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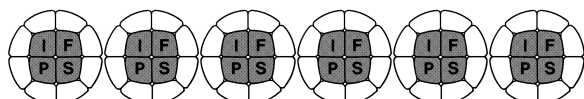
PALYNOS

Volume 35, n°1-2 - 2012

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PALYNOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

CONTENT OF PALYNOS VOL. 35 (1-2)

- PAGE 1:**  **IFPS BUSINESS**
PAGE 8:  **MEETING REPORTS**
PAGE 9:  **FUTURE MEETINGS**
PAGE 12:  **PALYNOLOGICAL HOMMAGE**
PAGE 15:  **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
PAGE 17:  **CURRENT IFPS AFFILIATED
SOCIETIES AND COUNCILLORS**
PAGE 18:  **IMPRESSUM**



IFPS BUSINESS

NEW PRESIDENT

At the recent elections Charles Wellman was elected to be the next IFPS president 2012-2016. Charles' committee, along with some new councillors, was confirmed at the 'Meeting of Incoming Council' held on the final day of the recent IPCXIII/IOPC IX Tokyo 2012.

Charles Wellman received his Ph.D. from Cardiff University in 1991 based on a study of early land plant spores. Following various postdocs at the Natural History Museum, London and Cardiff University he was

appointed to a lectureship at Sheffield University in 1997. Charles has been a staff member at Sheffield University since and is now Professor of Palaeobiology in the Department of Animal & Plant Sciences.



Charles Wellman with the RPC councillors (Valentina Mantsurova & Elena Novenko) during the recent IPC in Tokyo

Charles teaches undergraduate biology courses and is director of the Centre for Palynology. He continues his core research on early land plants, focussing on detailed LM, SEM and TEM analysis of dispersed and in situ spores. He is also involved in Evo-Devo work on the molecular genetics of spore wall formation in the moss *Physcomitrella* and assessing the use of spore/pollen wall

chemistry as a proxy for past UV-B levels. Charles is a member of several member societies of the IFPS (AASP, CIMP, LSPSG, TMS). He was an IFPS Councillor (2000-2004), PALYNOS editor (2004-2008) and Secretary-Treasurer (2008-2012).

REPORT OF IFPS ACTIVITIES DURING THE IPC-XIII AT TOKYO, JAPAN (AUG. 23-30, 2012)

During the recent IPC in Tokyo a number of IFPS business meetings took place and some important decisions were reached. The meeting of the outgoing council was chaired by the outgoing president Thomas Servais.

Secretary-Treasurer Charles Wellman presented the final accounts, and these are also presented in this newsletter in accordance with our constitution. It was also agreed to go ahead with the planned reforms of the constitution (as outlined in the previous issue of PALYNOS). These were subsequently voted on during the general assembly and unanimously agreed.

The meeting of the incoming council was chaired by the incoming president Charles Wellman. Charles presented his new committee: Charles Wellman (President), Thomas Servais (Past President), Jim Riding (Secretary-Treasurer), Jean Nicolas Haas (PALYNOS editor), Owen Davis (Webmaster). During this meeting the council also voted for IPC-XIV to be held in Salvador, Brazil in 2016.

IFPS ACCOUNTS 2008-2012

During IPC-XII 2008 in Bonn, Germany, the outgoing IFPS Secretary-Treasurer Dr Jiri Bek passed over the position to the incoming Secretary-Treasurer Dr Charles Wellman. All

IFPS money was transferred from the Czech account to the newly established account in the UK. This amounted to \$16,226.15 = £10,773.78.

During his period of office Prof Wellman circulated annual account statements to all council members during January of each year (2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012). A final summary account was provided by Prof Wellman at the outgoing meeting of the 2008-2012 council during IPC-XIII 2012 in Tokyo, Japan on 23rd August 2012. This is duplicated below.

During the period 2008-2012 annual dues were received from all member societies. We are now in a position whereby only a very small number of societies are in deficit and for only a year's dues at most.

Expenditure during 2008-2012 was for sponsorship to attend two conferences:
1/ International Palaeontological Congress, London (June 2010) for 4 students totalling £1779.00
2/ IPC XIII, Tokyo (August 2012) for 22 students totalling £6893.23

The final statement of accounts is:-

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Reserve account | £13,045.86 |
| Current account | £ 2,845.00 |
| Total assets | £15,890.86 |
| | (= ca. 24'900 US \$) |

The account has now been passed over to the new Secretary-Treasurer Dr Jim Riding.

Prof Charles Wellman
IFPS Secretary-Treasurer
23/8/2012

IFPS financial report Aug. 2012 (final report of 2008- 2012 council) by Charles Wellman (IFPS Secretary- Treasurer)

Please find below the accounts for the IFPS for 1st January to 23rd August 2012.

During 2012 dues have been collected from the various societies comprising the IFPS. Only a few societies are behind with their

payments. These mostly consist of small societies with an agreement with myself to settle back payments in cash when we next meet at a conference. These agreements are financially beneficial for the IFPS as it circumvents excessive bank charges on small amounts of money paid by cheque or money transfer. The IFPS account will be handed over to the incoming Secretary-Treasurer (Dr Jim Riding) at the incoming meeting of the 2012-2016 IFPS council at IPC XIII 2012, Tokyo on 29th August 2012.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT IFPS IS NOT JUST AN ACCUMULATOR OF MONEY. COLLECTED MONEY IS USED TO SUPPORT OUR VARIOUS ACTIVITIES (IFPS WEBSITE, PUBLISHING PALYNOS, ORGANIZING IPC ETC.) AND IN PARTICULAR TO SUBSIDIZE ATTENDANCE AT CONFERENCES SUCH AS THE INTERNATIONAL PALAEOONTOLOGICAL CONGRESS THAT WAS HELD IN LONDON IN 2010 AND THE INTERNATIONAL PALYNOLOGICAL CONGRESS (IPC-XIII TO BE HELD IN TOKYO IN 2012. THE COUNCIL IS ALSO ACTIVELY DISCUSSING A VARIETY OF NEW INITIATIVES.

Summary of transactions 1st January 2012-

| <u>23rd August 2012</u> | Reserve | Current |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| Balance of accounts 31/12/2011 | £15,056.39 | 6,199.32 |
| 30/12/11 Interest £1.50 | £15,057.89 | |
| 18/1/12 \$338.00 (=£1208.30) transfer from PPMB and CIMP | | 6,407.62 |
| 30/1/12 \$225.00 (=£129.61) cheque from PSC | | 6,537.23 |
| 1/3/12 \$135.00 (=£73.36) transfer from APLE | | 6,610.59 |
| 6/3/12 \$496.50 (=£296.26) cheque from AASP | | 6,906.85 |
| 27/3/12 £98.15 transfer from TMS | | 7,005.00 |
| 30/3/12 Interest £1.50 | 15,059.39 | |
| 14/5/12 £1700.72 (5 IPS awards BT) | 13,358.67 | |
| 23/5/12 £693.31 (2 IPS awards BT) | 12,665.36 | |
| 25/5/12 Cash for IPC awards £4,160.00 | | 2,845.00 |
| 22/6/12 125.50 Euros (=£101.03) transfer from APLF | 12,766.39 | |
| 29/6/12 Interest £1.39 | 12,767.78 | |
| 3/7/12 \$1004.00 cash (=£586.21) from RPS | 13,353.99 | |
| 5/7/12 £339.20 (1 IPS award BT) | 13,014.79 | |
| 9/7/12 \$39.00 (=£31.07) cheque from PSL | 13,045.86 | |
| 12/8/12 \$99.00 cheque from CAP | | |
| 12/8/12 \$225.00 cheque from PSC | | |
| Balance as of 23/8/2012 | £ 13,045.86 | 2,845.00 |

(Abbreviation: BT = Bank Transfer)

Charles Wellman, IFPS Secretary-Treasurer
23rd August 2012

IFPS OFFICERS UPDATES

JAMES B. RIDING (IFPS Secretary-Treasurer)



JAMES B. RIDING is a palynologist with the British Geological Survey (BGS) based in Keyworth, Nottingham, United Kingdom. Jim is a specialist on Mesozoic-Cenozoic palynology and works on a wide variety of domestic and international projects.

One of his principal tasks is a Research Councils UK 'Individual Merit' research programme entitled 'Jurassic dinoflagellate cyst palaeobiology and its applications'. This work aims to use the Jurassic dinoflagellate cyst record to effect long-scale correlations, to assess floral provincialism and to use dinoflagellate cysts to solve palaeobiological questions.

A major current collaboration is on the Jurassic-Cretaceous palynofloras of Australia with Daniel Mantle and John Backhouse. He also undertakes palynological work to support a wide variety of internal BGS projects and tasks for external clients. Jim is presently Managing Editor for AASP – The Palynological Society. In practice, this means being the editor of the journal *Palynology*.

James B. Riding (British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5GG, UK)

Email: jbri@bgs.ac.uk

IFPS COUNCILLOR UPDATES (In alphabetical order)

STÉPHANIE DESPRAT (Association des Palynologues de Langue Française)



Dr STÉPHANIE DESPRAT is working at the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes and EPOC-University Bordeaux 1, as lecturer since 2009. She obtained her PhD degree in 2005 at the University Bordeaux 1, focusing on paleovegetation and paleoclimates during past interglacial periods in Europe. She also studied the response of the Eastern North American vegetation to abrupt climatic changes over the last deglaciation when she was at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (USA) for a two-year postdoc. Later on, she worked at the LSCE (France) for a project on the Holocene vegetation changes in the Central Mediterranean. Her research interests mainly focus on Quaternary climate and vegetation changes in Europe and North America using pollen analysis from marine sediments.

Email: s.desprat@epoc.u-bordeaux1.fr

STEFAN ENGELS (Palynologische Kring, NL)



STEFAN ENGELS (1979) studied Physical Geography at Utrecht University, The Netherlands. He graduated in 2003 after completing a MSc-thesis on the spatial variability of aeolian deposition in an uphill lake-catchment in West Greenland. Stefan got in touch with palynology when he completed a research-internship at the Palynology and Palaeoecology department (Utrecht University) where he studied a Late Glacial record of pollen and diatoms retrieved from a Dutch pingo-remnant called Hijkermeer. He subsequently took up a position as an employed PhD-student at the VU University Amsterdam with Sjoerd Bohncke. At the VU Stefan studied fossil chironomid remains from a range of different geological records, all dated to early MIS 3 (at approximately 55 ka BP), combining his results with palynological data as well as macrofossil analyses. After finishing his PhD-studies Stefan moved to Stockholm (Sweden) to study Early Weichselian (~100 ka BP) climate variability, followed by a postdoctoral research project at the University of New Brunswick (CAN) where he focused on within lake variability of chironomids. In June 2011, Stefan Engels accepted a temporary Assistant Professor position at the University of Amsterdam, where he studies pollen- and macroremains encountered in peatlands and lake records together with Bas van Geel, and where he will teach the BSc course in Palaeoecology. Stefan was recently awarded a VENI-grant to study the influence of variations in solar

activity on the NW European climate (3-yr research project), and is now combining this research project with his teaching endeavours. Email: S.Engels@uva.nl

SIMON GORING (Canadian Association of Palynologists)



SIMON GORING is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA, where his focus is on historical vegetation change in the upper Midwestern United States using the Public Lands Survey System, historical climate records, pollen and other proxy data as part of the PaleON project (<http://www.paleonproject.org>).

Simon obtained a Ph.D at Simon Fraser University in 2012, where other work included studies of Holocene climate in British Columbia, Canada, and the Mediterranean, the effects of polyploidy on pollen size in *Plantago* and the effects of Holocene extinctions on the shape of the mammal super tree.

Simon Goring is interested in open data and broader outreach, and is writing a blog about

statistical analysis and paleoecology at <http://downwithtime.wordpress.com>. Email: goring@wisc.edu

CARLOS JARAMILLO (AASP-TPS)



CARLOS JARAMILLO is a staff scientist with the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama. His research investigates the causes, patterns, and processes of tropical biodiversity at diverse scales of time and space. He is also interested in Cretaceous–Cenozoic biostratigraphy of low latitudes, developing methods for high-resolution biostratigraphy and the paleobiogeography of Tethys.

In addition: Past President American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists 2007–2008, organizer of the 40th American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists Annual Meeting, Editorial Board of “*Amequiniana*” and “*Boletín Geología UIS*”, Research Associate at the Florida Museum of Natural History, and Research Associate at Corporación Geológica Ares. Email: JaramilloC@si.edu

FRANCINE M.G. **McCARTHY** (AASP-TPS)

FRANCINE M.G. McCARTHY received an MSc from the University of Toronto and a PhD from Dalhousie University, and is a

Professor of Earth Sciences at Brock University, in Canada's Niagara Region.



Since 1991, she has taught undergraduate courses in soft rock geology and in Liberal Arts, in addition to a number of graduate courses in Earth Sciences.

She and her students study a number of microfossil groups (including pollen, dinoflagellate cysts and other non-pollen palynomorphs, planktonic foraminifera and thecamoebians) in marine, lacustrine and wetland sediments of Miocene to Recent age. Most of the work has focused on sea-levels, lake-levels, or paleoclimates, but has included providing a paleoenvironmental context for archeological sites, tracing pollutant migration in the Great Lakes, and evaluating environmental remediation options in the Oil Sands of Alberta.

Current projects include studies of the Miocene palynology of the New Jersey shallow shelf to evaluate the impact of eustasy on the stratigraphic record (IODP EXP 313) and of the use of freshwater dinoflagellates cysts and other non-pollen palynomorphs in studies of cultural eutrophication in the Great Lakes region.
Email: fmccarthy@brocku.ca

ELENA NOVENKO (Russian Palynological Commission)



ELENA NOVENKO is senior researcher in the Institute of Geography at the Russian Academy of Science. She is a palynologist, specialized in problems of environmental evolution, paleoecology and paleoclimatic reconstruction.

The closest attention in her researches is paid to short-term oscillations in the transition phases of the Late Pleistocene and Holocene, the main idea is searching for a possible analogue to the reaction of the landscape components to the climate change induced global warming in the 21st century. Elena's research is focussing on European Russia, West Siberia and central Germany. She has been involved in several EU research projects and she is currently a secretary of the Commission on Environment Evolution of the International Geographical Union.

Email: lenanov@mail.ru

HEIKKI SEPPÄ (Collegium Palynologicum Scandinavicum)

HEIKKI SEPPÄ is professor of Quaternary Geology at the Department of Geosciences and Geography, University of Helsinki, Finland. He is expert in pollen analysis, palaeo-

ecology, quantitative palaeoclimatology, and long-term environmental change.



He has researched in the Nordic countries, North and South America, Eastern Eurasia and arctic Russia and has focused mostly on the last glacial, late-glacial and Holocene. His current interests include palaeoclimatic data-model comparisons, modern pollen datasets, and the combined use of palaeoecological data and dynamic vegetation models in terrestrial long-term ecology. He has been involved in several EU & Nordic research projects and networks and he is currently a member of the Nordic top-level research initiative Cryosphere-Atmosphere Interactions in a Changing Arctic Climate (CRAICC).

Email: heikki.seppa@helsinki.fi

MARTINA STEBICH **(Arbeitskreis für Paläobotanik und Palynologie)**

MARTINA STEBICH is palynologist at the Senckenberg Research Station for Quaternary Palaeontology in Weimar, Germany, where she has been Head of the section Quaternary Microfloras since the year 2000. Martina Stebich graduated in Biology (Diploma), before undertaking a PhD at the University of Bonn (awarded in 1999) on high-resolution pollen analyses of the Weichselian Late-glacial sequence of annually laminated sediments from Meerfelder Maar (Eifel region).



Her current research activities, which are embedded in various multidisciplinary projects, focus on the reconstruction of short-to medium-term climate variations and their effects on local and regional vegetation, as archived in Eurasian Quaternary sedimentary sequences. Precise independent chronologies and time-series analyses are being used to place these reconstructed vegetation changes within the context of global climate forcing and cultural development.

Email: martina.stebich@senckenberg.de

WEI-MING WANG **(Palynological Society of China)**

Professor WEI-MING WANG is working at the Department of Palaeobotany and Palynology, Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology (NIGPAS), Chinese Academy of Sciences. He obtained the Bachelor degree in Marine Geology at Tongji University, Shanghai, in 1982, the M.Sc. and PhD in Palaeontology and Stratigraphy in 1987 and 1990 respectively at NIGPAS.

Between 1982 and 1985, Professor Wei-Ming Wang worked for the Design and Research Institute, Bohai Oil Corporation in Tianjin, where he studied Cenozoic palynomorphs from the East China Sea and Bohai Sea. He is the president of PSC since 2005.



The main subject area and field of specialization of Wei-Ming Wang are Cretaceous-Cenozoic micro-plants including spores, pollen grains, phytoliths, and stratigraphy. Main interests include evolution of angiosperms, palaeovegetation, phytogeography, and their relationship with the environment; Cenozoic biostratigraphy; past global changes; and the history of early agriculture.

Email: wmwang@nigpas.ac.cn

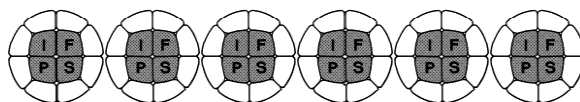
WORLD DIRECTORY OF PALYNOLOGISTS

Please note that the 5th edition of this invaluable directory has been published as a pdf by Owen K. Davis in August 2012. It is available by request to Owen K. Davis (odavis@email.arizona.edu) or as a copy through your membership in an IFPS affiliated society, please ask your IFPS councillor for it!

Jean Nicolas Haas, editor of PALYNOS

IPC XIV / IOPC X Joint Congress in 2016 in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil

During the 13th International Palynological Congress in Tokyo in late August, 2012, the IFPS councillors voted to hold the 14th IPC in Brazil. So, this will be the first time that the IPC will be held in South America, and the conference will take place as joint meeting with the Xth Congress of the International Organisation of Palaeobotany. Further information will follow in due times.



MEETING REPORTS

2012 IPC XIII / IOPC IX Joint Meeting at Chuo University, Tokyo, Japan, Aug. 23-30, 2012

Reporting from an excellent Congress is as always a difficult task. However, this joint meeting hosted and organised by our Japanese palynological and palaeobotanical colleagues deserves some words of congratulations given the outstanding organisation of the congress in a hot and humid climate typical for the Tokyo area in late summer. Given the economical and ecological circumstances Japan had to face during the last two years, and the numerous problems encountered between the attribution of the venue in 2008 and the congress in 2012, this Tokyo meeting will remain in full memories of all participants as a perfectly organised meeting of very high scientific quality!

The IPC XIII / IOPC IX 2012 brought together over 550 palynologists and palaeobotanists from more than 55 countries (see figure) in a great variety of more than 50 well organised sessions, and allowed numerous networking



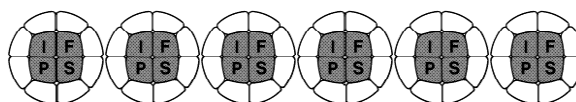
The participants of the IPC XIII / IOPC IX Joint Meeting at Chuo University, Tokyo, Japan, Aug. 23-30, 2012

activities – especially for young scientists – during the outstanding social programme, which – inter alia – included to be able to enjoy Japanese dishes of highest quality as sushi, sashimi, maki, yakitori together with a Japanese beer.

The innumerable number of effective organizer's and student helper's hands inside and outside the Chuo University building, together with the high quality of the keynotes, talks and posters (ranging from subjects as Aeroallergens to Palaeozoic palynology) made out of this conference a highlight in our palynological lives and deserve the mention "Olympics of Palynology" as proposed by the outgoing IFPS-president Thomas Servais during the conference !

Domo arigato gozaimasu!

Report by Jean Nicolas Haas (Institute of Botany, University of Innsbruck, Austria, Jean-Nicolas.Haas@uibk.ac.at)



FUTURE MEETINGS

2013

2013 Microfossils III: Geologic Problem Solving with Microfossils, Houston, TX USA, March 10-13, 2013

The NAMS Section of SEPM announces the 3rd Geological Problem Solving with Microfossils conference (a.k.a., Microfossils III) that will be held March 10-13, 2013 at the University of Houston in Houston, Texas. The mission of Microfossils III is to bring together a diverse range of geoscientists to focus on the use of microfossil disciplines to solve geologic problems. For more information, visit <http://www.sepm.org/nams> or contact Dr. Mark Leckie at MLeckie@geo.umass.edu

2013 11th European Course on Basic Aerobiology (ECBA), Vinnitsa, Ukraine, July 4-10, 2013

The next 11th ECBA will take place in Vinnitsa, a city of Central Ukraine, 260 kms to the South of the capital of Ukraine Kyiv on July 4-10, 2013, in a joint collaboration of the European Aerobiology Society (EAS), the Vinnitsa National Pirogov Memorial Medical University (VNMU), and the Ukrainian Association of Aerobiologists (UAA). Registration is open at <http://11bca.vnmu.vn.ua/>. More information is available by the organizers at 11bca@vnmu.edu.ua (Victoria Rodinkova).

2013 2nd International Congress of Agora Paleobotanica: A Congress in the Countryside, Ariño, Teruel, Spain, July 9-13, 2013



This meeting in Northeastern Spain will provide a showcase for all that is exciting and new in the fields of palaeobotany and palynology conducted by palaeobotanists of the SW European region. Additional information is available at

<http://www.grupopaleobotanicaiberica.es/eventos/congresos/arino2013.htm> or at arino2013@grupopaleobotanicaiberica.es

2013 International Summer School “Methods of palaeoenvironmental researches”, Moscow, Russia, September 11-14, 2013

RPC invites the international scientific community to an International Summer School on “Methods of palaeoenvironmental researches” (Moscow, August, 2013) in order to discuss latest developments in pollen analysis and data interpretation. The detail information will be available soon at <http://pollendata.org>.

2013 Pollen 2013 – Pollen Biotechnology, Diversity and Function in a Changing Environment (2nd International APLE-APLF Joint Congress), Madrid, Spain, September 17-20, 2013



The Spanish and French Palynological Societies, APLE and APLF, will join for their next Symposium in Madrid, in September 17-20, 2013. Under the general title of “Pollen Diversity and Function in a Changing Environment” and organized by CSIC and Complutense University palynologists, the two societies will meet for presenting and discussing their last findings on the most relevant palynology areas. Further Information is available at <http://pollen2013.com/>. Deadline for abstract submission: April 19, 2013!

2013 46th Annual Meeting of AASP-TPS. Joint Meeting with DINO 10, the CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PALYNOLOGISTS, and the NORTH AMERICAN MICRO-PALEONTOLOGY SECTION OF SEPM (NAMS), San Francisco, California, USA, October 20-24, 2013



This meeting will be held in the Heart of San Francisco at the Hotel Whitcomb, which has

been chosen for its location, its historic elegance, its proximity to everything San Franciscan, and its excellent conference facilities. The meeting is scheduled for 20-24 October 2013 – 30 years to the week after the 16th annual AASP meeting held in San Francisco in 1983. Further Information is available at <http://www.palynology.org/upcoming-aasp-meetings>. If you should have any questions, please contact the Co-Chairpersons Lanny H. Fisk (Lanny@PaleoResource.com) and/or Joyce Lucas-Clark (jlucclark@comcast.net)

2014

2014 9th European Palaeobotany Palynology Conference (EPPC), Padua, Italy, August 26-31, 2014

Italian palaeobotanists and palynologists are enthusiastically preparing the next EPPC in Padua, or Padova as the Italian name is. We hope to meet all our European colleagues at this conference.



The present day problems of climate and floristic changes, ecosystem and landscape transformations caused by human activities, force the palaeobotanical and palynological world to study these subjects also in the past, and in this way reinforce the bridge between past and present. These subjects will be among the topics of the 9th EPPC meeting in Padua.

Padova is a charming historic city, located at about 40 km west of Venice, in Northern Italy, with a dense network of arcaded streets, large “piazze” (squares) and many bridges crossing the various branches of the Bacchiglione River. The almost 800 years old University of Padova is famous for having had Galileo Galilei among its lecturers as well as important 19th century palaeobotanists such

as Abramo Massalongo and Barone Achille de Zigno.



9th E P P C
PADOVA 26-31 AUGUST 2014 - ITALY

All scientific sessions will be held at the new Department of Geoscience. However, also the famous Botanical Garden and the Museum of Palaeontology will be involved in this conference.

In order to favor the attendance of young scientists, we hope to offer University residences and special grants. Field-trips are planned in the fascinating landscapes of the Dolomites, Sardinia, Emilia-Romagna, Latium and Tuscany.

More information will be available at <http://www.geoscienze.unipd.it/9th-european-palaeobotany-palynology-conference>

Hoping to see you all in Padova!

The EPPC 2014 organizing group

2014 4th International Palaeontological Congress (IPC 2014), Mendoza, Argentina, September 28 – October 3rd, 2014

The 4th International Palaeontological Congress (IPC 2014) will take place from September 28 to Oct. 3rd, 2014, at the Centro Científico Tecnológico, Mendoza, Argentina. Further details are available at www.ipc4mendoza2014.org.ar/

2014 47th Annual Meeting of AASP-TPS, Mendoza, Argentina, September 28 – October 3rd, 2014

The 47th AASP-TPS Annual Meeting will be held in Mendoza, Argentina, September 28th to October 3rd, 2014 in conjunction with the 4th International Palaeontological Congress.



This conference is organized by Thomas Demchuk in close collaboration with the Mendoza based congress organizers Mercedes Pramparo and Claudia Rubenstein. If you have any great ideas for palynology-related symposia, please feel free to contact Thomas Demchuk at tdemchuk@swbell.net. Visit also the larger meeting website www.ipc4mendoza2014.org.ar/ for details.

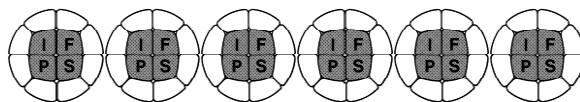
2014 CIMP General Meeting, Ghent and Liège, Belgium 2014

Jacques Verniers and Philippe Steemans have proposed holding the 2014 CIMP General Meeting in Ghent and Liège, Belgium. The exact dates are to be confirmed, but it is suggested that the meeting is held in late June or early July so as not to conflict with the 4th International Paleontological Congress in Mendoza, Argentina. A five day meeting including pre-conference workshops and field/museum visits as well as a three day scientific session is planned. More information at: <http://cimp.weebly.com/next-meetings.html>

2016

2016 14th International Palynological Congress (IPC), Salvador de Bahia, Brazil, 2016

During the 13th International Palynological Congress in Tokyo in late August, 2012, the IFPS councillors voted to hold the 14th IPC in Brazil. This will be the first time that the IPC will be held in South America, and the conference will take place as joint meeting with the Xth Congress of the International Organisation of Palaeobotany. Further information will follow in due times.



PALYNOLOGICAL HOMAGE

80th anniversary of DSc Maya Maria V. Oshurkova

One of the eminent palynologists of the Russian Federation, member of the Russian Palynological Commission Maya Maria V. Oshurkova celebrated her 80th anniversary December 2, 2012.



Maya Maria Oshurkova currently works as a leading scientist in the Federal State Unitary

Enterprise "A.P. Karpinsky Russian Geological Research Institute (VSEGEI)".

Oshurkova Maya Maria was born on 02/12/1932 in the city of Leningrad. In 1956 she graduated from the Department of Biogeography, Faculty of Geography of Leningrad State University. After graduation at the Leningrad State University, she worked as a senior laboratory assistant, from 1957 as a research assistant, from 1980 as a senior researcher, from 1988 as a leading researcher at the Department of Geology of coal and oil shale of VSEGEI, and from 2000 as a leading researcher at the Stratigraphy and Paleontology Department of VSEGEI.

M. V. Oshurkova has made significant contributions to the study of microspores, megaspores and macroscopic plant remains from the deposits of the Carboniferous and Lower Permian. She has developed principles and methods of facial-paleoecological studies in paleobotany, coined the term "phytooryktocoenosis" and gave its definition; she has performed typification of Carboniferous phytooryktocoenoses from coal-bearing deposits of Central Kazakhstan, established the use of paleoecological successions of phytooryktocoenoses for environmental stratigraphy reconstructions. Coal basins of Kazakhstan, Minusinsk and Kuznetsk basins of Russia, Donetsk and Lvov-Volyn basins of Ukraine, Svogensky and Dobrudjan basins of Bulgaria were the main areas of her field geologic-paleophytological studies. Since 1993, she is engaged in the creation of palynology and stratigraphy computer databases.

M. V. Oshurkova contributed to a description of a number of sections on the spore taxa of unknown systematic position and the characteristics of Carboniferous spore-pollen complexes in the USSR in the summarizing three-volume book "Paleopalynology" (1966). In 2001, she published a handbook for the study of fossil megaspores, which addresses the complex rational methods for extracting dispersed megaspore from rocks, the basic morphological features of megaspores and the terminology used to describe them, discusses the existing classification of fossil mega-

spores, and offeres a key to the genera of Carboniferous megaspores. In 2003, M.V. Oshurkova published the summarizing work on the fossil microspore study. In this monograph, she examined the morphology of fossil spores and pollen grains, clarified concepts and terms used in the description of palynomorphs by light microscopy and compiled a dictionary of terms. The book discusses the rules of construction of the morphological classification of miospores, and gives improved morphological classification of miospores of the Devonian, Carboniferous and Permian based on the strict consistency of evidence for establishing a specific taxonomic rank. Characterizing all taxa at suprageneric levels she indicates morphological features that are necessary and sufficient for their selection. The unified description of the diagnosis genera and the main species composition of each genus are given. She has reviewed the previously published descriptions of species; many of them are grouped in the genera in accordance with the modern understanding of morphological features. In this work she made the lists of basionyms with the corresponding species in the modern spore nomenclature. This work is used by geologists and palynologists who perform biostratigraphic studies of Upper Paleozoic sediments, as well as a teaching tool. The monograph has been praised by Russian and Foreign colleagues, and in 2004 M. V. Oshurkova was awarded the Hans Rausinga III degree for the best paleontological work in 2003. Since 2001, M. V. Oshurkova is the editor of the electronic newsletter "PALYNINFORM" of the Russian Palynological Commission. In addition, she is was member of the All-Union (now Russian) Botanical Society (1957-2002), member of the "Higher Plants of the Late Paleozoic and Palynology Comissions" at the Scientific Council on "The Way and the laws of historical development of animals and plants"-problems in the Paleontological Institute of the Russian Academy of Science of the USSR (1972-1991). Since 1980 she has been a bureau member of the executive committee of the Coordinating Council of Palynology USSR (now the Russian Palynological Com-

mission) and of the Carboniferous Commission of the Interdepartmental Stratigraphic Committee of Russia (since 1982); she also was a councilor of the International Federation of Palynological Societies - IFPS (1988-1996), a member of the Interdepartmental Stratigraphic Committee of Russia (since 1992), a member of the editorial board of the journal "Regional Geology and Metallogeny" (since 1993), member of the All-Union Paleontological Society (now the Paleontological Society of RAS) since 1957, and a honorary member of the Paleontological Society of RAS since 1996, member of the Central Council of the All-Union Paleontological Society of RAS since 1990, and a member of the Dissertation Council D.216.001.02 in VSEGEI.

Maya Maria was awarded the professional sign of the USSR Ministry of Geology "Excellent prospecting" (1985), Medal "Veteran of Work" (1986), anniversary medals "In memory of the 250th anniversary of Leningrad" and "In Memory of the 300th anniversary of St. Petersburg", commemorative Medal of the Federal Agency for Subsurface "65 Years of Victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945" (2010).

M.V. Oshurkova has published more than 100 scientific publications. Her publications have become important for palynologists.

Selected main publications of M.V. Oshurkova

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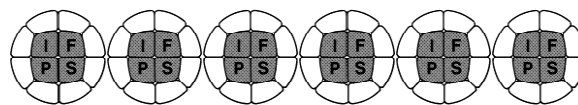
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- Oshurkova M.V. (2003): Morphology, classification and description of form-genera of Late Paleozoic miospores. St. Petersburg: VSEGEI Press. 377 p. (in Russian).
- Oshurkova M.V., Chernaya T.A. (2003): Atlas of the miospores from diamondiferous deposits of Upper Paleozoic of Western Yakutian. SPb.: "Worldrose" Press. 224 p. (in Russian).

We hope that DSc M.V. Oshurkova will work productively for the benefit of Palynology for many years to come.

N. S. Bolikhovskaya (Lomonosov Moscow State University, Moscow)

V. N. Mantsurova (OOO "LUKOIL-Engineering", Volgograd)

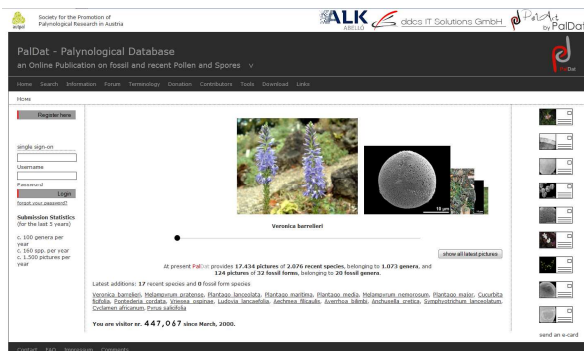
O. F. Dzuba (All-Russia Petroleum Research Exploration Institute, St. Petersburg)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PALDAT – PALYNOLOGICAL DATABASE TO NON- TEAM MEMBERS FOR DATA SUBMISSION

Starting with 2013 the palynological database PalDat opens its submission pages for non-team members at <http://www.paldat.org>.



At the moment we are working on the final version of our Guidelines which will be published soon in our forum (<http://www.paldat.org/index.php?module=forum>). PalDat has an easy and almost self-explaining workflow to submit data and pictures via the Internet to the database. The process of submission is more or less comparable to the online submission of an article incl. peer review. Once submitted, the author receives automatically generated emails of the actual status of the submission/review process when an action is carried out by the editors. A specific editor is responsible for each submission and one or two experts will review the submission. After acceptance it can be published at the push of a button.

We encourage all of our colleagues to publish their data on recent and/or fossil pollen incl. pollinators in PalDat. Also amendments of existing data are appreciated. It is really easy and takes just a few minutes! For more convenience we will prepare a standard form in pdf-format for print-out to fill in the most important pollen characters before starting the

submission process. Please note that the terminology used follows Hesse et al. 2009.

Register to PalDat and send a personal request to Ralf Buchner

(ralf.buchner@univie.ac.at) for activation of the submission rights. In case of problems with the submission pages or suggestions for further improvements please contact Ralf Buchner. Last but not least: if you think that PalDat is a valuable resource on the internet, please support our idea of open and free access to scientific information by a donation or become a member of the Society for the Promotion of Palynological Research in Austria (AUTPAL)! For more information (also in English) visit <http://www.autpal.at>.

Reference

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NEW SOFTWARE TOOL USEFUL FOR PALYNO- LOGISTS

A software tool that can definitely help palynologists (as well as other microscope users) to save time has been presented in the paper “*Software for universally relocating specific points of interest on microscope slides*”, recently published in *Marine Micropaleontology* (Volume 96-97 (2012): 63-65). Many of us have experienced how frustrating and time-consuming it can be to find or relocate points of interest on a microslide with another microscope. Traditionally, this problem has been solved with the help of the so called “finders”: microslides gridded with independent reference systems able to provide reading exportable to other microscopes. Of these, the England Finder has been the most widely used so far, being extensively adopted by palynologists when supplying the coordinates of their published material. Nevertheless, the use of this device required the permanent replacement of both sample and finder slides whenever a point of interest is to be referenced or relocated. The excessive time consu-

med in such operation together with the non-inconsiderable cost that can represent the England Finder slide for many palynologists or institutions play against the global applicability of such a reference system.

The software tool mentioned above consists of a simple, user-friendly software that bidirectionally converts x/y coordinates from any microscope stage into England Finder coordinates, without need of the England Finder graticule. The software, which is called England Finder Calculator (EFC), can operate with all kind of microscopes if they incorporate a mechanical stage with Vernier scale.

To correctly operate the EFC requires a “configuration file”, that is specific to each microscope. The generation of this file, the most critical stage in the process, is easily and rigorously guided by the software, which incorporates up to three different calibration methods that cover all the potential limitations occurring with microscopes (Fig. 1).

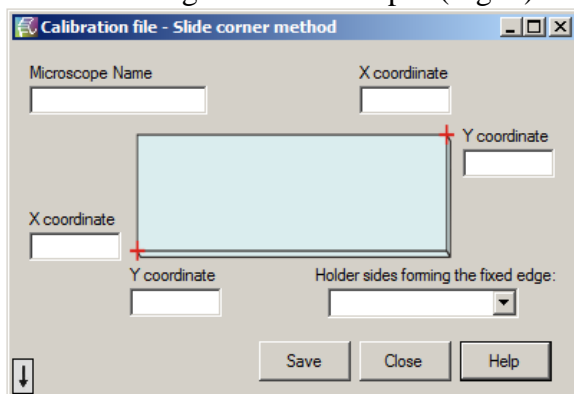


Fig. 1. Window of the *Slide corner method* for generating the calibration file

Once the calibration file has been generated and loaded, the EFC works as a simple converter (Fig. 2).

To operate with other microscopes, the EFC only requires the right specific file, which must be created or loaded, if it already exists. The software is able to quickly move from one microscope configuration to another.

The EFC is a VB.NET application compatible with Windows. Mac OS and Linux versions are in progress. The software can be downloaded at no cost from the site:

<http://www.uhu.es/efc>, where additional

information regarding the features, usage and limitation of the EFC can be found.

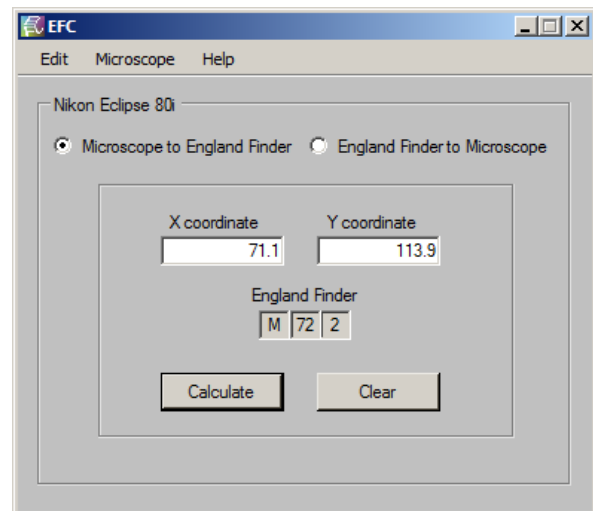


Fig. 2. An example of the main window during the conversion from *Microscope to England Finder* coordinates in a Nikon Eclipse 80i

In summary, EFC not only can help microscopists to save time but facilitates the universal applicability of the England Finder reference system.

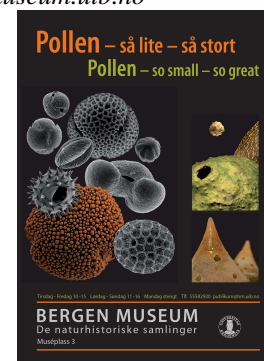
Felipe González (University of Huelva, Spain; fbarrio@uhu.es)

POLLEN – SO SMALL – SO GREAT: PERMANENT EXHIBITION ON POLLEN AT BERGEN MUSEUM, NORWAY

An fascinating exhibition on all aspects of pollen was prepared by Kari Loe Hjelle and colleagues (Univ. of Bergen – Bergen Museum), so if you visit Bergen, visit it!

Address: Bergen (Norway): Muséplass 3.

Opening hours: Tuesday-Friday: 10-15 h (summer: 10-16 h), Saturday-Sunday: 11-16 h (summer: 11-15h). Monday closed. More information available at www.bergenmuseum.uib.no

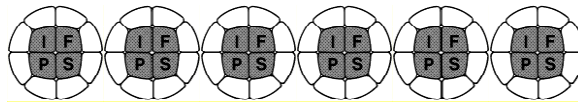


CURRENT IFPS AFFILIATED SOCIETIES AND COUNCILLORS

The current list of the IFPS officers and IFPS councillors is provided below. The IFPS president (Charles Wellman), IFPS secretary-treasurer (James B. Riding), IFPS editor of *PALYNOS* (Jean Nicolas Haas), and the IFPS Web-Master (Owen Davis) should be informed of any errors or necessary changes (email addresses below; postal addresses of all officers & councillors: <http://www.geo.arizona.edu/palynology/ifpscnci.html>).

The list of current IFPS councillors also includes information on website addresses for the various societies. Please inform the IFPS Officers of possible website changes.

| IFPS Officers | Affiliation | Email |
|---|---|--|
| IFPS President – Charles Wellman | University of Sheffield, England | C.Wellman@sheffield.ac.uk |
| IFPS Past President – Thomas Servais | Université des Sciences & Technologies de Lille, France | thomas.servais@univ-lille1.fr |
| IFPS Secretary-Treasurer – James B. Riding | British Geological Survey, UK | jbri@bgs.ac.uk |
| IFPS Editor of <i>PALYNOS</i> – Jean Nicolas Haas | University of Innsbruck, Austria | Jean-Nicolas.Haas@uibk.ac.at |
| IFPS Web-Master – Owen Davis | University of Arizona, USA | odavis@email.arizona.edu |
| IFPS affiliated Societies | Acronym & Website | Councillors |
| American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists – The Palynological Society | AASP – TPS http://www.palynology.org | Francine McCarthy & Carlos Jaramillo |
| Arbeitskreis für Paläobotanik und Palynologie | APP http://www.palges.de/arbeitskreise/ak-palaeobotanik-palynologie.html | Martina Stebich |
| Arbeitskreis für Vegetationsgeschichte der Reinhold-Tüxen-Gesellschaft | AVRTG http://www.reinhold-tuexen-gesellschaft.de/ | Klaus Oeggel |
| Asociación Latinoamericana de Paleobotánica y Palinología | ALPP http://www.ufrgs.br/alpp | Paulo Alves de Souza |
| Asociación de Palinólogos de Lengua Española | APLE http://aple.usal.es | Maria Carmen Fernández |
| Association des Palynologues de Langue Française | APLF http://laplf.org/ | Stéphanie Desprat |
| Canadian Association of Palynologists | CAP http://www.scirpus.ca/cap/cap.shtml | Simon Goring |
| Collegium Palynologicum Scandinavicum | CPS www.palynology.info | Heikki Seppä |
| Commission Internationale de Microflore du Paléozoïque | CIMP http://cimp.weebly.com/ | Zelia Pereira |
| Gruppo di Palinologia della Società Botanica Italiana | GPSBI http://www.societabotanicaitaliana.it/laygruppo.asp?IDSezione=22 | Anna Maria Mercuri |
| International Association for Aerobiology | IAA https://sites.google.com/site/aerobiologyinternational/ | Dorota Myszkowska |
| Linnean Society Palynology Specialist Group | LSPSG http://www.linnean.org/ | Guy J. Harrington |
| Organisation of Czech and Slovak Palynologists | OCSPP | Jiřina Dašková |
| Palynological Society of China | PSC http://159.226.74.3:7003/02_english.htm | Wei-Ming Wang |
| Palynological Society of Japan | PSJ http://www.psj3.org/ | Hikaru Takahara & Shinya Sugita |
| Palynological Society of Poland | PSP | Ewa Durska |
| Palynologische Kring (The Netherlands) | PK http://www.palynologischekring.nl | Stefan Engels |
| Palynologists and Plant Micropalaeontologists of Belgium | PPMB | Philippe Steemans |
| Russian Palynological Commission | RPC | Valentina N. Mantsurova & Elena Novenko |
| Society for the Promotion of Palynological Research in Austria | AUTPAL http://www.autpal.at | Michael Hesse |
| The Micropalaeontological Society Palynology Group | TMS http://www.tmsoc.org/paly.htm | Fabienne Marret-Davies |
| The Palaeobotanical Society (Lucknow, India) | PSL http://www.palaeobotanicalsociety.org | Ashwini Kumar Srivastava |
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| International Union of Biological Societies | IUBS | Jacques-Louis de Beaulieu |
| Societies on hold | | |
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| Palynological and Palaeobotanical Association of Australia | PPAA | |
| Philippine Palynological Society | PPS | |



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We welcome news items, reports on society activities, reviews etc. and members should forward these to the editor:

Jean Nicolas Haas
jean-nicolas.haas@uibk.ac.at

Please don't forget to visit our IFPS web site at:

<http://geo.arizona.edu/palynology/ifps.html>

