



PALYNOS

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NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PALYNOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**XIIth International Palynological Congress
(IPC-XII 2008)**

**VIIIth International Organisation of
Palaeobotany Conference (IOPC-VIII 2008)**

Joint Congress, Bonn, Germany

30 August - 6 September 2008



The next major international conferences in palaeobotany and palynology, the 12th International Palynological Congress (IPC-XII 2008) and the 8th International Organisation of Palaeobotany Conference (IOPC-VIII 2008), will be held in Bonn, Germany, from 30th August to 6th September 2008. The joint congress is hosted by the German palaeobotanists and palynologists, under the auspices of the *Arbeitskreis für Palaeobotanik und Palynologie*.

This promises to be an historical event, as both professional associations will not only be meeting in the same city, but at the same time and at the same place. To further interaction and integration between palaeobotanists and palynologists, there will be joint symposia and sessions, as well as plenary lectures of interest to both fields. Moreover, the single registration fee for both conferences will encourage participants to move freely between the sessions of both disciplines.

Venue

The congress sessions will be held in the Main Building of the University of Bonn, an attractive 17th century baroque palace located in the centre of town, near the Old City Hall, a mere 5-minute walk from Bonn's main railway station. This historical building has a large auditorium, as well as a number of larger, medium-sized and smaller lecture/meeting rooms, which are all situated around a central courtyard, forming an ideal setting for the meeting.



The congress venue at the University of Bonn's Main Building

Conference Fees

Because the conference will be held in university buildings, we will be able to accomplish our goal of keeping conference fees as low as possible; they will not exceed €200 for professionals and €150 for students (registrations received by 30th April 2008). This fee includes the abstract volume, break refreshments, and, of course, the icebreaker party. The Congress Dinner (€45) and Mid-Congress Field Trips (€45) will be booked individually by the congress participants.

General Program

The opening ceremony will be held on the afternoon of Saturday, August 30, and will be followed by two keynote presentations and the icebreaker party. On the Mid-Congress Break on Tuesday 2nd September several all-day field trips will be offered, including tours to the Neogene lignite deposits of the Lower Rhine Embayment, Tertiary and Quaternary volcanic and fossil deposits in the Eifel Mountains, the famous Messel quarry, and the Permian of the Saar-Nahe Basin. For those who prefer to take in the local culture during the Mid-Congress Break, there will be sightseeing tours in Cologne and Bonn. The Congress Dinner is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday 3rd September, and will take place on a Rhine cruiser on the beautiful Rhine River. This part of the Rhine Valley, with its steep vineyards, and many romantic castles and ruins, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The closing ceremony of the congress will be held on the afternoon of Friday 5th September.

Symposia

A great diversity of palaeobotanical and palynological topics will be offered in over 50 symposium and poster sessions at the congress.

Most symposia will feature a keynote speaker, and poster sessions will be held in a centrally located area. A daily series of plenary lectures on palaeobotany, palynology, and especially on interdisciplinary areas will be offered as well.

Pre- and Post-conference Field Trips

The wealth of palaeontological localities in Germany offers a number of intriguing possibilities for pre- and post-conference field trips. The field trips will be of variable duration, ranging from two days to over a week, and will include sites of both palaeobotanical and palynological interest whenever possible.

Pre-conference field trips

- ***Classical Plant Palaeobiology Sites in Central Germany (25th-29th August 2008)***
Leaders: Volker Wilde (Frankfurt) and Walter Riegel (Göttingen)

Highlights: Geiseltal Museum in Halle (middle Eocene), Upper Permian Kupferschiefer, Buntsandstein of Bernburg (*Pleuromeia*), and Lower Cretaceous of Quedlinburg (*Weichselia*, *Credneria*), Eocene of Helmstedt and Schöningen, and Wealden of NW Germany.

- ***The Quaternary of the Harz Mountains and NW Germany (26th-29th August 2008)***
Leaders: Felix Bittmann (Wilhelmshaven), Hermann Behling (Göttingen)

Highlights: National Park in the Harz Mountains, journey to the Brocken summit by stream train, Rodenkirchen near Bremen (late Bronze Age), "Sager Meer" on the Pleistocene "Geest" near Oldenburg, Bentumersiel excavation at the German/Dutch border [Iron Age (Latène), Roman Period].

- ***Interglacial Travertine Floras in Thuringia (26th-29th August 2008)***
Leader: Martina Stebich (Weimar)

Highlights: Pleistocene travertine deposits at Bilzingsleben, Burgtonna, and in the Ilm Valley Graben (Ehringsdorf, Taubach, Weimar, Oberweimar), Senckenberg Research Station in Weimar.

- ***The Lower Devonian of the Rhenish Shield (28th-29th August 2008)***
Leaders: Stephan Schultka (Berlin) and Rainer Brocke (Frankfurt)

Highlights: Waxweiler Quarry, Devonium museum, several other classical Devonian localities and sections

- ***The Late Carboniferous and Early Permian Rotliegend in Saxony and Thuringia (25th-29th August 2008)***
Leaders: Ronny Rössler (Chemnitz) Jörg Schneider (Freiberg), Ralf Kretzschmar (Chemnitz), Ralf Werneburg (Schleusingen), Manfred Barthel (Berlin)

Highlights: Petrified Forest of Chemnitz (*Medullosa*, *Psaronius*), *Madensteine* of Döhlen Basin, Chemnitz area (*Scolecoperis*), Manebach locality, various museums and collections (Gutbier, Cotta, Sterzel).

Post-conference field trips

- ***The Carboniferous in NW Germany (6th-10th September 2008)***
Leaders: Hans Kerp and Benjamin Bomfleur (Münster)

Highlights: Lower and Upper Carboniferous localities in Ruhr District and near Osnabrück and Ibbenbüren, German Mining Museum in Bochum, collecting in open cast quarry near Osnabrück (Bolsovian-Westphalian D) and at an active mine in Ibbenbüren (Westphalian D), visit to underground mine or mining museum in Ibbenbüren.

- ***Paleogene and Neogene sites in East Germany (6th-11th September 2008)***
Leaders: Lutz Kunzmann, Harald Walther, Martina Dolezych, Carola Kunzmann (Dresden), Wilfrid Schneider (Hoyerswerda), Dieter Hans Mai (Berlin)

Highlights: Dresden, Paleogene of WeisseLster (Vereinigtes Schleenhain open cast mine), "Tertiary" forest of Cospuden, Neogene of Lausitz (Nochten and Welzow open cast mines), and the classical sites of

Wiesa near Kamenz (lower Miocene) and Seifhennersdorf (lower Oligocene).

- ***Classical Fossilagerstätten of Southern Germany, Switzerland, and Northern Italy (6th-15th September 2008)***
Leaders: Carole Gee and Martin Sander (Bonn)

Highlights: Holzmaden, Solnhofen, Dinosaur Museum in Aathal, Paleontological Museum of the University of Zurich, the Museums of Natural History in Lugano and Bergamo, Jurassic dinosaur trackway at Lomiswil, Pleistocene Glacier Garden in Lucerne, UNESCO World Heritage Site of Monte San Giorgio in the southern Swiss Alps, Muschelkalkmuseum in Ingelfingen, various Triassic floras (*Voltzia* Sandstone, Keuper, Bletterbach, northern Italy), Eocene flora of Monte Bolca, *Sala delle Palme* (Palm Room) at the University of Padua, Miocene Molasse and Oehningen floras

The City of Bonn

Bonn is a mid-sized university town (population: 315,000) with centuries of scholarly tradition, but it is also a dynamic city with an international outlook, owing to its pre-eminence and past history as the capital of Germany for 50 years. Thus, the infrastructure for hosting large conferences is excellent in Bonn. There are hotel accommodations in all price classes, including a youth hostel, as well as an extensive and very convenient public transportation system (subway, streetcars and buses).

The climate is very pleasant in Bonn. Temperatures at the end of the summer are typically between 18° and 25°C, although there is always some chance of showers. This year, the summer months were relatively cool (ca. 20°C) but very rainy, whereas the spring months were hot and dry.

The history of Bonn extends back well over 2000 years, when it was settled by the Romans. It has thus a long and rich cultural heritage, and Bonn is well known for its medieval, baroque, rococo, and Victorian architecture. The city of Bonn hosts a number of world-class art and history museums; several of these are national museums.

Sites of special interest include:

- the 11th century Bonn Cathedral (*Münster*)
- Beethoven's birthplace (*Beethoven-Haus*)
- the Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany
- the Museum of Modern Art (*Kunstmuseum Bonn*)
- the Museum of Contemporary German History (*Haus der Geschichte*)
- the Zoological Museum of the University of Bonn (*Museum Koenig*)
- the State Museum of the Rhineland (*Rheinisches LandesMuseum*)
- the Bonn Opera House
- the Poppelsdorf Summer Palace

Located on the banks of the Rhine River, Bonn is the gateway to the romantic and beautiful Middle Rhine Valley (a World Heritage Site) with its castles, vineyards, and dramatic landscapes. The nearby metropolis of Cologne, with its world-famous Cathedral and multitude of excellent museums is quickly and readily accessible by train or streetcar. Bonn also offers great opportunities for day trips for accompanying spouses and families.

Getting to Bonn

Bonn is very easy to reach, by air or by rail. You can fly into the following airports:

- Frankfurt International Airport (ca. 1 hour by high speed train)
- Düsseldorf International Airport (ca. 40 minutes by train)
- Cologne-Bonn Airport. This is the closest airport to Bonn. It is served by many low-fare airlines from many parts of Europe. There is fast shuttle-bus service to the center of Bonn.

Bonn has excellent railway connections, as it is situated on a major north-south line and is located very close to Cologne, a major national and international rail hub.

Call for Abstracts

The 12th International Palynological Congress (IPC-XII 2008) and the 8th International Organisation of Palaeobotany Conference (IOPC-

VIII 2008) invite you to contribute an abstract to one of the Program sessions listed above.

Abstracts must be submitted by **WEDNESDAY, 30th of April 2008**. **Due to printing deadlines, late abstracts will not be accepted.**

Abstracts are subject to review by members of the scientific program committee and symposium conveners, will be approved on their merit, and should be based on previously unpublished data. Abstract acceptance, program scheduling, and the form of presentation will be communicated via email only to the person entered as presenter. Abstracts may be nominated as either an oral or poster presentation; the scientific program committee together with the symposium conveners reserve the right to assign accepted papers to either oral or poster presentation.

Symposia: Symposium names as given below also appear in full (including abstracts) on the program page of the congress website. As well as named sessions, there is a "Contributed paper" category. Classify your abstract by indicating the appropriate symposium.

Please note: Abstract presenters must be registered for the congress. All abstracts for oral and poster presentations are to be submitted through the online abstract submission process. The maximum length is 2600 characters with blank spaces (without title of the abstract or the names/affiliations of authors). Please follow the instructions on our congress webpage (see below) under "Participation: Registration and Abstract Submission".

Further Information

More details on the scientific aspects of the conference, including symposium topics and technical details regarding presentations and online registration, is available on the internet at <http://www.paleontology.uni-bonn.de/congress08/index.htm>. Just follow the link to the congress website.

The main organizers of the joint congress are:

Prof. Hans Kerp
(Chair, IOPC-VIII 2008)
 Forschungsstelle für Paläobotanik
 am Geologisch-Paläontologischen Institut
 Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster
 Hindenburgplatz 57
 48143 Münster, Germany
 E-mail: kerp@uni-muenster.de

Prof. Thomas Litt
President IFPS
(Chair, IPC-XII 2008)
 Institut für Paläontologie
 Universität Bonn
 Nussallee 8
 53115 Bonn, Germany
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Dr. Carole T. Gee
(Secretary, IOPC-VIII 2008 / IPC-XII 2008)
 Institut für Paläontologie
 Universität Bonn
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List of symposia

No. / Conveners	Symposium title
1. Bamford/Poole	Plant systematics and biogeography: evidence from the fossil wood record
2. Barbacka/Popa	Triassic-Jurassic systematics and stratigraphy
3. Behling/Willis/Wing	Biodiversity patterns through time
4. Bek/Psenicka	Reproductive organs of fossil plants and their in situ spores and pollen
5. Bertini/Martinetto	Vegetation patterns in response to Plio-Pleistocene environmental change in the Mediterranean and Central Europe
6. Bradshaw/Gaillard	Upscaling Holocene pollen-inferred vegetation from single sites to regions and continents
7. Brocke/Fatka	Primary producers in Proterozoic to Paleozoic aquatic ecosystems: palaeobiology and palaeoecology of

	cyanobacteria, acritarchs, prasinophytes, and other organic-walled microfossils
8. Bruch/Li	Mio-Pliocene climate and vegetation patterns in Eastern and Western Eurasia
9. Chaloner/Kvacek/Denk	Problems in naming fossil plants and spores
10. Collinson/Smith/Kendrick	Methods and benefits of 3D reconstruction of fossil plants
11. Dillhoff/Manchester	Worldwide Early and Middle Eocene floras, the evolving picture
12. DiMichele/Johnson	Reconstructing the past: scientists and artists look at reconstructions of extinct landscapes
13. Feist-Burkhardt/Götz	Palynofacies analysis
14. Flenley/Cole/Allen	Theory and method in palynology
15. Friis/Pedersen/Crane	Angiosperm flowers, pollen and reproduction through time
16. Gaillard-Lemdahl/Hicks	Pollen calibration for high resolution quantitative landscape reconstructions
17. Gandolfo/Zamaloa/Cuneo	South American Tertiary palaeofloras
18. Gastaldo/Gee	Plant taphonomic processes: case studies in palaeobotany and palynology
19. Gee/Wappler	Plant-animal interactions in Deep Time: predation, protection, pollination
20. Gensel/Berry	Key events in the evolution of early plants using multiple sources of data
21. Green/Jaramillo	Have plants ever suffered a mass extinction?
22. Greenwood/Moss	Palaeobotanical evidence for Paleogene climates and environments
23. Grimm/Lézine	Late Quaternary pollen databases, vegetation modelling and climate reconstructions
24. Guignard/Wang	Fine structures of fossil plant cuticles: identification, palaeoenvironment, and evolution
25. Haas/van Geel/Galop	Non-pollen-palynomorphs: a key for

	disentangling climatic and anthropogenic pressure on Quaternary ecosystems
26. Haberle/Dupont/Kirleis	Tropical palaeoecology and global change: records from terrestrial and marine archives
27. Hably/Erdei	The Late Neogene Pannonian Lake: floristic and vegetation patterns in the context of palaeogeography and palaeoclimate
28. Hartkopf-Fröder/McLean	Palaeopalynology: applications in palaeoenvironmental analysis, sequence stratigraphy, and biostratigraphy
29. Hemsley/Moore	Ultrastructure and development of spore/pollen wall: achievements, current trends, and perspectives
30. Herzschuh/Tarasov	Holocene vegetation shifts in North and Central Asia: evidence, causes, and consequences
31. Hesse/Zetter	The potential influence of pollen morphological characters to systematics in (palaeo-)botany
32. Hu/Petit	Integrating palaeoecology and population genetics to decipher past vegetational dynamics
33. Jacomet/Bittmann	On-site microremain data from archeological sites and their potential for the reconstruction of human food ecology
34. Kerp/Litt	Contributed papers in palaeobotany and palynology
35. Krings/Taylor	Microbial diversity in ancient ecosystems
36. Kühl/Thompson	Quantitative reconstructions of Quaternary climatic variability from palaeobotanical data
37. Marshall/Vecoli	Palaeozoic palynostratigraphy: Lower Palaeozoic and Upper Palaeozoic
38. McLoughlin/Meyer-Berthaud	Past vegetation of Australasia

39. Mercuri/Sadori	Reconstruction of past cultural landscapes and human-related environmental changes using palynological and archeobotanical records
40. Miller/Steemans/Wellman	Palaeozoic palynology of the Arabian Plate and adjacent areas
41. Nagalingum/Mathews	Gathering the twigs and branches: reconstructing the gymnosperm tree of life
42. Nebout/Peyron	Mediterranean ecosystems and climate variability
43. Nixon/Crepet	Ages of major clades of vascular plants
44. Pfefferkorn/Wang	Late Palaeozoic plants as proxy for climate
45. Poole/Bamford	Reconstructing ancient communities and climates: problems and solutions using the fossil wood record
46. Pross/Brinkhuis	Progress in quantitative dinocyst analysis: case histories from the past 200 Ma
47. Rikkinen/Schmidt	New insights in the microscopic world of the Mesozoic and Cenozoic amber forests
48. Roth-Nebelsick/Speck	Biophysical approaches in palaeobotany
49. Sangiorgi/Marino/Donders	Palynological tools to unravel causes, mechanisms, and impacts of organic carbon burial
50. Schäbitz/Moreno	New results of Quaternary pollen studies in southern South America
51. Tzedakis/Hooghiemstra	40 years of long pollen sequences: advances and perspectives (dedicated to Lex Wilmstra)
52. Weng/Haberle	Pollen database, search system, and pollen identification
53. Wicander/Dorning	Palaeozoic oceanic and climate change: evidence from the palynologic record
54. Wang/Bittmann	Holocene vegetation history and human environmental interactions in delta and coastal areas

IFPS COUNCILLOR UPDATES

treasurer (Jiri Bek) and *PALYNOS* editor (Charles Wellman) should be informed of any errors or necessary changes.

There are no updates to the “Current IFPS

Current IFPS Councillors

The list of current IFPS councillors also includes information on website addresses for the various societies. Please inform the editor of changes to web addresses and information on new websites.

The current list of IFPS councillors is provided below. IFPS secretary-

Society	Acronym [website]	Councillor
American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists	AASP [http://www.palynology.org]	Owen Davies
American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists	AASP [http://www.palynology.org]	Jim Riding
Asociacion de Palinologos de Lengua Espanol	APLE [http://aple.usal.es]	Maria Carmen Fernández
Association de Palynologistes de Langue Français	APLF	Marie-Pierre Ledru
Association de Palynologistes de Langue Français	APLF	Nathalie Combourieu-Nebout
Arbeitskreis für Palaeobotanik und Palynologie	APP [http://www.uni-muenster.de/geopalaeontologie/palaeo/palbot/apptext.htm]	Rainer Brocke
Canadian Association of Palynologists	CAP [http://www.scirpus.ca/cap/cap.shtml]	Jean Nicolas Haas
Commission Internationale de Microflore du Paleozoique	CIMP [http://www.cimp.ulg.ac.be/]	Ken Higgs
Commission Internationale de Microflore du Paleozoique	CIMP [http://www.cimp.ulg.ac.be/]	Thomas Servais
Collegium Palynologicum Scandinavicum	CPS [http://palyno.net]	Dagfinn Moe
Gruppo di Palinologia della Societa Botanica Italiana	GPSBI	Laura Sadori
International Association for Aerobiology	IAA [http://www.isao.bo.cnr.it/aerobio/iaa/index.html]	Carmen Galán
Linnean Society Palynology Specialist Group	LSPSG	Guy Harrington
Organisation of Czech and Slovak Palynologists	OCSP	Olda Fatka
Palynologische Kring (Netherlands)	PK [http://www.geo.vu.nl/~palkring]	Henry Hooghiemstra
Palynologists and Plant Micropalaeontologists of Belgium	PPMB	Philippe Steemans
Palynological Society of China	PSC	Huaicheng Zhu
Palynological Society of Japan	PSJ [http://wwwsoc.nii.ac.jp/psj3/top.htm]	Reiko Kishikawa
Palynological Society of Poland	PSP	Malgorzata Malkiewicz
Russian Palynological Commission	RPC	Olga Dzyuba
Russian Palynological Commission	RPC	Elena Bezrukova
The Micropalaeontological Society: Palynology section	TMS [http://www.nhm.ac.uk/hosted_sites/tms/paly.htm]	Ian Harding
Turkish Committee for Palynology	TCP	Zutu Bati
International Union of Geological Societies	IUGS	Lucy Edwards
International Union of Biological Societies	IUBS	Jacques-Louis de Beaulieu
IFPS President – Thomas Litt		
IFPS Past President - Owen Davis		
IFPS Secretary-Treasurer - Jiri Bek		
IFPS Editor of <i>PALYNOS</i> – Charles Wellman		
Societies on hold		
Asociacion Latinoamericana de Paleobotanica y Palinologia	ALPP [http://www.ufgrs.br/alpp]	
International Association for African Palynology	AIPA/IAAP	
Palynological and Palaeobotanical Association of Australia	PPAA	
Philippine Palynological Society	PPS	
Palaeobotanical Society, Lucknow	PSL	

FUTURE MEETINGS

“Dino8: Eighth International Conference on Modern and Fossil Dinoflagellates”

Montréal, Canada

4-10 May 2008

This Eighth International Conference on Modern and Fossil Dinoflagellates (DINO8: <http://www.dino8.uqam.ca>) is being organized by the Geochemistry and Geodynamics Research Centre (GEOTOP: <http://geotop.uqam.ca/>) and will be held at UQAM in Montréal. The conference will cover various fields of research relevant to the study of dinoflagellates including molecular biology, ecology, taxonomy, biostratigraphy, limnology, oceanography, palaeoclimatology and palaeoceanography.

Workshops are planned to provide hands-on knowledge on the taxonomy of Neogene and Quaternary dinoflagellate cysts, *in vitro* culture techniques, techniques of preparation and analyses, and quantitative data treatments for palaeoceanographic purposes.

The organizing committee warmly welcomes students, researchers and professionals to attend DINO8.

Organizing committee:

Anne de Vernal (GEOTOP-UQAM)
André Rochon (GEOTOP and ISMER)

Contact: Taoufik Radi via e-mail at:
dino@uqam.ca

Further details are available from the following website: <<http://www.dino8.uqam.ca>>.



“Linnean Society Palynology Specialist Group (LSPSG) annual meeting”

Linnean Society of London, London

28 October 2008

The annual one-day meeting of the Linnean Society Palynology Specialist Group (LSPSG) of the Linnean Society of London will take place in the Linnean Society of London (Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BF) on Tuesday 28th October 2008 (<http://www.linnean.org/>).

The meeting will be followed on the following day (Wednesday 29th October 2008) by the one-day annual meeting of the Linnean Society Palaeobotany Specialist Group.

Registration for both is free.

For further details please contact Carol Furness, Micromorphology Section, Jodrell Laboratory, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 3DS, UK (c.furness@kew.org)

“4th ESA-European Symposium on Aerobiology”

Turku, Finland

12-16 August 2008

This organizing committee has the pleasure of welcoming you to the 4th ESA. The meeting will provide an update on various aspects of aerobiology. The topics of the meeting include forensic palynology, satellite imaging, meteorology and long-distance monitoring, and recent developments in modelling and methodology. Following the tradition of IAA, the meeting will provide an opportunity for young scientists to meet with experts in the field and present their own work as oral presentations and as posters. We hope that the outstanding scientific programme together with the social events in the summer nights in Turku will create an unforgettable atmosphere for informal and stimulating scientific discussions.



More details are available from the website:
<http://www.utu.fi/4ESA2008>.

Abstract deadline: 15th March 2008.

Early registration deadline: 31st May 2008.

Contact:

Mervi Oikonen (symposium coordinator)

Address: 4th ESA 2008, c/o Aerobiology Unit,
 Section of Ecology, Department of Biology, FI-
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“XVI International A.P.L.E. Symposium of Palynology”

Mallorca (Balearic Islands), Spain

September 2008

The XVI Symposium of the Asociación de
 Palinólogos de Lengua Española (A.P.L.E.) will

take place in September 2008 in the Department
 of Biology of the University of the Balearic
 Islands, Palma de Mallorca (Balearic Islands,
 Spain).



The date has not yet been finalized, but will be
 during the middle of September. Three days of
 talks will be followed on the fourth day by an
 excursion to the National Park of Cabrera Island
 (if the weather is calm).



The university campus is located 7 km from the
 city and 15 km from the airport. There are no
 hotels near the university but participants can
 use hotels in Palma city.

The contributions will comprise oral
 presentations (Microsoft Power-point, ten
 minutes) and posters (maximum measurements:
 80 cm width X 120 cm height).

Scientific sessions are divided into:

- Palaeopalynology*
- Melissopalynology and floral phenology*
- Pollen and spore morphology*
- Aerobiology and pollinosis*
- Pollen Biology*

Because of new ways to study and use pollen,
 for example Forensic Palynology or
 Etnopalaeopalynology, it will be very interesting
 to include contributions in these areas.

Further details at the following website:
www.XVIaple.org.

“8th European Palaeobotanical and Palynological Conference (8th EPPC)”

Budapest, Hungary

2010

The 8th EPPC will be held in Budapest, Hungary in 2010. It will be organized by the Hungarian Natural History Museum, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the Eötvös Lóránd University and the Hungarian Geological Society. Further details will appear nearer the time.

“CIMP General Meeting 2010”

Warsaw, Poland

2010

The 2010 CIMP General Meeting will be held in Warsaw, Poland at the Institute of Geological Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences (with the co-operation of the other geological institutions). The meeting is planned for three-days of presentations (lectures and posters) and a two-day field trip to the Holy Cross Mountains to examine Palaeozoic deposits.

Organizing committee:-

Monika Masiak (mmasiak@twarda.pan.pl)

Marzena Oliwkiewicz-Miklasinska
(ndmiklas@cyf-kr.edu.pl)

Marzena Stampień-Salek
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MEETING REPORTS

“Annual meeting of the Palynologists and Plant Micropalaeontologists of Belgium (PPMB)”

Brussels, Belgium

27 April 2007

The annual PPMB meeting was held at the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences at Brussels (RBINS), Belgium, on 27th April 2007. The RBINS is world famous due to its unique collection of iguanodons (*Iguanodon bernissartensis*) discovered in 1878 in a mine shaft in Bernissart (Belgium). This group of uniquely well preserved skeletons is one of the most cherished treasures of Belgium.

The theme of our meeting was dealing with “Palaeobotanical and micropalaeontological data from the RBINS collections: New perspective to field and laboratory investigation”.

We had two keynote addresses. The first was by **Chris Berry** from Cardiff University (*The Middle Devonian plants of the Stockmans collection*) and the second was by **J. Dejax** from the Museum National d’Histoire Naturelle, Paris (*La palynology des sédiments à faciès wealdien de l’ouest du bassin de Mons – Belgique*).

Eight other talks were also presented:-

Cyrille Prestianni, Philippe Gerrienne & Muriel Fairon-Demaret (*The Devonian plant collection at the RBINS: a priceless legacy*).

Cyrille Prestianni, Muriel Fairon-Demaret & Philippe Gerrienne (*Early evolution of seed plants*).

Maurice Streel, Yvonne Somers & Michiel Duser (*The miospores of the Westphalian C / Westphalian D transition in the Campine Basin*).

Thomas Gerards, Freddy Damblon, Patrick Semal, Johann Yans & Philippe Gerrienne (*Two probably early Cretaceous fruits from the collections of the Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences*).

Thierry Smith, Freddy Damblon, Muriel Fairon-Demaret, Annelise Folie & Philippe Gerrienne (*Identification of the environment in Belgium during the Paleocene-Eocene Thermal maximum 55MA ago based on palaeobotanical*

and micropalaeontological data from the RBINS collections).

Stephen Louwye (*The depositional history of the shallow Miocene sequences in northern Belgium (southern North Sea Basin)*).

Freddy Damblon & Paul Haesaerts (*The late Pleistocene sequence of Kurtak (Central Siberia) as a high resolution palaeobotanical record of the Marine Isotope Stage 3 for chronology and palaeoenvironment*).

Aurelie Salavert (*The RBINS Quaternary charcoal collections: the example of three neolithic sites of the Hesbaye, Belgium*).

This meeting will be followed, as in the previous two years, by the publication of extended abstracts in the *Notebooks on Geology* ("Precambrian to Palaeozoic palaeopalynology and palaeobotany", 2005,

http://paleopolis.rediris.es/cg/CG2005_M02/index.html; "Recent advances in palynology", 2007, http://paleopolis.rediris.es/cg/CG2007_M01/index.html).

Philippe Steemans (University of Liege, Belgium)

“Joint meeting of the Spores/Pollen and Acritarch Subcommissions of the CIMP”

Lisbon, Portugal

24-28 September 2007

This was the first time a CIMP meeting had been held in Portugal. The meeting was very successful and was superbly organised by Zelia Pereira and her team of Paulo Fernandes, Tomas Oliveira, and NunoVaz. The meeting was held at the INETI Geosciences building (Portuguese Geological Survey) in Alfragida, Lisbon where excellent facilities were provided throughout the conference.

Forty one palynologists attended the meeting from a range of nations from Europe, North America, China and the Middle East: The scientific programme comprised three days of technical sessions, that included five lecture sessions, a poster session, acritarch and cryptospore short courses, a CIMP Palyweb

presentation and a post conference fieldtrip to southern Portugal.



The opening of CIMP subcommission meetings in Lisbon

The social programme included an opening reception at the Geological Museum in Lisbon and the Conference Fado dinner, which was an unforgettable experience of traditional Portuguese food, wine and entertainment.

The opening technical session began with two keynotes papers on early Palaeozoic terrestrial landscapes and land plant phylogeny presented by Paul Strother and Charles Wellman. The lecture programme then continued with five alternating spore/pollen and acritarch sessions. The lecture presentations included a wide range of spore and acritarch topics that covered many aspects of taxonomy, biostratigraphy, palaeoenvironment, thermal maturity and also enigmatic melanosclerites. It was very pleasing to see that almost a third of the papers were presented by young research students. It was also encouraging to see such a high level of discussion and debate on palynological research both inside and outside of the sessions.

The conference abstracts and the field trip guide are available on the website <www.e-geo.ineti.pt/CIMPLisbon07>. Also, a number conference articles will be published in the Portuguese Geological Survey, “Comunicações Geológicas” in early 2008. At the end of the conference a proposal from Marzena Oliwkiewicz - Miklasinska to host a CIMP

meeting in Warsaw, Poland in 2009 was unanimously agreed.



Delegates attending CIMP Lisbon

The CIMP Lisbon '07 meeting was followed by a Post-conference fieldtrip to southeast Portugal. The two-day fieldtrip visited the Ossa Morena and South Portuguese Zones in southeast Portugal to examine sections through the Silurian, Devonian and Carboniferous. The fieldtrip was expertly led by Tomas Oliveira, Zelia Pereira, Paulo Fernandes, Joao Matos and Manuel Picarra.



Palaeopalynologists at a rock face

The first morning the group of twenty travelled westwards across the sun drenched cork tree plains of central Portugal. After two scenic stops at the world heritage town of Evora and the picturesque hilltop village of Monsaraz we reached our first geological locality at Barrancos. However, the heat of the midday sun necessitated a leisurely lunch followed by an afternoon siesta before we could venture out to the rocks. Several road side exposures south of Barrancos provided sections through the Silurian and Lower Devonian of the Ossa Morena Zone. The sediments are demonstrably deep marine and in the lower part

contain an impressive condensed succession of 17 graptolites zones in some 35m of strata. Miospore data indicate the upper part of the succession is close to the Pragian-Emsian boundary.

The second day took us southwards into the South Portuguese Zone. After crossing the terrane boundary at Santa Iria we examined roadside sections of the Upper Devonian in the Pulo do Lubo Antiform. The palynological data has confirmed the presence of a significant unconformity between the early Frasnian and late Famennian in this region. We continued southwards to the Sao Domingos Mine area in the northern part of the Pyrite Belt. This old mine was once one of the largest and most important massive sulphide deposits in Portugal. The mine closed in the 1960's and is now being developed for geo-tourism. The geological succession in the mine area ranges from late Famennian to late Viséan in age and palynostratigraphy has proved to be the only means of dating and correlating the structurally complex sections. Despite the presences of tectonism and mineralisation these rocks have yielded remarkably well preserved spore and acritarch assemblages.

The final stop of the fieldtrip took us to the outskirts of the historic town of Mertola, where we posed for the official group photo before we descended the western slopes of the Guadiana River. Here we examined a well exposed and continuous section of the overthrust sequence of the Mertola Formation (late Viséan), Volcano Sedimentary Complex (early Viséan) and Phyllite Quartzite Formation (late Famennian). Again, it was demonstrated how the detailed palynological work carried out by the Portuguese Geological Survey (Zelia Pereira) has played a crucial role in dating the thrust sequences and therefore allowing the complex geology to be better understood.



Delegates attending the CIMP fieldtrip

This was a wonderful fieldtrip with excellent geology and palynology, lots of local culture, superb weather and very good company.

Ken Higgs (University College Cork, Ireland)

“Meeting of the Association des Palynologues de Langue Francaise (APLF) ‘Climate warming: responses of ecosystems and human societies’”

Toulouse, France

24 October 2007

The 20th symposium of “L’ Association des Palynologues de Langue Française” (L’APLF) attracted some 60 delegates to discuss questions related to climate warming and responses of ecosystems and human societies in the past with the aim to inform on the present and the future of our planet. The three days of talks and poster sessions covered a wide range of geological periods, and responses of ecosystems and societies to climate warming in the far or recent past - from responses of the marine microphytoplankton during the Phanerozoic, through the climate development and carbon cycle of the Mesozoic, to the responses of vegetation and societies during the Quaternary, and the glacier variations from the end of the Little Ice Age to the present. The talks were very nicely organised in sessions of one and a half hour, generally starting with a key note of forty minutes. All key notes and the majority of the talks were of very high quality.

The first day was devoted mainly to climate change of the Pre-Quaternary and Early Quaternary (Pleistocene) and the responses of marine ecosystems. Two key notes gave an excellent overview of the climate development and carbon cycle during the Mesozoic (Y. Goddérís *et al.*) and the changes in microphytoplankton diversity during the Phanerozoic (T. Servais). Talks on Ordovician phytoplankton (A. Delabroye), Albian and Quaternary dinoflagellates (E. Masure; L. Londeix *et al.*), the climatic interactions between the Mediterranean and Atlantic Ocean systems (A. Penaud *et al.*), climate changes in the

Mediterranean area during the Pleistocene (S. Joannin), and the Heinrich events at middle latitudes of the Atlantic Ocean (F. Naughton *et al.*) gave a rich palette of examples from marine ecosystems. The day was closed by L’APLF business meeting.

Questions related to the Late Glacial and Holocene were the main topic of the second day that was opened by a very interesting key note on the modelling of biodiversity in relation to climate change in Europe (S. Rieckebusch). Responses of ecosystems were presented for various areas, Europe (R. Cheddadi), the Mediterranean (I. Dormoy *et al.*), the Parisian Basin (C. Leroyer *et al.*), the Massif Central (E. Gandouin *et al.*), French Polynesia (W. Gourdon), the Benin mangrove (M.G. Tossou *et al.*), and the Black Sea (F. Mareret *et al.*). A second key note described the variations in the Pyrenean glaciers since the Little Ice Age (P. René), a very impressive demonstration of the effect of the recent global warming. M. P. Ledru presented interesting results of pollen records from the ice of the Coropuna glacier in the Andes (Peru). A few other talks covered other subjects such as quantitative reconstruction of land cover inferred from pollen data (F. Mazier *et al.*), the evidence of prehistoric avalanche as demonstrated by pollen analysis (J.-N. Haas), and the response of *Ambrosia*’s pollination, phenology and clinical effect to the recent climate warming (C. Déchamp *et al.*). An entire session was devoted to the presentation of eleven posters of which seven were prepared by students. The posters are too numerous to be all described here; I wish, however, to mention the particularly interesting posters by L. Marquer *et al.* (*Palaeoecological study of the last 2000 years in South-East Tunisia: fire, vegetation and climate history*), E. Messenger *et al.* (*Phytoliths as palaeoclimatical markers: aridity inferred from the “bulbiformous” cells*), J. Lebamba *et al.* (*Palynological characterisation of the forest ecosystems in Central Africa*), and M. Djamali *et al.* (*Vegetation and climate history in North-West Iran during Upper Pleistocene: pollen analysis of the longer lake sequence in the Near-East at the Urmia Lake*). The poster by M. Leydet presented very concisely the recent developments within the organisation of the European Pollen Database (EPD), which is of great importance for the future contribution of the numerous European pollen records to further advances in palaeoecological research.

At the end of the second day, L'APLF bestowed their award to the best doctoral thesis to Florence Mazier (Universities of Besançon, France and Neuchâtel, Switzerland) on "Modelling the modern pollen-vegetation-pastoral practices relationships in the Pyrenees and Jura mountain – application for the interpretation of fossil pollen records". Florence Mazier was invited to present briefly the results of her thesis, which she did excellently.

The third day concentrated on questions related to human impact on vegetation, climate-human impact-ecosystem interplays and responses of societies to climate warming. The opening key note given by J. Guilaine on "*Neolithisation of the Mediterranean area, between culture and environment*" was perhaps the most impressive presentation of the symposium in terms of review of the field and analysis of the results. The depth of the discussion on the possible interplays between climate, environment and society, illustrated by numerous examples and comprehensive reviews of results, provided us with an extremely rich overview of the subject. The talks of the session discussed fire, vegetation and human activities in Savoie (France, A. Genries *et al.*), in southern Sweden (M.-J. Gaillard *et al.*), and different aspects of interactions between vegetation, climate and human societies in the Massif Armoricain (France, C. Joly), the Hérault (France, S. Guillon *et al.*), Liban (L. Hajar *et al.*), the western Pyrenees (A. Ejarque *et al.*), and the southern French Alps (M. Court-Picon *et al.*, presented by J.-L. de Beaulieu).

On Tuesday, prior to the meeting, there was a very moving *hommage* paid to Dominique Jolly by Rachid Chedaddi. Dominique was celebrated as a wonderful friend and scientist; he contributed numerous studies of great interest and impact on climate-vegetation interactions during the Quaternary in various parts of the world, and motivated many young scientists with innovative and exciting research ideas. Dominique died too young. A second moving *hommage* was paid to Bernard Lugardon by Edwige Masure. B. Lugardon was celebrated for a long and brilliant career as a palynologist, with countless contributions on the pollen and spore morphology of numerous plant taxa.

The symposium was closed by presentation of the prizes of L'APLF bestowed to the best student's

lecture (L. Hajar, University of Montpellier, ISEM, France) on "Végétation in the Bekaa plain (Lebanon). Influence of the human impact after 8000 cal. BP?" and to the two best student's posters (1st prize: J. Lebamba, University of Montpellier, France; 2nd prize: M. Djamali, University of Marseille, France).

One shouldn't close this report without mentioning the very sympathetic "aperitif", with delicious local wines and cheeses, offered on the second day after the presentation of the best doctoral thesis by Florence Mazier, as well as the wonderful Conference dinner that followed at a very nice restaurant of great reputation in the centre of beautiful Toulouse "*la ville rose*", where many delegates could savour the traditional "*cassoulets toulousains*" and many other delicious specialities of the area.

The meeting was an undoubted success, bringing together speakers from across France and Europe and giving great inspiration to all of us. Our collective congratulations are extended to Didier Galop, the rest of the Organising and Scientific committee, and all colleagues around Didier for their hard work which resulted in such an enjoyable meeting during these warm, late summer days in Toulouse.

Marie-José Gaillard (University of Kalmar, Sweden)

"40th Annual meeting of the American Association of Stratigraphical Palynologists (AASP)"

Panama City, Panama

8-12 September 2007

Eighty-two participants attended this year's annual meeting, held in Panama City, in the Republic of Panama. The organizer and president of the AASP, Carlos Jaramillo (Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama) received 50 abstracts from 18 countries. This year's meeting was sponsored by AASP, Exxon, ConocoPhillips, Chavron, Statoil, BP, Ecopetrol and STRI.



Conference delegates at the Tupper Center

The meeting was held at the Tupper Conference Center of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute and began with welcoming remarks by Carlos Jaramillo and Eldredge Bermingham (STRI's Acting Director). The keynote address was by Alfred Traverse, entitled: "Founding the AASP: Critical mass reached at Tulsa in 1967". The diverse meeting program provided attendees the opportunity to learn about uses of palynomorphs in research ranging from climatic reconstruction to biogeography to archaeology; as well as to enjoy two palaeobotanical symposia on "Pollen morphology and phylogeny" organized by David Jarzen (senior biologist and collections manager for palaeobotany and palynology at the Florida Museum of Natural History) and "Tropical pollen and spores: tracking vegetation dynamics of the Neotropics during the Cenozoic" chaired by Steve Lowe (BP). The meeting also included a poster session and two general



technical sessions.

Stephen Louwye's talk during a technical session

In addition participants had the option of attending a free, half-day workshop in analytical techniques for palynological analysis using the statistical freeware package "R", where

participants obtained hands-on experience using the software.

The first night's social icebreaker took place in Punta Culebra nature Center, where attendees got to meet each other and enjoy a wonderful pacific sunset. There were also two optional field trips. One to the rainforest of Barro Colorado Island and the other to a Canopy Crane System in the Parque Nacional Metroplitano, where participants were able to see the forest from above the canopy. Participants also visited the Miraflores Locks in the Panama Canal, and enjoyed the conference dinner at a fantastic local restaurant. The business luncheon held in the Tupper Conference centre helped to establish a stronger working relationship between attendees and organizers.



Transit at Miraflores Locks, Panama Canal



Carlos Jaramillo's speech during the Business Luncheon

Pimiento Catalina (Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Website

David Ward Roubik and Jorge Enrique Moreno Patiño have made available the spore/pollen images from the plates of their 1991 book on the pollen/spores of Barro Colorado Island that was published by the Missouri Botanical Gardens.

The website is hosted by the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute at the following address: <<http://striweb.si.edu/roubik/>>.

IN MEMORIAM

Bernard Lugardon (1913-2007)

Bernard is no longer with us. Suddenly, on 25th January 2007, he was gone.

Because of our long collaboration and the great close friendship that developed between us, I was very glad to be asked to pay my tribute to him.

Bernard was above all a specialist in Pteridophyte spores. His thesis (1971), based on Transmission Electron Microscope (TEM) analyses of Pteridophyte spores, brought to light an absolutely new and original knowledge of morphogenesis and structure of fern spore walls. At the time competent researchers in TEM were few, but so great was his wish to understand structures and mechanisms that he very soon became a master in this branch of analysis. The proof lies in the number (47) of his published works about the structure of living and fossil spores/pollen, and the magnificent collaboration he achieved with Alice F. Tryon in a masterly joint work (648 pages) on Pteridophytes. I treasure my memory of a conversation with Alice Tryon at the 1994 International Palynology Congress (IPC) at Aix en Provence (France) when she said "I would have loved him to be my son!".

As for me. I was working on my thesis about Annonaceae pollen when Madeline Van Campo advised me to meet Bernard and ask for his help regarding certain questions that were unanswerable without the aid of ultrastructural

analysis. As early as 1972 he and I entered into a close collaboration that resulted in joint publications and several communications to national and international congresses.

Ultrastructural study of the extra-apertural exine in Annonaceae, a primitive family of Dicotyledons, has contributed an important set of new facts related to structures generally unknown from Dicotyledons: the absence of endexine; a particularly simple type of exine structure consisting of only poorly differentiated layers, recognized before (Van Campo & Lugardon 1973), but defined for the first time in the family (1974); the presence of a foliated basal layer, a structure described for the first time in the Angiosperm ectexine (1974) and recognized later in Dipterocarpaceae by Bernard in collaboration with G. Maury and J. Muller (1975); the presence of very diversified granular and columellar structures (1976). Finally, the ultrastructural data on the pollen wall modified to a certain extent the apertural concept previously accepted for Annonaceae, leading to a reduction of morphological types to sulcate monads with a distal aperture (1977) or "omniaperturate" and inaperturate compound grains in which the exine modifications at the proximal face cannot be morphologically interpreted as an aperture. This late concept could be reinterpreted from the recent morphogenesis work concerning unfortunately only two Annonaceae genera.

Nevertheless, I can assume that without my close collaboration with Bernard Lugardon, and later with James A. Doyle, my work would never have roused such considerable international interest. The ultrastructural data are still widely used in phylogenetic analyses (entirely morphological or in association with recent molecular data).

A dedicated researcher, Bernard was unassuming and did not expect honours, but never refused his cooperation or his help to those who asked him to solve a problem. His answer was always "coming" when students or researchers wished to benefit from his experience or his vast botanical knowledge.

As a reviewer, constantly in demand on account of his proficiency, he was also appreciated for his analyses, so meticulous and precise, but never provocative or discouraging.



Bernard Lugardon

Long after he had retired he was still using his old microscope which he skilfully “tinkered up” (as he liked to phrase it) and which served him well to the last.

Bernard was a teacher as well as a researcher with whom we are all proud to have collaborated and been friends. Many foreign researchers have known and valued him. His own country, France, has not given him suitable recognition, but we, his fellow workers, acknowledge the impulse he gave to Palynology.

Annick Le Thomas
Paris, November 2007

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

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