David Jolley, Duncan McIlroy (Memorial University of Newfoundland) and Adrian Hartley. This research project, funded by Statoil (UK), took me to Argentina where I studied the palynology and sedimentology of the Middle Jurassic of the Neuquén Basin from its stunning outcrops.

Following my doctorate I worked for PetroStrat Ltd in Conwy, North Wales, where I trained and worked on Mesozoic sections from West Africa and various sectors of the North Sea. Then the opportunity arose to join the Natural History Museum, London, where I have been since January 2012. During my time at the NHM I have been able to broaden my involvement in palynology and micropalaeontology, such as: exploring ways to promote and digitise the John Williams Index of Palaeopalynology; hosting The Micropalaeontological Society conference on the past, present and future of the IODP; and instigating new research proposals for working with the museum collections and on material collected during numerous field visits.

I currently teach Applied Biostratigraphy on the Petroleum Geoscience MSc courses at Royal Holloway University and Imperial College London.

In the last few years I have also supervised several students from the University of Birmingham and Imperial College London who have used the former British Petroleum Collection or the John Williams Index of Palaeopalynology as sources of research material.



Vladimir Torres
Treasurer

Vladimir Torres is a geologist with a deep interest in micropaleontology, paleoecology, biostratigraphy, sequence stratigraphy, seismic stratigraphy, and source rock prediction.

Vladimir studied geology at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia in Bogotá, where he began his training in palynology and graduated in 1996. He worked as a field geologist between 1996 and 2000, and followed his Ph.D. in The Netherlands (University of Amsterdam) between 2001 and 2006.

In 2005 he joined the biostratigraphy team of the Colombian National Oil Company, Ecopetrol, where he worked in collaboration with the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute to develop the Cenozoic palynostratigraphy of the Llanos Basin in eastern Colombia. In addition, he collaborated with the Universidad de Salamanca, to create the first integrated biostratigraphy project to understand the marine sequences of the Colombian Caribbean. In 2009, Vladimir joined in the Biostratigraphy Team of ExxonMobil as a specialist, where he has broadened his palynology skills.

During the first 6 years of his career at ExxonMobil, he has conducted palynological analysis and integrated biostratigraphic data from sedimentary basins around the World. Currently, he is working as an interpreter and stratigrapher in the Americas New Opportunities Team. Other interests are music, bicycle riding, hiking, gardening, and botany.

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.

2022 AASP Foundation Century Club Contribution Form

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

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Address: _____

Contribution Enclosed: \$_____ I wish to pledge: \$_____

