

PALYNOLOGOS

Volume 15, No. 2 - December 1992

NEWSLETTER of the INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION of PALYNOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

Presidential Ponderings



According to the Articles in the IFPS Constitution, a new President is elected by the IFPS Councillors (who are representatives of the 22 affiliated palynological societies) every four years—just prior to the quadrennial International Palynological Congresses (IPCs). My election this year came as something

of a surprise; I presume that most of my support was based on the recognition of the decade I had spent founding and editing the Federation's newsletters—first, the International Commission for Palynology (ICP) Newsletter (1978-80), then later, Palynos (1984-92).

No matter what were the underlying reasons for my election, I am grateful for your vote of confidence and will endeavor to further the goals of our Federation, which have been outlined over the years by my predecessors. Of course, similar to the new U. S. President-elect's campaign promises, I would hope to be able to institute some significant changes in our operations during my term of office.

Many of you are already acquainted with the able scientists that I have selected to assist with the administration of our Federation: Owen K. Davis (University of Arizona, Tucson) as Secretary-Treasurer, and John H. Wrenn (Director, AASP Center For Excellence in Palynology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge), the new Editor of Palynos. Incidentally, these two gentlemen are also very actively involved with the organization of the 9th International Palynological Congress, which the AASP will host in Houston, Texas in 1996.

Speaking of Congresses, the recently-concluded

8th IPC held at Aix-en-Provence was eminently successful, with over 900 registrants participating in the well-organized scientific and social programs. The APLF Organizing Committee, ably led by President Armand Pons, Secretary Jean-Pierre SUC, Treasurer Jacques-Louis de Beaulieu, Program Convener Raymonde Bonnefille and IFPS Correspondent Annick Le Thomas, deserve our hearty "merci beaucoup" for a job well done!



Jim Canright, Owen Davis, Armand Pons and Raymonde Bonnefille at the 8th IPC Gala Dinner.

Finally, the fact that the annual AASP Business Luncheon held during the course of the 8th IPC at Aix, had the highest attendance (230 people) in all of the AASP's 25-year history (despite the European venue), would seem to add further support to Past-President Visscher's optimistic appraisal of the future of palynology throughout the world (PALYNOLOGOS 15: 1, 1992).

I wish you all the best for the Holiday Season and the coming New Year.

James E. Canright
President

The 8th International Palynological Congress

The 8th International Palynological Congress was held in Aix-en-Provence, France (September 6-12) and was attended by 825 palynologists and 77 accompanying members. A total of 662 oral presentations were given in 26 Symposia and seven Plenary Sessions, and 210 Poster Presentations were made in three poster sessions. The most important contributions of the symposia will be published by 14 international journals.

The 8th IPC was preceded by three botanical-geological excursions that included 60 participants. Three post-congress excursions were enjoyed by 85 attendees. Thanks to several grants from French institutions (totalling US \$22,600), the participation of 50 palynologists from Eastern Europe and from countries around the world was supported. A day tour of the Camargue, the vast wetlands and bird reserve in the south of France, and Welcome and Gala Parties were offered to congress attendees.



Chairpersons at the IFPS Plenary Session (Sept. 10) from left to right: J.-P. SUC (France), A. Le Thomas (France), H. Visscher (The Netherlands), J. E. Canright (U.S.A.), B. S. Venkatachala (India) and Steve Blackmore (U. K.).

Each attending Member received a special issue of "Cahiers de Micropaléontologie" that included summary papers on the congress excursions.

One must recall that the 25th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists was held in conjunction with the 8th IPC, with more than 185 attending colleagues. This was the first time the meeting was held outside of North America.

Jean-Pierre SUC
Montpellier University

Announcements

Address Changes

Dr. Richard W. Hedlund, AASP Foundation Trustee and Editor for the Foundation's Contributions Series, has retired recently from Amoco Production Company. His new address is:

6923 S. Knoxville Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74136-2653
U.S.A.

Dr. John H. Wrenn, Editor of PALYNOS, has resigned from Amoco Production Company to accept the Directorship of The Center for Excellence in Palynology that has been established by AASP and the Department of Geology and Geophysics at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA. His new address is:

Department of Geology and Geophysics
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
U.S.A.
Phone: 504-388-3353
Fax: 504-388-2302

A Course on Paleogene Dinoflagellate Cysts

A five-day short course (April 26-30, 1993) on the stratigraphy and paleoecology of Paleogene dinoflagellate cysts (dinocysts) will be presented immediately after the Dino V Conference by Gram Williams, Lew Stover, Sarah Damassa and Henk Brinkhuis. The course will be held at the University of Utrecht. A well documented manual, including range charts and line-drawings, will be provided for each participant.

The course fee is US\$550. The course minimum is 15 students and the maximum is 24.

Accommodations and evening meals are the responsibility of each participant. Henk Brinkhuis will make hotel reservations (in Utrecht) for participants, if desired.

To register for the course or to obtain more information, contact:

Dr. Henk Brinkhuis
LPP Foundation
Lab. Palaeobot. Palynol.
University of Utrecht
Heidelberglaan 2,
3584 CS Utrecht
The Netherlands

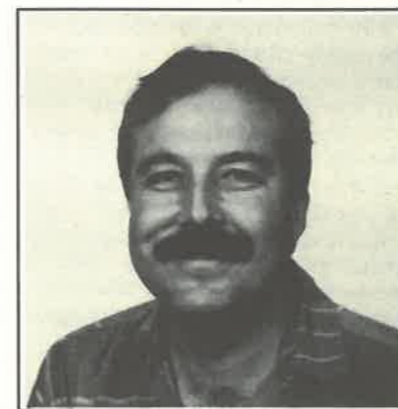
FAX: +31.30.535096

Participants can pay on arrival or send Henk an international money order made out to ABN-AMRO Bank account No. 46.50.04.512 of the LPP

Foundation. Be sure to indicate that the payment is for the "Paleogene Course 1993".

Meet The New Secretary-Treasurer

Dr. Owen Kent Davis
Department of Geosciences
University of Arizona



Owen is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geosciences and the Director of the Palynology Laboratory at the University of Arizona. He was born March 13, 1949, in Nampa, Idaho, received his B. S. in Biology in 1971,

M. S. in Botany in 1974, and his Ph. D. in Ecology in 1981. He is married and has two children.

He is a member of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists (AASP), the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Quaternary Association, the Arizona-Nevada Academy of Science, the California Botanical Society, the Idaho Academy of Science, the INQUA Commission on the Holocene, the Northwest Scientific Association, and PACLIM.

He first joined AASP in 1976. His service for AASP includes Director-at-Large 1988-1990; Chairman of the Awards Committee, 1989; Awards Post Card Committee, 1989 to present; Chairman of the Nominating Committee, 1990; Chairman of the Data Committee, 1988 to Present; and Chairman of the 25th AASP Annual Meeting that was held in conjunction with the 8th IPC in Aix-en-Provence, France.

Owen has served as the North American Coordinator for IGCP 252, Past and Future Evolution of Deserts. He has organized two symposia, one entitled "Palynology of the American Southwest" at the 6th IPC, and the other was "Archeological Palynology" at the 8th IPC. He has chaired Symposia on "Global Change" at the 24th AASP Annual Meeting; on "Environmental History of the American Southwest During the Last Glacial Termination: The Black Mat" at the 1990 Cordilleran Section of the Geological Society of America meeting; on "Past and Future Evolution of Deserts" at the 1990 IGCP 252 Workshop; on "Paleoenvironmental Reconstructions From Arid Lands" at the 12th INQUA Congress; and he chaired technical sessions at the 19th and 21st AASP Annual Meetings.

Owen's palynologic research publications include Pleistocene and Holocene vegetation change; historic vegetation change; archeological palynology; pollen in packrat middens, mammoth

and honey; fungal spores; and pollination ecology. He edited, with Bonnie Jacobs and Pat Fall, "Late Quaternary vegetation and climates of the American Southwest," AASP Contributions Series 13; "Paleoenvironments of Arid Lands," (Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, and Palynology, volume 76); and is editing "Current Aspects of Archeological Palynology" a proposed AASP Contributions Series volume.

Meet the IFPS Councillors for

The Palynological Society of Japan

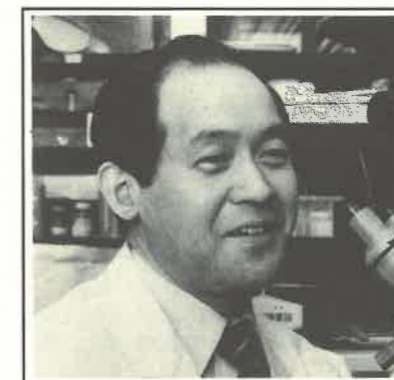


Dr. Hisako Miki-Hirosige is a Professor at Kanagawa Dental College. She earned a Doctor of Science degree at Kyoto University. She is the editor of "Sexual Plant Reproduction" (Springer International). The main theme is the

mechanism of the fertilization of higher plants. Other topics include hemotropism of pollen tubes, ultrastructural research on microspore development, pollen development and germination, pistil exudates in *Lilium longiflorum*, allergenic proteins in *Cryptomeria japonica* pollen, etc.

Her address is:

Kanagawa Dental College,
82 Inaoka-cho, Yokosuka,
Kanagawa, Japan.



Dr. Norio FUJI; earned a Doctor of Science degree from the Geosciences Department, Graduate School of Natural Sciences, Tohoku University; Sendai, Japan. He is a professor of the Graduate School of Natural Sciences and Technology, and the

Dean of the Faculty of Education at the Kanazawa University.

His research concentrates on palaeoenvironmental studies using pollen analyses of the late Cenozoic Era. Dr. Fuji is particularly interested in the palaeoclimatic and palaeolimnological changes of

Lake Biwa, Japan, and Lake Baikal, Siberia under the cooperation of Japan, USA and Russia.

His address is:

Department of Geosciences,
Graduate School of Natural Sciences,
Kanazawa University, Kanazawa 920,
Japan

Phone: 0762-64-5498;
FAX: 0762-64-5557

Comments on Banksisporites Dettmann: Discussion

In the last issue of *Palynos*, Mishra (1992, p. 5) emended the diagnosis of the megaspore genus *Banksisporites* Dettmann 1961 and proposed one new species combination for this genus and four for *Srivastavaesporites* Bharadsaj & Tiwari 1970. None of the new combinations is, however, valid. The reasons given for making them are also hardly well supported by photographic or other documentary evidence, but that is another matter on which I will not dwell here.

If it is deemed appropriate to publish taxonomic and or nomenclatural notes of this sort in *Palynos* (I argue below that it is not), then it is surely essential that the rules and recommendations of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (ICBN) are taken into account. There is a standard procedure that should be followed when transferring a species from one genus to another. The name of the author of the original combination of genus and species (basonym), the date of publication, page, plate and figure numbers must be clearly indicated. Only then is the transfer valid.

Whereas Mishra failed to do this, he is otherwise overly concerned with 'validity'. He noted that (1) Banerji et al. (1978) included several species of *Srivastavaesporites* in *Banksisporites* "without valid reasons" although they had previously "recognized them as valid species of *Srivastavaesporites*"; (2) at "least seven species...show the above-mentioned generic characters and therefore are recognized here as valid species", (3) treatment of *S. karanpurensis* as a junior synonym of *Banksisporites sinuosus*...by Banerji et al...is invalid as the spores of *S. karanpurensis* clearly show distinct contact areas bounded by arcuate ridges", and (4) "although the description of *S. panchetensis* by Maheshwari & Banerji (1975) is valid, its transfer by Banerji et al. (1978) to the genus *Banksisporites* is invalid on the same ground(s)".

All of these statements are inappropriate. A description may be inadequate, the placing of a species in synonymy with another may be misguided, and the transfer of a species from one genus to another may be unwarranted, but none

has anything to do with validity. It is disappointing that these mistakes have been made in what is probably the most widely circulated of all palynological publications and, hence, where one might have hoped that a good example would be set.

Palynos is not, however, a 'regular' scientific journal comparable, for example, to the *Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology*, but a newsletter. Most newsletters have been established to allow fairly rapid dissemination of information of general interest to members of societies and other organizations that generally cannot be accepted by, or would be inappropriately placed in, a journal whose main function is for the publication of scientific papers. Among the items commonly included are notices of forthcoming meetings and publications of interest, book reviews, reports of symposium proceedings, and lists of members' changes of address and occupation. Indeed, despite the professional look of many current newsletters, which has been made possible recently via readily available sophisticated computer software for word-processing and desktop publishing, most still appear to be regarded as essentially fairly informal productions from which 'papers' are either excluded or comprise only 'technical notes' or other rather special items.

It has been generally accepted that they are not appropriate vehicles for the publication of taxonomic and nomenclatural notes. There is, for example, a disclaimer at the back of each issue of *Palaeontology Newsletter* (published by the Palaeontological Association, London) to the effect that it is not a valid publication for these purposes. In my opinion *Palynos* should follow suit. Revised diagnoses, name changes and other systematic matters are all better placed in regular journals where, with luck, they might also come under the scrutiny of a referee before appearing in print.

REFERENCES

Banerji, J., Kumaran, K.P.N. & Maheshwari, H.K. (1978). Upper Triassic sporae dispersae from the Tiki Formation: megaspores from the Janar Nala section, South Rewa Gondwana Basin. *The Palaeobotanist*, 25 (for 1976), 1-26.

Maheshwari, H.K. & Banerji, J. (1975). Lower Triassic palynomorphs from the Maitur Formation, West Bengal, India. *Palaeontographica B*, 152, 149-190, 11 pl.

Mishra, N. (1992). Comments on *Banksisporites* Dettmann; a Triassic and Permian megaspore. *Palynos*, 15(1), p. 5.

D. J. Batten
Institute of Earth Studies
University of Wales, Aberystwyth
Dyfed SY23 3DB UK

Tutorial on the palynostratigraphy of Jurassic deposits, and questions on the taxonomy and nomenclature of fossil spores and pollen.

A tutorial on the taxonomy and nomenclature of dispersed spores and pollen was held in Alma-Ata at the Institute of Geological Sciences Kazakh Republic Academy of Sciences together with KazRMSK from October 14-20, 1991. Its aim was to discuss the palynostratigraphy of the Jurassic and the possibilities of using spores and pollen to work out a detailed stratigraphy of Jurassic deposits. Leading specialists: L. V. Rovina (Moscow, IG and RGI), V. I. Ilyanina (Novosibirsk, IG and GN SO Russia AS), Z. K. Ponomarenko and N. G. Ashimova (Alma-Ata, IGS, RK AS), L. I. Kotova (Alma-Ata, PGO "Yuzhkazgeologiya"), G. G. Yanovskaya (Kiev, IGS RU AS), N. K. Glushko (Tumen ZabSibNIGNI) and others presented interesting reports on the given theme. More than 30 specialists-palynologists took part in the tutorial practice. Different types of spores and pollen were observed on slides and discussed in order to reach agreement on their taxonomy and to determine their biostratigraphic value for a detailed stratigraphic subdivision of Jurassic deposits. As a result of taxonomic discussions, 64 species of fossil spores and pollen were recommended for detailed palynologic investigations. In addition, it was agreed that it is necessary to thoroughly study in situ pollen taken from the following fossil and modern plants: *Equissitiites*, *Czekanowskia*, *Bennettiales*, *Cycadales*. It was recommended that natural classification be used provided that dispersed spores and pollen can be related to those recovered from the mother plants (for example, *Dictyophyllum*, *Gleicheniidites*, *Matonisporites*, *Marattisporites*, *Klukisporites*, etc.) A number of other questions on the taxonomy of Coniferous, monosulcate spores, smooth triletes spores and other problems were considered during the tutorial.

Future studies will include 1) the taxonomy and nomenclature of Jurassic spores and pollen, 2) the palynocomplexes of definite stratigraphical levels, and 3) the determination of the geological succession (of palynocomplexes) and their lateral distribution.

E. V. Nesterova
Scientific Secretary of Mesozoic-Cenozoic Section of RMSK, Head of Palynological Group of IGN RK AS

New Publication

Antarctic Science, Vol. 4, No. 3
Special Issue
Palynology Of The James Ross Island Area

The James Ross Island area is recognized as one of the geological treasures of Antarctica. It exposes a section of over 6 km of Cretaceous and Tertiary marine sedimentary strata with an

important content of reworked Upper Jurassic rocks near the base. This sequence has produced some of the most remarkable fossil finds in the Southern Hemisphere. The list is extensive and includes a wealth of marine invertebrates, plesiosaurs, dinosaurs, land mammals and birds, giant penguins, whales, leaves and wood. The sediments record a long history of submarine fan, shelf and deltaic deposition in a back-arc environment, and the contained fossils provide valuable information on Cretaceous and Tertiary climates, and biological evolution at high paleolatitudes.

Critical to the study of such a sequence is a firm biostratigraphical framework, in which palynology plays a major role. This Special Issue, published as the September 1992 part of the journal, brings together a collection of papers, resulting from a joint research project by the British Antarctic Survey, the Centre for Palynological Studies of the University of Sheffield, and the British Geological Survey. The papers describe the palynology (mainly dinoflagellate cysts) of the Upper Jurassic (Tithonian) and Early Cretaceous (Aptian/Albian) - Eocene. The floras contain several new taxa, plus existing species known from other Southern Hemisphere localities, such as Australia and New Zealand. The collection of papers will be introduced with an overview by the Special Issue editors, A. M. Duane, D. Pirrie and J. B. Riding. The Special Issue aims to establish the major elements of the Upper Jurassic-lower Tertiary palynostratigraphy of the northern Antarctic Peninsula region. It is hoped that it will form an invaluable reference work for future stratigraphical studies in this key area.

Extra copies of this part will be available at 19.50/\$36.50 each post free. Please send orders and enquiries to: **Anna Rivers** at Blackwell Scientific Publications Ltd., Osney Mead, Oxford OX2 0EL, UK.



Future Meetings

Indicates this is the first announcement of this meeting in *Palynos*.

February 1-2, 1993
SEQUENCE STRATIGRAPHY: ADVANCES AND APPLICATIONS FOR EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION IN NORTHWEST EUROPE (Meeting), Stavanger, Norway. (Norwegian Petroleum Society, P. O. Box 1897-Vika, 0124 Oslo 1, Norway. Phone: 47 2 43 0050; Telefax: 47 2 55 4630; Telex: 77 322 nopet n).

May 9-14, 1993
BALTIC STRATIGRAPHY (2nd International Conference), Vilnius, Lithuania. (Prof. Dr. **Algimantas Grigelis**, Geological Institute, Sevcenkos 13, Vilnius, LR 2600 Lithuania. Phone: 0122 662504; Telex: 261141 LMA SU).

April 19-25, 1993

5th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE MODERN AND FOSSIL DINOFLAGELLATES, Zeist, The Netherlands (**Jan Weegink**, Lab Palaeobot. & Palynology, Univ. Utrecht, Heidelberglaan 2, 3584CS Utrecht, Netherlands).

April 24, 1993

3RD WORKSHOP ON NEOGENE DINOFLAGELLATES, Zeist, The Netherlands, sponsored by the Fifth International Conference on Modern and Fossil Dinoflagellates (**D. Martin J. Head**, Department of Geology, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M5S 3B1. Phone: 416-978-5080 Fax: 416-978-3938).

June 7-11, 1993

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM GEOSCIENTISTS & ENGINEERS (5th Annual Meeting and Technical Exhibition), Stavanger, Norway. (**Evert van der Gaag**, Business Manager EAPG, P. O. Box 298, 3700 AG Zeist, The Netherlands. Phone: +31 (0)3404 62655; Telefax: +31 (0)3404 62640).

June 7-16, 1993

SUBCOMMISSION ON CARBONIFEROUS STRATIGRAPHY 1993 FIELD AND GENERAL MEETING (International Symposium), Liège, Belgium, and field excursions to Belgium, Germany and the Pyrenees in France. (**Dr. M. Streel**, Paléontologie, Université de Liège, 7 Place du Vingt-Août, B-4000 Liège, Belgium).

July, 1993

ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT OF HUMAN EVOLUTION (International Scientific Congress and Exhibition), The Netherlands and Indonesia. (**Dr. Hans Beljer**, Geological Survey of The Netherlands, P. O. Box 157, NL-2000 AD Haarlem, The Netherlands. Telefax: 31 23 351614).

August 28-September 3, 1993

INTERNATIONAL BOTANICAL CONGRESS (15th), Tokyo, Japan. (**M. Furuya**, Frontier Research Programs, The Riken Institute, Wako City, 351-01, Japan).

September 18-26, 1993

ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN GEOLOGICAL SOCIETIES (AEGS) (8th Congress), Budapest, Hungary. (**Geological Society of Hungary**, P.O. Box 433, H-1371 Budapest, Hungary. Phone: (36-1)2019129 Telefax: (36-1) 1561215 Telex: MTE SZ MFT 224343).

September 27-30, 1993

ENVIRONMENTAL BIOGEOCHEMISTRY (11th International Symposium), Salamanca, Spain, (**Dr. J. F. Gallardo Lancho**, I. E. T./CSIC, Aptdo. 257, Salamanca 37071, Espana, Spain. Phone: (923)219606 Telefax: (923) 219609).



October 25-28, 1993

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF STRATIGRAPHIC PALYNOLOGISTS (26th Annual Meeting), Baton Rouge, LA, with two symposia, pre- and Post-Meeting short courses (Fungal Spores; Sequence Stratigraphy) and field trips to the Mississippi Delta and upper delta plain. (**Dr. George F. Hart** or **Dr. John H. Wrenn**, Department of Geology and Geophysics, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, 70803, U.S.A. Phone: 504-388-3353 Fax: 504-388-2302).

October 27-28, 1993

PALYNOLOGY, CLIMATE AND SEQUENCE STRATIGRAPHY OF THE PLIOCENE, (Interdisciplinary, International Symposium), Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Sponsor: The American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists (AASP). (Co-conveners: **Dr. John H. Wrenn**, Director, Center For Excellence in Palynology, Department of Geology and Geophysics, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA, 70803, U. S. A. Phone: 504-388-3353; Fax: 504-388-2302, or **Dr. Jean-Pierre SUC**, Laboratoire de Palynologie, Case 061, Université de Montpellier II, F-34095 Montpellier, Cedex 5, France; Phone: 33-67-14-32-69 Fax: 33-67-04-20-32).

PALYNOS (ISSN 0256-1670) is published semiannually (June and December) and is distributed to all individual members of the scientific organizations affiliated with the **International Federation of Palynological Societies (IFPS)**. News Items, photos, member and society activities are welcomed. (Scientific papers will not be published in **PALYNOS**.) Please forward materials for **PALYNOS** to the Editor:
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FAX: 504-388-2302

PHOTOPAL

PHOTOPAL is a computer image data base that is based on the Montpellier modern pollen library. This library consists of 45,000 slides representative of all the botanical families and all environments worldwide. Photopal offers high quality pollen images at the lowest cost. The system displays high-resolution Super VGA grey scale images (756 x 581 pixels, 256 shades of grey; TIFF is the image format). Independent and four associated images will be successively available on the screen. Image records will be provided on CD ROM discs.

Information is provided on plant origins, geographical distribution, pollen morphology and pollen size measurements. Pollen morphologic key-words, managed by interactive software, will assist in pollen recognition before the images of the selected species are viewed. These data will be stored on 3.5" discs for IBM compatible computers.

Hardware required to run **PHOTOPAL**:

- CD ROM disc drive
- IBM computer or clone and Super VGA monitor

PHOTOPAL will start in 1993 and 500 taxa will be input each year (4 to 12 images per taxa).

Annual subscription cost: **5,000.00 FF**.

Contact: **Dr. Jean-Pierre SUC**

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Institut des Sciences de L'Evolution
Université de Montpellier II
F-34095 Montpellier, Cedex 5
France
Phone: 33-67-14-32-69; Fax: 33-67-04-20-32

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8th International Palynological Congress

Video Tape

A 90 minute, VHS video tape of the 8th IPC is now available. All the Congress highlights, including the Opening Ceremony, Gala Party, group photograph, and the trip to the Carmargue are shown and every participant is shown.

Don't forget to order this marvellous record of the 8th IPC.

Cost of the tape: 180 FF, including postage and handling. Checks in French Francs, payable to a French Bank, should be made out to "A.P. L. F." and sent, with the order form below, to:

Marie-Françoise OLLIVIER
A. P. L. F. Treasurer
Institut de Géologie
Université Rennes I
Campus de Beaulieu
35042 - Rennes cedex
France

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