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The Palynological Society

The American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, Inc. - AASP-The Palynological Society - was established in 1967 by a group of 31 founding members to promote the science of palynology. Today AASP has a world-wide membership of about 800 and is run by an executive comprising an elected Board of Directors and subsidiary boards and committees. AASP welcomes new members.

The AASP Foundation publishes the journal Palynology (triannually), the AASP Newsletter (quarterly), and the AASP Contributions Series (mostly monographs, issued irregularly), as well as several books and miscellaneous items. AASP organises an Annual Meeting which usually includes a field trip, a business luncheon, social events, and technical sessions where research results are presented on all aspects of palynology.

AASP Scientific Medal recipients
Professor William R. Evitt (awarded 1982)
Professor William G. Chaloner (awarded 1984)
Dr. Lewis E. Stover (awarded 1988)
Dr. Graham Lee Williams (awarded 1996)
Dr. Hans Gocht (awarded 1996)
Professor Svein B. Manum (awarded 2002)
Professor Barrie Dale (awarded 2004)
Dr. David Wall (awarded 2004)
Dr. Robin Helby (awarded 2005)
Dr. Satish K. Srivastava (awarded 2006)
Professor Estella B. Leopold (awarded 2013)

AASP Board of Directors Award recipient
Dr. Robert T. Clarke (awarded 1994)
Dr. Thomas D. Demchuk (awarded 2014)

AASP Honorary Members
Professor Dr. Alfred Eisenack (elected 1975)
Dr. William S. Hoffmeister (elected 1975)
Professor Leonard R. Wilson (elected 1975)
Professor Knut Faegri (elected 1977)
Professor Charles Downie (elected 1982)
Professor William R. Evitt (elected 1989)
Professor Lucy M. Cranwell (elected 1989)
Dr. Tamara F. Vozzhennikova (elected 1990)
Professor Aureal T. Cross (elected 1991)
Dr. Robert T. Clarke (awarded 2002)
Professor Vaughn Bryant (awarded 2005)
Professor Alfred Traverse (awarded 2005)
Professor Bernard Owens (awarded 2011)
Dr. John E. Williams (awarded 2013)
Mr. Paul W. Nygreen (awarded 2013)

Teaching medal recipients
Professor Aureal T. Cross (awarded 1999)
Professor Alfred Traverse (awarded 2001)
Professor Bill Evitt (awarded 2006)
Professor Vaughn M. Bryant (awarded 2013)

AASP Distinguished Service Award recipients
Dr. Robert T. Clarke (awarded 1978)
Dr. Norman J. Norton (awarded 1978)
Dr. Jack D. Burgess (awarded 1982)
Dr. Richard W. Hedlund (awarded 1982)
Dr. John A. Clendening (awarded 1987)
Dr. Kenneth M. Piel (awarded 1990)
Dr. Gordon D. Wood (awarded 1993)
Dr. Jan Jansonius (awarded 1995)
Dr. D. Colin McGregor (awarded 1995)
Professor John H. Wrenn (awarded 1998)
Professor Vaughn M. Bryant (awarded 1999)
Dr. Donald W. Engelhardt (awarded 2000)
Dr. David T. Pocknall (awarded 2005)
Dr. David K. Goodman (awarded 2005)
Professor Owen K. Davis (awarded 2005)
Dr. Thomas Demchuk (awarded 2009)
Professor Reed Wicander (awarded 2014)
AASP-TPS NEWSLETTER

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The AASP-TPS Newsletter is published four times annually. Members are encouraged to submit articles, “letters to the editor,” technical notes, meetings reports, information about “members in the news,” new websites and information about job openings. Every effort will be made to publish all information received from our membership. Contributions which include photographs should be submitted two weeks before the deadline.

Deadline for submission for the next issue of the newsletter is August 15. All information should be sent by email. If possible, please illustrate your contribution with art, line drawings, eye-catching logos, black & white photos, colour photos, etc. We DO look forward to contributions from our membership.
1. June 2016

As summer finally approaches this marks my third (and probably very overdue) President’s Letter for the newsletter. It’s been a busy year for AASP and the board members who have kept the society rolling. We recently held the Mid Year board meeting in Houston, at the venue for the 2016 Annual Meeting in September. The Magnolia Hotel will make a fine venue and it’s a conference I’m greatly looking forward to attending. The program of events and organisation are fantastic and it should make for a stimulating week-long event. Combining TSOP with AASP should provide some stimulating cross-over between the interests of both parties. I’m hoping to see many of you there. I will also be fully prepared for the business luncheon with a suitable (short) speech rather than have the occasion launched at me somewhat unexpectedly! Looking ahead the preparations are already well underway for our future meetings both in North America and in Europe where we will meet with the TMS Palynology Group and also CIMP. These annual meetings are really one of the central activities of the society and it’s great that members so willingly volunteer to organise them on behalf of the society. My own efforts in organising conferences make me treat the whole process with respect. It also aged me quite considerably, by the way.

The other important activity of the society that has wide outreach is our journal Palynology that goes from strength-to-strength. So much so, in fact, that the managing editor has successfully negotiated with Taylor and Francis a deal to increase the number of issues per annum to process manuscripts faster without a financial penalty on the society. This was reported at the Mid-Year and unanimously agreed as a great initiative. Good job, Jim! This will allow us to publish more manuscripts and with a more speedy turn-around into hard copy. Our journal is growing in popularity which is a good sign about the health of our discipline. The website is the third key aspect of our society that has undergone refinement since March. More items have been added and the recurrent glitches with how PayPal interface with the website are constantly reviewed. This has proved a huge project and the time to build all the elements has necessarily taken months. The webmaster frequently updates information on meetings and so forth - if you haven’t reviewed the website recently, I urge you to pay it a visit.

The Mid-Year board meeting was a convivial affair that was helped greatly by a lunch with beer at a local bar and jettisoning some issues from the agenda that are no longer relevant or that have receded from importance over the past 6 months. Our important challenges looking ahead are to save money where possible, make prudent decisions on member retention and above all to push for increased membership. This last point is important and year-on-year we seem to lose members in a steady process of attrition. These may be industrial folk, or increasingly those in universities. There may be multiple reasons for this such as being able to access the journal for academics from their institutions rather than direct from the society, or maybe there is so much free stuff that the membership can have from the website already, or maybe it’s that student members are being lost after their studies finish. Whatever, we need to shore-up our membership and encourage potential members to
join. It’s still a very inexpensive society and student members can apply for grants. It’s the best value society I belong to (and there are a few I can think about that really aren’t!). The future board will need to develop strategies here that will conserve our financial coffers and also push for more members. It’s a tough job that will take time and multiple different approaches.

This brings me to the next news: The ballot for board members. I’m pleased to announce that an exciting slate of candidates is standing for election in July this year. The positions are President-elect, one Director-at-large, and one student Director-at-large plus ratifying or nominating other candidates for the key board positions. Please keep an eye open for the ballot that like previous years will be electronically administered and open for one month this summer. More information will be forthcoming and biographies of the candidates are presented here in this newsletter. In my previous letter I wrote about the diversity of our board and I’m pleased that the nominating committee have followed that through so that a future board will, whatever happens, maintain a broad spectrum of individuals serving the society. These types of issues (diversity etc.) were touched upon at a Geological Society of America meeting of affiliated associations that our liaison representative attended. The topic of codes of conduct was discussed for the different member societies. This, apparently, is becoming a hot topic in the USA and we do not have a code. So we agreed at the Mid-Year to instigate a process of developing our own code of conduct that you will be invited to vote on next year. It’s been a busy year for the AASP board.

I hope to see many of you in Houston this year for our Annual Meeting!

Guy Harrington,
Birmingham, UK
As I write this report, we are about to send Volume 40, Part 2 for July 2016 to the printers. It will shortly be posted up on the website, and the paper copies will be despatched during early June. This part includes ten research articles and an obituary for Al Traverse; these are all listed below. One of the articles is a superb contribution from Dafna Langgut and her colleagues on the determination of the date of an earthquake in Israel using pollen seasonality. There are also two articles on the Upper Palaeozoic, and one on the Cretaceous. The articles which will appear in Volume 40, Part 3 are all typeset and published online; this is the final part of Volume 40 and will be issued during November 2016.

All members who receive paper copies of Palynology, will get a copy of a Supplement which outlines the life and work of Bill Evitt together with their copy of Volume 40, Part 2. This Supplement was authored by Joyce Lucas-Clark and myself, and was generously paid for by Bill’s ex-employer, Exxon-Mobil; it is already published online and is open access. Two other supplements are in production. One is a themed volume on the dinoflagellate cyst genus Spiniferites by Kenneth Mertens and his colleagues, and the other is a memorial volume to Gordon Wood edited by a team lead by Merrell Miller.

Readers who peruse the papers which are typeset but not yet paper-published on the Palynology website will have noticed we have rather a lot. I am not in a position to give details at this time, but please be assured that we are taking positive action to eliminate this backlog during 2017. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the reviewers who selflessly assess all the papers submitted to Palynology. There people give up their time to help both the journal and the authors, and the contribution of each and every one of them is greatly appreciated.

Should you have any problems with the online system for submitting manuscripts, please contact Kathy Robson (Katherine.Robson@tandf.co.uk) and myself. For any other issues, you can get in touch with our new production editor, Joanna Perry (Joanna.Perry@informa.com) and myself.

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United Kingdom
Tel: +44 (0)115 9363447
E-mail: jbri@bgs.ac.uk

24th May 2016
The contents of Palynology Volume 40, Part 2 (July 2016)


We are pleased to present the final circular regarding this first historic joint meeting of these three related geological, geochemical and biological scientific societies. We have finalized our schedules of technical sessions including the Symposia and Theme Sessions, and further finalized the pre-meeting Short Course, and the two fieldtrips. The purpose of this joint meeting is to bring together a diverse group of scientists to discuss the close relationships between organic petrology and palynology, to foster thoughtful discussion and address issues that may be of benefit to furthering the respective sciences. Key themes to be addressed during joint activities include source rock/source-rock reservoir resource assessment, microscope methods of characterizing microporosity, coal characterization, and palynofacies/kerogen.

The venue for this meeting will be the historic Magnolia Hotel in downtown Houston. The Magnolia was built in 1926 as the former Post-Dispatch Building. It was re-purposed in 2003 as The Magnolia Hotel, and further underwent a significant upgrade in 2009. The hotel is centrally located in downtown within walking distance of excellent restaurants and pubs. Over the past several years downtown Houston has undergone a major revitalization with many new office buildings, exciting arts and entertainment venues, and several world-class restaurants. We believe the downtown will provide exciting possibilities for every need and want.

**REGISTRATION FEES**
The following registration fees have been finalized for the meeting:

**Professionals:**

1. Full 5-day Registration: Early Bird (before Aug. 1st) **US$300**  
   After Aug 1st **US$350**
2. 3-day Registration: Early Bird **US$225**  
   After Aug 1st **US$275**
3. 1-day Registration: Early Bird **US$100**  
   After Aug 1st **US$150**
Student Registration:
1. Full 5-day Registration: US$250
2. 3-day Registration: US$175
3. 1-day Registration: US$75

**SHORT COURSE**
Saturday All-day Short Course: It is the pleasure of the Organizing Committee to present an all-day pre-meeting short course entitled, “Integration of microscopy and geochemistry in petroleum source rock evaluation”. The course will be taught by Dr. Richard Tyson (Getech, UK). The course will be presented in a classroom setting, and will emphasize the integration of microscopy and geochemistry to better understand and characterize source rocks in both conventional and unconventional exploration. The interpretation of both palynofacies and organic petrological data will be discussed. Additional details of the short course are being finalized and will be published in upcoming announcements.

The costs for this full-day Short Course will be US$250 for professionals, and US$200 for students. This will include all class materials, lunch and coffee breaks through the day. At this time the class is limited to 40 people and a percentage of attendance will be reserved for students. Attendance will be based on a first-come, first-served basis.

**SYMPOSIA/THEME SESSIONS**
After considerable discussion, a number of integrated Symposia and Theme Sessions have been finalized. These will include:

1. **Special Session in Honor of Jack Burgess** (TSOP Theme Session: Monday AM)
2. **Microscope Methodologies in Recognizing and Characterizing Organic Microporosity** (Joint TSOP/ICCP Theme Session: Monday PM)
3. **Palynofacies and Kerogen** (Joint TSOP/ICCP/AASP Theme Session: Tuesday PM)
4. **Multi-modal Characterization of Source Rocks, including Source-Rock Reservoirs** (Joint TSOP/ICCP/AASP Symposium: Wednesday All-Day)
5. **Palynofloral Contributions to Source Rocks** (AASP/TSOP/ICCP Theme Session: Thursday AM)
6. Additional AASP-sponsored sessions will include:
   a. **Alfred Traverse Symposium** (Thursday PM)
   b. Guest Lecture on Forensic Palynology to open the Friday AM general session.

The list of Keynote Speakers has been finalized. For many of the proposed joint sessions, at least one organic petrography/geochemistry and one palynology Keynote Speaker will be present. All interested scientists will be strongly encouraged to contact us and propose to submit their abstract(s) for one or more of these Sessions and the all-day Wednesday Symposium.

**ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS**
All scientists of organic petrography and palynology are strongly encouraged to submit their abstract(s) to one or more of the Symposia, Theme and General Sessions. Abstract submissions opened on **Sunday, May 1st**, and the closing date for submissions will be **Sunday, August 1st**. Please see the Meeting web Homepage for Abstract submission guidelines.
FIELD TRIPS

**Friday-Sunday Pre-Meeting Field Trip:** This 2+ day field trip will visit Eagle Ford Formation outcrops in west Texas, and will be led by Barry Wawak (Manager of Reservoir Geology, Core Laboratories Houston). The field trip will depart on the afternoon of the Friday prior to the meeting, and return by Sunday late afternoon or early evening. The Eagle Ford Formation is a world-class source-rock reservoir resource in the subsurface of south Texas, and the accompanying strata have been researched extensively in stratigraphic, geochemical and biostratigraphic studies.

The cost for this fieldtrip will be **US$550** and will include the field guide, transportation by vans, two nights of accommodation, and two lunches. Dinners for the two evenings will be at the expense of the individual. The fieldtrip is not strenuous as most outcrops are along the highway, or a short distance from well-kept roads. Hiking boots and proper field equipment will be required. Safety equipment (hard hats, safety vests) will be provided.

**Saturday Post-Meeting Field Trip:** This will be a one-day excursion to Cretaceous through Eocene strata of east-central Texas. These strata are equivalent to the important Wilcox Formation that forms major reservoirs in the subsurface of the deepwater Gulf of Mexico. The field trip will leave early Saturday morning from the Hotel, and return early evening back to Houston.

The cost for this fieldtrip is **US$80** and will include the field guide, transportation by vans, and lunch. The fieldtrip is not strenuous as most outcrops are a short distance from well-kept roads. Hiking boots and proper field equipment will be required. Safety equipment (hard hats, safety vests) will be provided. Photos from Dickey and Yancey (2010).

SOCIAL EVENTS

Multiple social activities of interest to all participants have been finalized and will take place at the hotel and nearby off-site venues.

**Monday PM Icebreaker:** The Monday evening Icebreaker will take place on the rooftop patio of The Magnolia Hotel (weather permitting). The patio offers a great view of the Houston downtown skyline and sunset.

**Tuesday PM Happy Hour (TSOP/ICCP):** On the Tuesday late afternoon, a Happy Hour will accompany an opportunity to view the posters that will be part of the technical aspect of the meeting. Drinks and finger food will be served and there will be sufficient opportunity to chat with authors about their poster displays.
Conference Dinner: A conference dinner has been finalized at the nearby Sambuca Café, a couple blocks walk from The Magnolia Hotel, in the historic Rice Hotel. The Sambuca Café is well-known for its vibrant music scene and excellent food. The evening will include two free drinks, appetizers, and a three-course meal in a designer atmosphere, with live music for your listening enjoyment. Our special events area will allow access to an outdoor patio to allow for quiet conversation. The conference dinner will be US$75 per person.

Thursday PM Happy Hour (AASP/ICCP): A Thursday late afternoon Happy Hour will allow folks to enjoy the AASP poster sessions as part of the technical aspect of the meeting. Drinks and finger food will be served and folks will be encouraged to mingle with the authors and discuss their poster displays.

In addition to all these events, attendees will have sufficient opportunity to enjoy the Houston downtown with its numerous world-class restaurants, and abundant drinking establishments.

SOCIETY BOARD MEETINGS
Along with the technical and social activities, the respective Societies will have their necessary Board of Directors meetings, and Business Luncheons. The current schedule includes:

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>ICCP Council Meeting</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>September 18th</td>
<td>16:00-21:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>TSO P Council Meeting</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>September 18th</td>
<td>17:30-21:00</td>
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<td>TSO P/ICCP Business Luncheon</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>September 20th</td>
<td>12:00-14:00</td>
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<td>TSO P Council Meeting</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>September 20th</td>
<td>19:00-21:00</td>
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<td>AASP-TPS Outgoing Board Meeting</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>September 20th</td>
<td>19:00-22:00</td>
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<td>ICCP Council Meeting</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>September 22nd</td>
<td>18:00-21:00</td>
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<td>AASP-TPS Business Luncheon</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>September 23rd</td>
<td>11:30-13:30</td>
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<tr>
<td>AASP-TPS Incoming Board Meeting</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>September 23rd</td>
<td>17:00-18:30</td>
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TRANSPORTATION AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Houston is a significant transportation hub and the Intercontinental Airport (IAH) is serviced by all major airlines from Europe and Asia. Both airports (IAH and HOU) are serviced by the major US-based airlines: IAH is a major hub for United Airlines, and HOU is a major hub for Southwest Airlines. All the major American airlines (e.g. Delta and American) fly into IAH numerous times through the day. All major European, Asian and Middle East airlines (e.g. KLM, British Airways, Air France, Lufthansa, Singapore, Korean Air, JAL, Emirates, and Qatar Airways) fly once a day in and out of IAH. Transportation to and from the downtown area from both airports is available via taxi, shuttle, and Metro-Bus. A special meeting rate has been negotiated for meeting attendees with Houston Super Shuttle to provide van or Towncar transportation from either airport to The Magnolia Hotel (and return to the airport). Please visit the Meeting website and see the Transportation tab for further information on these services.

The Magnolia Hotel: Our current negotiated room rate at The Magnolia hotel is US$179/night (single occupancy). Double- and triple- occupancy will be priced accordingly. This room-rate includes:

- a. FREE in-hotel/in-room Wifi
- b. Complimentary hot breakfast
- c. Late afternoon happy hour (complimentary beer/wine)
- d. Complimentary evening cookie buffet
- e. Reduced valet parking fees

Reservations may be made directly with The Magnolia Hotel at the website https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_ei_new&eventID=13814522. This website is also available through the Meetings website homepage. Additional details regarding the Hotel may be found at http://magnoliahotels.com/houston/magnolia-hotel-houston.php.

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

The local Organizing Committee consists of Thomas Demchuk (RPS), Jen O’Keefe (Morehead State U.), Thomas Gentzis (Core Laboratories) and Joe Curiale (Independent). We look forward to a great joint meeting in September. If you should have any questions regarding the meeting, you may send an e-mail to tdemchuk@swbell.net
Student Members, Don't Forget!

Your presentations are automatically entered in two competitions at the annual meeting:

**L.R. WILSON BEST STUDENT PAPER AWARD**

Named for Leonard R. Wilson, University of Oklahoma, a pioneer in the field of palynology who published over 200 scientific papers effectively demonstrating the relationships of plants to sediments and rocks through time. He actively advanced the idea that plant microfossils could become a powerful biostratigraphic tool. Wilson was the first scientist to perceive the common uses of palynology in oil exploration. He served as a consultant to 17 major and independent oil companies during his career.

Presenters of talks at the AASP annual meeting who are identified as students are evaluated for audibility, clarity, speed, poise and appearance of the speaker; with emphasis placed on a clear statement of the problem, methods and conclusions of the research; and on the quality of the illustrations. The award includes a certificate, cash prize, and two years membership in AASP.

**VAUGHN M. BRYANT BEST STUDENT POSTER AWARD**

Judged by an ad hoc committee formed by AASP Awards Committee members at the time of the annual meeting. The criteria are established by the judging committee and should include neatness and attractiveness of the poster including its graphics; scientific merit of the research problem; clarity and innovativeness of the research methods; clarity and simplicity of the results. Awardee must be first author, should be a student, or if the awardee has formally completed a graduate degree, cannot have been employed more than 6 months before the award is made.

Awarded items include a commemorative certificate, a $250 check, and two years paid membership in AASP.

Travel Grant Applications are due on August 1, 2015.

Travel Grant Applications should be submitted BY THE STUDENT’S ADVISOR to the chair of the awards committee who will make recommendations after consultation with the committee:

Martin B. Farley
mbfarley@sigmaxi.net
Geology, Old Main 213
University of North Carolina at Pembroke
Pembroke, NC 28372

The amount of travel funding awarded is variable based on need. The committee has been allotted $1500 to divide among successful applicants.

The application should include the following:

1) one paragraph justification for the request that describes the research to be presented;
2) a copy of the abstract submitted for the meeting;
3) a photograph of the applicant (the initial paragraph and photograph provided by awardees will be forwarded to the newsletter editor for inclusion in the September 2016 newsletter);
4) an outline of the requested amount showing how the funds will be used;
5) applicant's email and postal addresses;
6) A letter from the applicant’s advisor which must include a brief explanation of how attendance at the Annual Meeting will benefit the student.

Student Members, Don't Forget!

Your presentations are automatically entered in two competitions at the annual meeting:
Advice for Student Presentations for Wilson Award for Houston!
Martin Farley with assistance from Reed Wicander

Here is some advice on making effective oral presentations, in other words, how to communicate effectively.

Give a talk on only a few main points. It is unlikely that you can discuss effectively the results of an entire thesis in a single talk. Creating an effective talk is often a process of throwing out material that cannot be covered. Figure out what the important points are (3 to 4 at most) that you want the audience to take away from your presentation.

An effective way to begin a talk is to give the conclusions first (or at least very early). This means you are not giving a mystery presentation during which the audience has to guess what point you are trying to make. You then repeat the conclusions at the end. This idea has a history dating back at least to an essay by Eugene Shinn in the 1986 edition of AAPG’s advice on making presentations “Figuratively Speaking,” although knowledge of it is not widespread. (The 2000 edition of this book, if available, has many helpful suggestions on design of illustrations for talks.)

Generic advice to speakers often suggests making eye contact with the audience. In a completely dark room, this is impossible. In some venues, you can start your talk with the lights up, make some eye contact, and then have the lights turned off. However, you can still partially face the audience as you speak, and look away from the screen occasionally. You should always avoid talking directly to the screen, rather than your audience, particularly if you are using a laser pointer to highlight items on the screen. Make some contact with the audience during your talk, even if you can’t see them.

Make illustrations on slides as large as possible, particularly if there are some details within the image. If this means dispensing with space devoted to organizational logos, then you should do so. Powerpoint allows you to move titles to the side, change their color so they’re visible over unimportant parts of the illustration, or otherwise alter them to give the illustration importance. Landscape orientation illustrations work best. Figures with labeling suitable for paper publication are almost always too small to read on a slide.

Avoid busy slide backgrounds. This includes most of the canned versions supplied with presentation programs like Powerpoint. These distract the audience. You can make a very simple master slide with an uniform dark blue background and then put your text and illustrations on top of that.

Don't fill slides with text that you read aloud. The audience can read faster than you can speak, will reach the end of the slide before you do, and quickly lose interest in your talk. Outline the points you want to make on the slide and expand on them verbally.

Avoid fancy slide transitions. Although they may seem fun, they distract the audience from concentrating on your talk.

Use scale bars for photomicrographs, so the scale estimation remains the same no matter the size of the projected image.

Never apologize for the quality of an illustration. It draws attention to the issue and many people would never notice. It also makes it look like you waited until the last minute to prepare your talk, and shows lack of respect to the audience. I once had a poster up all day at AAPG with an obvious boundary fault in it and I was ready to explain at some length why it was there. However, even though hundreds of people looked at the poster, not a single one mentioned it.

If you have time for acknowledgments, you shouldn’t thank anyone who is a co-author on the paper (e.g., your advisor). You present on behalf of all the authors on the abstract and as you would not thank yourself for your own help, you do not acknowledge the help of co-authors either.

Formally, in an oral session, the session chair is in charge. The chair decides if there is time for questions at the end of a talk. Therefore, you should not end your talk by asking “Any questions?” because that presumes you control the session. There may be no time for questions through no fault of yours, for example, if the session is running behind schedule. A good phrase to end a talk with is “Thank you.”

Practice your talk more than once. Leave some time to allow for pauses. For example, you may have to stop talking to twist around to aim the laser pointer at a screen located in the most inconvenient possible place from the speaker’s point of view. You will not be able to know this until you see the venue.
Congratulations to the winners of the 2016 Undergraduate Student Awards!

Louisiana State University, USA - Sophie Warny

Patrick Baudoin was one of the students in the LSU course GEOL 4012 Micropaleontology. The bulk of this course provides an introduction to a broad spectrum of marine and non-marine microfossils with emphasis on palynology. We reviewed the use of microfossils in solving broad spectrum of problems. Case studies in forensic science, basic geology, oil exploration, archeology, paleoceanography, environmental studies, and agriculture were discussed in class and via student-lead conference. Climate change and other environmental micropaleontology projects conducted by CENEX graduate students were also presented in class. Patrick had the highest grade of all undergraduate students. He just completed his BS degree in Geology and is now pursuing a MS degree at CENEX, at LSU. He will be studying the palynological assemblage found in debris deposited by various West Antarctic ice sheets. He is now funded by a NSF CAREER grant to Dr. Sophie Warny, his advisor.

Trinity College Dublin, Ireland - Geoff Clayton & Robbie Goodhue

Our recipient is Alexander Dickson, a mature student originally from Zimbabwe. Alex achieved the highest combined mark for the theory paper and practical assessment in our final year module, ‘Organic petrology, palynology and palaeobotany’. He is hoping to register for a PhD, commencing next September.

University of Portsmouth, UK - Anthony Butcher

The recipient of the AAPS-TPS Undergraduate Award this year at the University of Portsmouth (UK) will be Mr. Cameron Henderson - a current second year student enrolled upon our BSc (Hons) Palaeontology degree course (which is now approaching its 20th anniversary).

We base the award upon the highest mark given for a practical-based report, which is focused upon a palynofacies analysis of Eocene strata from the south coast of England. The analyses requires the use of both light and electron microscopes, and utilises the palynomorphs to identify a transgressive-regressive cycle as well as incorporating a biostratigraphical element - Cameron scored the highest mark by quite a margin.
Congratulations to the winners of the 2016 Undergraduate Student Awards!

University of Tennessee - Knoxville, USA - Sally Horn

Caitlyn Quinton took Geography 530: Pollen and Other Microfossils in Quaternary Research, which focuses on pollen grains and other microfossils in Quaternary sediments as proxy indicators of past vegetation, climate, and disturbance regimes. I nominated her for the AASP-TPS undergraduate student award for her excellent work on lab assignments and class presentations, and her enthusiasm for the topic. She is now pursuing a Senior Honors Thesis in palynology, and looking ahead to graduate school.

University of Southampton, UK - Ian Harding

Nicholas Bradfield is the recipient of the AASP Undergraduate Award at the University of Southampton. Students eligible for the prize at Southampton must achieve the best mark for the palynology coursework in the Microfossils, Environments and Time module, which is a mock Petroleum Consultancy Exercise.

The micropaleontology students receive an incomplete dataset collected by a now defunct services company from a borehole drilled in an unknown part of the world, and using microfossil occurrences have to 1) Date the units penetrated; 2) Make some palaeoenvironmental interpretations of certain units; 3) Identify potential source rocks from palynofacies and thermal maturity data; 4) Identify reservoir; 5) Work out what odd structure is present in the lowermost part of the hole; 6) Work out the reasons for three spikes in the downhole thermal maturity data; and 7) Locate the borehole. Nick received the highest mark on this exercise in his class.
Undergraduate Student Awards

In order to support the teaching of palynology at the undergraduate level, and to encourage and reward student achievement, AASP-The Palynological Society offers the AASP Undergraduate Student Award.

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

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

A faculty member, who is a member in good standing of AASP, and who teaches an appropriate course, may nominate the course using the Registration Format found below. This should be cut-and pasted into a word document and sent to the awards committee chair at: mbfarley@sigmaxi.net. Upon approval by the Awards Committee, faculty teaching approved courses may nominate a student to receive the award at any time of the year on the basis of their qualifying criteria by sending the name, address, and email address of the recipient to the Awards Committee Chair. Additionally, faculty must send the name of the winner, a paragraph about their achievements, and a photograph to the newsletter editor (palynologylexington@gmail.com) for inclusion in the June newsletter each year.

Each award consists of one year’s free membership in the Society to include two issues of the Society’s publications, the journal Palynology and the quarterly newsletter, discounts on other AASP publications, discounted registration fees at Society meetings, and eligibility for Society awards.

AASP Undergraduate Student Award – Course Registration Form

Nominating faculty member:

University/Higher Education Institution:

Course Name:

Course Description and level:

Average number of students registered in the course annually:

Number of hours of palynological instruction:

Criteria used to determine the winning student:

Date:
Congratulations to the winners of the 2015 McNeilly Grant and Student Research Grants!

2015 McNeilly Grant for Research in Tropical Palynology: Ingrid C. Romero Valero, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, USA

I am interested in understanding the impact of the environment and climate changes on tropical biodiversity at diverse scales of time and space. I have been working with pollen from South America since 2006. During my undergrad and master in Colombia, I worked on two projects focused on the history of the vegetation and the effects of El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) in marshes from the Colombian Caribbean during the Holocene. After that experience, I worked in Chile analyzing pollen of arid zones from Los Vilos from the last 3,000 years. Then, I was a fellow at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, under the direction of Dr. Carlos Jaramillo, and I participated in palynological studies addressing questions related to the evolution of the vegetation during the Miocene in Northern South America. One of these projects, “Palynological analysis of the Llanos Basin, Eastern of Colombia, during the Miocene” was part of my master at Seton Hall University. At the present, I am a PhD student at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in the department of Plant Biology under the advice of Dr. Surangi Punyasena.

For my doctoral research, I am interested to study the evolution of the vegetation in Colombia, Northern South America, during the Late Miocene and Pliocene. The rapid uplift of the Andes during the late Miocene-Pliocene played a major role in the diversification of the modern Neotropical flora. However, it remains unclear how rates of speciation and extinction in Neotropical plants changed and how the composition of Neotropical plant communities was altered as a result. This project aims to analyze the pollen record of four sites across the Colombian Andes, including Aranzazu and Falan located in the Central Cordillera, Medina located in the Eastern Cordillera, and the Llanos basin. These sites are located in regions that experienced major geological and climatic alterations during the Late Miocene-Pliocene. I hypothesize that these changes in the dominant vegetation were in response to two main mechanisms: 1) the rapid uplift of the Andes, generated microclimates inside the mountains, modifying patterns of precipitation that altered the biomes, 2) the global cooling during this time period, promoted the expansion of open vegetation in the Neotropics. This study will contribute to the palynological knowledge of Colombia and tropical plant ecology by generating valuable information about the evolution of the modern Neotropical flora, shedding light on how plants responded and evolved to past environmental changes.

2015 AASP Research Grant Winners

Maximilien Genest, University of Victoria, Canada

Biography
I have always been driven by my desire to make the earth a better place and to ensure its survival for future generations. It is this drive that led me to get a B.Sc with Honours in Environmental Sciences from the University of Ottawa. My Honours thesis, under the supervision of Dr. Ian Clark, focused on porewater and dolomitization in a Paleozoic formation being considered to host a Deep Geologic Repository for storing low and intermediate level nuclear waste. Following my undergraduate degree I wanted to expose myself to a new area of research, however an area where I could also apply my knowledge of geochemistry. Marine palynology soon became an obvious choice as both can be integrated to foster a more robust understanding of environmental issues. I started my Master’s in September 2015 at the University of Victoria in the School of Earth and Ocean Sciences under the supervision of Dr. Vera Pospelova. My studies at the University of Victoria are partially funded by the Natural Science and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Alexander Graham Bell Canada Graduate Scholarship.
The impacts of the Exxon Valdez oil spill on phytoplankton in Prince William Sound (Alaska, USA): Evidence from dinoflagellate cyst and biogenic silica sedimentary records.

Much of the crude oil being exported out of Alaska is transported via the sea, putting the coastal communities of the region at a greater risk of oil spills. It is therefore crucial for these communities to properly assess the risk and have a response plan to deal with any potential spills. The first step in doing so is to understand the effects that such events have on the environment. However, our knowledge of how these spills affect the ecosystem is limited by the lack of scientific research that addresses the impact of oil spills on phytoplankton, which is the single most important group of organisms in the ocean. This first-of-its-kind research aims to identify how the two major groups of phytoplankton in coastal marine systems, dinoflagellates and diatoms, have been affected by the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill in Prince William Sound (PWS), Alaska. This study will aim to answer the following questions: What species and phytoplankton groups are stimulated or hindered by oil spills? How long do communities take to recover? In order to do this, sedimentary records of dinoflagellate cysts, as well as biogenic silica, a proxy for diatom biomass will be analyzed from well-dated cores. One of the main challenges when trying to assess the impact that oil spills have on phytoplankton is the lack of data prior to the spill. Because both dinoflagellate cysts and biogenic silica are preserved in the sediment this study will be able to determine both pre-spill populations as well as post spill rebound.

Alex Wheeler, University of Queensland, Australia

I completed my BSc at Rhodes University in the Eastern Cape Province in South Africa majoring in Zoology and Geology. My BSc Honours project involved a palynofacies study of a single borehole in the Witbank Coalfield in the Main Karoo Basin. This project was expanded to include a number of boreholes from both the Witbank and Highveld Coalfields for my MSc which I completed at the University of Pretoria under Prof. Annette Götz. My continued interest in Permian Gondwanan palynology has now given me the opportunity to move to the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia to start as a PhD candidate under Prof. Götz and Prof. Joan Esterle.

My research is focused on the Galilee Basin which has seen relatively little research compared to the neighbouring Bowen Basin. The coal deposits within these basins serve as significant archives of the climate and environment of Permo-Triassic Gondwana. As palynomorphs act as a proxy for vegetation patterns which are controlled by climate and environment, palynofacies analysis of samples taken throughout the Galilee Basin will be an invaluable tool in interpreting changes in the local palaeoenvironment and regional palaeoclimate. Of particular interest will be the changes in vegetation during the transition between glacial and interglacial periods. This will help in understanding the regional amelioration of Gondwana’s climate as it moved away from the South Pole during the Permian. A further use of the data gathered in this study is to catalogue palynomorphs to develop a palynostratigraphic framework of the Galilee Basin which will assist in interbasinal correlation with other basins in Australia and the greater Gondwana. This grant will be useful in covering costs of travelling to the Galilee Basin for sample collection as well as allowing us to afford materials to process a larger number of samples.
Inspired by grains encountered while counting a late Pliocene age sample from ODP Hole 642B from the Norwegian Sea. In this representative picture you can see *Filisphaera filifera* (left), a cyst of *Protoceratium reticulatum* and a small spiny acritarch (upper right), and *Pinus* (bottom right).

- Sina Panitz
Candidates for Office

President-elect: Gunn Mangerud

I decided to study palynology during my bachelor’s degree at the University in Trondheim, Norway and moved on to do a Triassic palynology master thesis on Barents Sea material at a time where the Arctic gained a lot of focus. Inspiring! I was lucky to get a job in the biostratigraphy Group at IKU, Trondheim in 1988 which led to that my next step was a doctorate on the Permian-earliest Triassic of the Norwegian Arctic. My supervisor Jorunn os Vigran and the biostratigraphy group I worked in during the first five years of my career at IKU were truly ground-breaking. In addition to my colleagues there, I got to collaborate with palynologists like John Utting, Gordon Wood, Stefan Piassecki and others, who were extremely inspiring and helpful through many years in my career. Another fundamental asset was the close Nordic ties within the field of palynology at the time, including week-long courses.

I moved on to the Norsk Hydro (NH) Research Centre, Bergen late in 1993 to join their biostratigraphy group. I had eleven fantastic years in NH working in various positions on various aspects of biostratigraphy, but also in exploration and production. My industry background includes experience in applying biostratigraphy in multidisciplinary teams, and ranges from exploration & basin development to reservoir modelling. It includes a.o. dating, correlation, developing new play models, evaluation of potential source rocks, high resolution reservoir zonations and developing strategies for biosteering of wells.

Between 2004 and 2009 I was out of the field of geology being the CEO for an agency con-cerned with Internationalization of Higher Education under auspices of the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research. Working in this important field, combined with a longing to go back to geosciences, led me to the University of Bergen in 2009 to take on a professorship in Biostratigraphy and head the Department of Earth Sciences. Although a tough and demanding combination it has worked out well, very much due to the fact that I have been lucky to attract independent, talented, extremely good post-doctoral researchers to my group (three up to now). In addition to the research projects, they have helped out in teaching and supervision of our students. We have worked on biostratigraphic research projects ranging from Carboniferous to Pliocene in age that have been on my mind for years! My current re-search focus has, however, narrowed down to applying various aspects of palynology and palynofacies in the Carboniferous and Triassic successions of the Norwegian Arctic; namely the Barents Sea/Svalbard area. I believe I have found my way back to where I started! However, the beauty of research is that we discover new challenging problems every day. And without doubt: there is still a lot to do!

I’m honored to be nominated as a candidate for President-elect. I am truly dedicated to promote the importance of palynology in various aspects to society. We therefor need a strong association, attracting members from all parts of the world as they start to study. A growing awareness for the need of our expertise should be on our minds. I therefore believe AASP can play a bigger role also outside our own community and there is still potential to bring palynology even more into multidisciplinary settings. This year’s meeting in Houston held jointly with other organizations is one example of how we should work.
Candidates for Office

Secretary: Stephen Stukins

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

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

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

I currently teach Applied Biostratigraphy on the Petroleum Geoscience M.Sc. courses at Royal Holloway University and Imperial College London. In the last few years I have also supervised several students from the University of Birmingham and Imperial College London who have used the former British Petroleum Collection or the John Williams Index of Palaeopalynology as sources of research material.

Treasurer: Rebecca Hackworth

Rebecca Hackworth is currently working within the Energy Technology Center as a biostratigrapher at Chevron Corporation based in Houston, Texas.

Rebecca received her B.S. degree in Geology (2001) from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge where she became introduced to foraminifera. This interest in foraminifera sent her to the cold midwest where she received her M.S. degree in Geology (2003) from the University of Wisconsin- Madison. Her research focused on the stable isotopic stratigraphy and foraminiferal biostratigraphy during the latest Miocene Stable Isotope event (~7.7 Ma). After completing M.S. degree, she embarked on a journey into the world of palynology, returning to Louisiana State University to start a Ph.D. with Dr. John Wrenn. John not only introduced her to palynology, but together they explored the fascinating world of silicious plant microfossils, phytoliths. In addition, working with John enabled her to become familiar with the extensive wealth of resources available
at the Center for Excellence in Palynology (CENEX). Her research involved a multidisciplinary approach (i.e. pollen, phytoliths, MS, and stable isotopes) to investigating the latest Holocene vegetational and hydrological changes documented at Catahoula Lake, Louisiana.

During her Ph.D. she interned as a palynomorph biostratigrapher at BP in 2008, where she received training and exposure to gulf coast Cenozoic and Mesozoic dinoflagellates, spores, and pollen. Upon completing her Ph.D. in 2009, under the advisement of Drs. Sophie Warny and Brooks Ellwood, she began her career at BP. She worked for British Petroleum for 5 years within the GoM exploration and production teams before accepting the position at Chevron in 2014.

Managing Editor: James Riding

James B. Riding is a palynologist with the British Geological Survey (BGS), based in Nottingham, UK, and specializing on the Mesozoic and Cenozoic. After studying geology at the University of Leicester, Jim persued an interest in palynology which developed as an undergraduate. This started with the famous MSc course in palynology at the University of Sheffield directed by Roger Neves and the late Charles Downie. He left Sheffield for BGS, which was then known as the Institute of Geological Sciences, joining the Palaeontological Department run by the legendary Carboniferous palaeontologist and geologist W.H.C. (Bill) Ramsbottom in the Northern England office, based in Leeds, West Yorkshire. Here, he worked closely with Ron Woollam on the Mesozoic palynology of onshore and offshore UK; much of the work in those days was on the North Sea. The Leeds office was closed, and Jim and colleagues relocated to the BGS headquarters at Keyworth, immediately south of Nottingham. He was awarded a PhD by the University of Sheffield for a thesis on the Jurassic dinoflagellate cyst floras of northern and eastern England. His current palynological interests are wide-ranging and include the Mesozoic-Cenozoic palynology of the world (especially Europe, Australasia, Antarctica, west Africa, the Americas, Russia and the Middle East), paleoenvironmental palynology, palynomorph floral provinces, forensic palynology, preparation techniques, the history of palynology and the morphology, systematics and taxonomy of dinoflagellate cysts. The British Antarctic Survey, a sister organisation to BGS, have used Jim as a consultant palynologist for many years, and he visited the Antarctic Peninsula for fieldwork during the Austral Summers of 1989 and 2006. The most recent field season was spent on Seymour Island. The European Union has recently funded two collaborative projects involving Jim on research into the Jurassic palynology of Russia and southern Europe. Jim undertook a one-year secondment in 1999-2000 to the Australian Geological Survey Organisation (now Geoscience Australia), Canberra, Australia where he worked on the taxonomy of Australian Jurassic dinoflagellate cysts with Robin Helby and Clinton Foster. The work emanating from this was published in 2001 as Memoir 24 of the Association of Australasian Palaeontologists. Jim was awarded a DSc by the University of Leicester in 2003. He served as a Director-at-Large of AASP between 1999 and 2001, was President in 2003, and became Managing Editor in 2004. He has previously served as Secretary and Treasurer of The Micropalaeontological Society (TMS). Jim is currently the Secretary-Treasurer of the International Federation of Palynological Societies (IFPS).
Director-at-Large: Niall W. Paterson

I began studying geology at the University of Glasgow in 2001, where I developed a keen interest in palaeontology, sedimentology and stratigraphy. My introduction to palynology came in 2005 when I moved to Ireland to begin my Ph.D. at Trinity College Dublin. Working under the supervision of Geoff Clayton, I began a palynostratigraphic and palynofacies investigation of the uppermost Devonian – lower Mississippian strata of the Appalachian Basin.

I moved to the U.S.A. upon the completion of my Ph.D. in 2009, accepting a position as a ‘Senior Petroleum Geologist/ Biostratigrapher’ with Exxon-Mobil Exploration. This role offered me the opportunity to greatly expand my experience as a palynologist. Through numerous exploration projects I gained expertise in both marine and terrestrial palynology over a wide stratigraphical and geographical range. This assignment also allowed me to work closely with experts in other micropalaeontological disciplines to produce integrated biostratigraphic and palaeoenvironmental interpretations.

Desiring a return to academic research, I accepted a postdoctoral position with Gunn Mangerud at the University of Bergen in 2013. The principal aim of this work was to devise a refined palynostratigraphic framework for the Middle – Upper Triassic succession of the Norwegian Arctic, working in collaboration with industry partners (Centrica, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Det Norske, Dong, ENI, Lundin, Shell and Statoil) and the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate. This project not only allowed me to maintain close links with industry but also to take an active role in the training of several palynology M.Sc. students. Upon the completion of my postdoctoral work in March 2016, I was awarded the position of ‘Researcher in pre-Quaternary palynology’. Beyond my primary research interest of Boreal Triassic palynostratigraphy, I am increasingly drawn towards the study of Mesozoic palynomorphs as palaeoecological and palaeoclimatological indicators.

I have been an active member of the AASP – TPS since 2006 and have been nominated for the role of Director-at-Large twice previously, first in 2012 and again in 2015. It is therefore a great honour to be nominated for a third occasion this year. If elected I would truly welcome the opportunity to serve the society and to work closely with the other members’ of the board.

Director-at-Large: Annette E. Götz

Annette received her MSc and PhD in carbonate sedimentology and micropalaeontology from Technische Universität Darmstadt, Germany. She continued her research on the application of palynofacies to sequence stratigraphy of Mesozoic carbonate systems as a PostDoc at TU Darmstadt and as an Assistant Professor at Halle University, Germany. Her interest in energy resources led to the initiation of projects in the field of geothermal energy, oil, gas, and coal. She left Germany in 2011 and worked as an Associate Professor in Sedimentology and Palaeontology at Rhodes University, South Africa and then became head of the Geology Department at the University of Pretoria as Full Professor of Sedimentology and Energy Resources. Since 2015, she holds a position as Chair of Geology at Keele University, UK continuing her research in energy resources with a team of postgrad students and visiting researchers. Her main research interest is late Palaeozoic and Mesozoic palynology with a focus on palaeoenvironment and palaeoclimate reconstruction.
Candidates for Office

Student Director-at-Large: Vera Korasidis

I completed my Bachelor of Science (Degree with Honours), majoring in Geology, at the University of Melbourne in 2014. The major findings of my thesis, ‘New insights into Australia’s early angiosperm record based on the palynology of upper Eumeralla coastal sites of the Otway Basin, Victoria’ has recently been published in Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology. During my undergraduate degree I completed vacation work for the Australian oil and gas company Santos Ltd. In 2013 I used sequence stratigraphy and maceral contents to separate coal seams within stratigraphic groups, enabling the production of net coal, depth (mGL) and total coal seam gas prediction maps (m/tonne). In 2014 my project at Santos Ltd. involved creating log signature maps for economically significant intervals. The result was a detailed channel distribution study that could be used to predict the location of channel sands, and consequently unconventional gas reservoirs. In 2015, I commenced my PhD at the University of Melbourne. My PhD research involves using palynology and sedimentology to reconstruct past vegetation assemblages, the palaeoenvironment and the palaeoclimate of the Latrobe Valley brown coals in the Gippsland Basin, Australia during the Oligocene-Miocene and to improve the Oligocene-Miocene biostratigraphy established for southeastern Australia. While undertaking my PhD I am working as a demonstrator in the School of Earth Sciences at the University of Melbourne. I enjoy teaching scientific practicals, assisting university staff with teaching during practicals and on geological field trips and imparting knowledge to undergraduate students. Being elected as the AASP Student Director-at-Large would be a huge honor and a fantastic opportunity to promote palynology to students all over the world.

Student Director-at-Large: Manuel Paez-Reyes

For me it is a great honor to be nominated for student director-at-large of AASP-The Palynological Society. My story in the world of palynology, started during my years as a senior undergraduate student at Universidad Nacional de Colombia in Colombia. I was originally introduced to palynology by Carlos Jaramillo, and in his lab I conducted research on upper Cretaceous dinoflagellate cyst from Colombia aiming to identify the response of these organisms to past climatic changes. After my graduation, I started a new project on Neogene palynology from the Bahamas Platform under Martin Head’s supervision at Brock University, Canada. While in Canada I reinforced the idea that marine palynology was what I wanted to do as a career. It was in Canada as well that I joined for the first time what it was at the time AASP (The American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists), and in 2007 for the first time ever, I attended the annual meeting held in Panama City. When I first arrived to the conference room, the experience was unbelievable, among other names I recalled Alfred Traverse sitting next to me and Doug Nichols presenting a delightful conference on the K/Pg boundary! After this meeting many more AASP annual meetings came for me –some of them partially funded by AASP-The Palynological Society!- and I can assure that all of them have been special at some extent. Afterwards, I moved to Panama for a 3 years internship to do research again under Carlos Jaramillo and again on Cretaceous palynology from northwestern South America! This time however, I was forced to learn Cretaceous pollen and spores. Then, in a search for new opportunities, I moved back to Colombia where I held a new position as senior biostratigrapher at the Instituto Colombiano del Petróleo-ECOPETROL for two and half years. Finally and after a rewarding and grateful experience in the oil industry I reinvented my career and moved to the University of Houston in 2015 to pursue a PhD. My project focuses on marine palynology and isotope geochemistry of the Cretaceous oceanic anoxic events 2 and 3. In terms of how I expect to contribute to the society I can summarize it in one sentence: I would like to bridge the existing gap between the “grey-headed palynologists” and the “new generations of palynologists,” certainly a must if we want to survive as an organization and a labor force. Gracias!
Student Director-at-Large: Ingrid C. Romero Valero

I am a doctoral student at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, United States. I have been interested in palynology since 2005, when I started learning about palynology and paleoecology with Dr. Juan Carlos Berrio. In 2007, I did my undergrad thesis followed by a master studies at Universidad Nacional, in Colombia, both under the advice of Dr. Orlando Rangel. The projects developed there were focused on the history of the vegetation during the last 3,000 years and the effects of El Nino-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) in marshes of the Colombian Caribbean. During my master, I had the opportunity to collaborate with other projects conducted in the Amazon and Cauca valley regions to address paleoecological and archeologic questions related to the pre-Colombian cultures and their anthropogenic influence over the biota. In 2010, I worked in Chile with Dr. Antonio Maldonado, at Center for Advanced Studies in Arid Zones, analyzing pollen from swamp forests located in the semi-arid zones of Los Vilos region.

From November 2010 until August 2015, I was a fellow at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, in Panama. Under the direction of Dr. Carlos Jaramillo, I participated in palynological studies addressing questions related to the evolution of the vegetation during the Miocene in Northern South America. One of these projects, “Palynological analysis of the Llanos Basin, Eastern of Colombia, during the Miocene” was part of my second master in Biology at Seton Hall University under the direction of Drs. Michael Zavada and Carlos Jaramillo.

Last fall, I started my PhD under the advice of Dr. Surangi Punyasena. The main aim of my current project is to understand how rates of speciation and extinction in Neotropical plants changed, and how the composition of plant communities was altered as a result of the rapid Andean uplift and the global climate cooling during the Late Miocene and Pliocene. I am interested in using two high-resolution microscopy techniques, the Airyscan and superresolution structured illumination microscopy, that allow for better taxonomic classification of pollen based on the nanometric details on morphological features. I recently received the AASP McNeilly Research Grant, the Dorothea S. and Norman E. Whitten Endowment Fund, the Lebus Award and the Alice B Hayes Research award. My goal is to use these grants to develop part of this research during the summer.

I have been member of AASP since 2013 and I am honored to be nominated as AASP-TPS Student Director-at-Large. I look forward to contribute to the success of AASP.

Election Reminders

The election will open 15 July 2016.

If you do not recieve an email via SURVEYMONKEY to vote by 17 July 2016, please contact President-elect Iain Prince (lain.Prince@shell.com) for an alternate link or a paper ballot.

The election will close on 15 August 2016.

Newly elected officials will take office at the incoming board meeting on 23 September 2016.

This election cycle you will be voting for president-elect, secretary, treasurer, managing editor, (1) director-at-large, and (1) student director-at-large.
AASP FOUNDATION CENTURY CLUB

What?
The Century Club of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists Foundation is an organization founded by the Trustees of the Foundation in order to provide persons with the opportunity to support activities of the AASP Foundation.

Why?
1. To develop an established level of giving that will continue to provide a solid financial base for the Foundation.
2. To provide unrestricted funds to support the various publishing activities of the Foundation.
3. To provide a meaningful organization and method of recognition of dedicated "friends" of the AASP Foundation.

How?
Your tax-deductible contribution of $100 or more to the AASP Foundation entitles you to belong to the Century Club. The 2016 "membership" drive is on now. Your contribution may be made by personal check or by a pledge which is payable on or before December 31, 2016.

Join!
To join the Century Club, simply complete the attached Contribution/Pledge Form and mail to the address listed below.

The AASP Foundation is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit, public organization registered in the United States. This means that contributions to the AASP Foundation are fully deductible on your U.S. Federal Income Tax return. Also, many employers have a matching gift program whereby they match your personal gift to not-for-profit organizations. It is well worth the effort to explore this possibility concerning your gift to the AASP Foundation.

2016 AASP Foundation Century Club Contribution Form

Name: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
__________________________________________________
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Contribution Enclosed: $__________________________ I wish to pledge: $__________________________

Mail to: Robert T. Clarke, Treas.
AASP Foundation
3011 Friendswood Dr.
Arlington, TX 76013-2033
THE 50TH ANNUAL MEETING OF AASP – THE PALYNOLOGICAL SOCIETY
~THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY MEETING~
HELD JOINTLY WITH CIMP AND THE MICROPALAEONTOLOGICAL
SOCIETY PALYNOLOGY GROUP
NOTTINGHAM, UK – 3rd–7th SEPTEMBER 2017

Convenors:
James B. Riding (BGS)
Jan A.I. Hennissen (BGS)
Maria Wilson (BGS)
Matthew J. Pound (Northumbria University, representing TMS)
Reed Wicander (CMU, Mount Pleasant, USA, representing CIMP)

First Circular

The 50th annual meeting of AASP – The Palynological Society will be held at the British Geological Survey (BGS), Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5GG between the 3rd and 7th of September 2017. This will be the seventh time our yearly meeting has been held in Europe, and only the third occasion it has been in the UK. This conference is to be held jointly with CIMP and The Micropalaeontological Society (TMS) Palynology Group. The team of convenors look forward to welcoming you to the headquarters of BGS for this three-day meeting with the opportunity to participate in two one-day field trips to widely geologically contrasting areas of the East Midlands of England. We hope to make this annual meeting extra special because it is the 50th such event! This announcement is the first one, and the convenors will begin planning in earnest during early 2016. The basic plan is detailed below; the fine details will be fleshed out during the months to come. We intend to offer participants a designated conference hotel in central Nottingham. Other accommodation, of course, will be in plentiful supply. BGS HQ is located at Keyworth which is ca. 7 km south of downtown so we will run a return bus service each day so that delegates can travel easily between the conference hotel and the BGS office. Other public transport solutions are also available! Morning tea, lunch and afternoon coffee will be all included in the registration package.

Delegates have the opportunity of going on a one-day pre-conference field excursion to the stunning Peak District of Derbyshire to examine Carboniferous carbonate and siliciclastic sedimentary rocks on Sunday 3rd September. The icebreaker will be held on that evening. We intend to hold the now-traditional AASP-TPS business evening at a suitable venue in central Nottingham on Monday 4th September. The conference dinner will be on Tuesday 5th September, and we hope to book the Long Room at the legendary Trent Bridge cricket ground immediately south of downtown Nottingham. Trent Bridge is widely held to be the most beautiful of all our cricket stadia, and has witnessed many famous tussles between England and our distinguished pantheon of cricketing adversaries from around the world.

No specific social event is (at this stage) planned for the evening of Wednesday 6th September, which is when the conference proper closes. There will be a post-conference field trip to Bradgate Park in Leicestershire on Thursday 7th September where you will have the opportunity to hunt for (but not collect!) Ediacaran fossils. You will see the site where the very first representative of this world famous biota was discovered in the early 1960s.
Please put September 3rd–7th September 2017 in your calendars for AASP 2017. Subsequent circulars will provide details of the conference hotel, registration, scientific programme etc. If you would like to offer any workshops, offer sponsorship etc., please get in touch.

We hope to welcome you to Keyworth for the golden anniversary meeting in 2017!

Jim Riding (on behalf of the organising committee)

**Conference plan:**
- Saturday 2nd September 2017 – arrival in the Nottingham area
- Sunday 3rd September 2017 – pre-conference field trip to the Peak District of Derbyshire (Carboniferous sedimentary and igneous) rocks/arrival/icebreaker at the conference hotel
- Monday 4th September 2017 – Day 1 of conference – evening activity = AASP-TPS informal business evening; venue to be decided
- Tuesday 5th September 2017 – Day 2 of conference – evening activity = conference dinner (planned to be) at Trent Bridge Cricket Ground possibly with guest speaker(s)
- Wednesday 6th September 2017 – Day 3 of conference followed by a free evening in Nottingham’s glittering downtown area
- Thursday 7th September 2017 - post-conference fieldtrip to Bradgate Park, Charnwood Forest, Leicestershire [Precambrian metasediments, Ediacaran fossils, and some younger rocks]/departure
- Friday 8th September 2017 - departure
Dino11 FIRST CIRCULAR

11th INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MODERN AND FOSSIL DINOFLAGELLATES

17 to 21 July 2017, Bordeaux (France)


E-mail: dino11@mail.epoc.u-bordeaux1.fr
Organization Committee

Local organization (Laboratoire EPOC, Université de Bordeaux, http://www.epoc.u-bordeaux.fr):
Frédérique Eynaud, Laurent Londeix (paleoclimatology team/biostatigraphy and paleobiodiversity), Yolanda Del Amo (Ecology and Biogeochemistry of Coastal Systems), with assistance from Marie-Hélène Castera, Linda Rossignol and Ludovic Devaux
Honorary president: Jean-Louis Turon

French partners:
– Nicolas Chomerat (IFREMER, Station de Biologie Marine de Concarneau, BP 40537, F-29185 Concarneau Cedex)
– Mohamed Laabir (Center for Marine Biodiversity, Exploitation and Conservation (MARBEC), Université de Montpellier, 34095 Montpellier Cedex 5)
– Rodolphe Lemée (Observatoire Océanologique de Villefranche sur mer, Université Pierre et Marie Curie, Laboratoire d’Océanographie de Villefranche, CNRS UMR 7093 -BP 28, 06234 Villefranche-sur-mer)
– Edwige Masure (UMR CNRS/MNHN/UPMC 7207 Centre de recherche sur la paléobiodiversité et les paléoenvironnements, Université Pierre et Marie Curie)
– Kenneth Neil Mertens (IFREMER, Station de Biologie Marine de Concarneau, BP 40537, F-29185 Concarneau Cedex)
– Daniel Michoux (Centre Scientifique et Technique Jean-Féger, TOTAL, Pau)
– Aurélie Penaud (Laboratoire Domaines Océaniques (LOD), IUEM, Place Nicolas Copernic, Technopôle Brest-Iroise, Université de Bretagne Occidentale, 29280 Plouzané)
– Thomas Servais (UMR 8198 Evo-Eco-Paleo, Université de Lille)
– Raffaele Siano (IFREMER - Centre de BREST - Dyneco-Pelagos BP70 CS29280 Plouzané)
Six sessions are planned equally for Modern dinoflagellate and Fossil dinoflagellate themes (see below).
Sessions will be led by scientific committee teams gathering members from the local organization, French partners and international specialists.

1. MODERN DINOFLAGELLATES

1.1. Biodiversity and systematics
SC: Lemée Rodolphe & Raffaele Siano (from the organization committee)
Mona Hoppenrath (German Centre for Marine Biodiversity Research, Wilhelmshaven, Germany)
Jane Lewis (School of Life Sciences, University of Westminster, UK)
Antonella Penna (Lab. of Environmental Biology, University of Urbino, Italy)

1.2. Dinoflagellate life cycles and nutritional strategies
SC: Don Anderson (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, MA, USA)
Charles Delwiche (Department of Biology, University of Maryland, USA)

1.3. Dinoflagellate ecology
SC: Yolanda del Amo (from the organization committee)
Elisa Berdalet (Institut de Ciències del Mar (CSIC) de Barcelona, Spain)
Kazumi Matsuoka (Institute for East China Sea Research, Nagasaki University, Japan)
Don Anderson (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Woods Hole, MA, USA)
Sofia Ribeiro (Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland – GEUS, Denmark)

1.4. Toxic dinoflagellates: from cells to cysts
SC: Mohamed Laabir (from the organization committee)
Marianne Elleegaard (Department of Biology, University of Copenhagen, Denmark)
Kazumi Matsuoka (Institute for East China Sea Research, Nagasaki University, Japan)
André Rochon (Institut des sciences de la mer de Rimouski - ISMER, Université du Québec à Rimouski, Canada)

1.5. Marine to freshwater transition and gradient in the dino world
SC: Martin J. Head (Department of Earth Sciences, Brock University, Canada),
Susan Carty (Heidelberg University in Tiffin, Ohio, USA)

1.6. From theca to cyst: modern dinoflagellates as a sedimentary component
SC: Kenneth Neil Mertens (from the organization committee)
Vera Pospelova (School of Earth and Ocean Sciences, University of Victoria, Canada)

2. FOSSIL DINOFLAGELLATES

2.1 Neogene to modern dinocysts in palaeoceanographic studies
SC: Aurélie Penaud (from the organization committee)
Stijn De Schepper (Uni Research Climate and Bjerknes Centre for Climate Research, Bergen, Norway)
Fabienne Marret-Davies (School of Environmental Sciences, University of Liverpool, UK)
2.2. Mesozoic and Cenozoic dinocyst stratigraphies  
SC: Edwige Masure & Daniel Michoux (from the organization committee)  
James B. Riding (British Geological Survey, Keyworth, UK)

2.3. Phanerozoic and deep time scales  
SC: Thomas Servais (from the organization committee)  
Jörg Pross (Paleoenvironmental Dynamics Group, Institute of Earth Sciences, Heidelberg University, Germany)  
Appy Sluijs (Marine Palynology and Paleoceanography, Laboratory of Palaeobotany and Palynology, Dept. of Earth Sciences, Faculty Geosciences, Utrecht University, Netherlands)

2.4. Dinocyst systematics  
SC: Martin J. Head (Department of Earth Sciences, Brock University, Canada)  
Marianne Ellegaard (Department of Biology, University of Copenhagen, Denmark)

2.5. Dinocyst chemistry and preservation / carbon cycles  
SC: Gerard Versteegh (Alfred Wegener Institute, Bremerhaven, Germany; MARUM, Bremen University, Germany)  
Kara Bogus (International Ocean Discovery Program, Texas A&M University, USA)  
Stephen Louwye (Ghent University, Belgium)

2.6. Integrated studies derived from dinos: recent past to modern scales  
SC: Anne de Vernal, (GEOTOP, Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada)  
Marit-Solveig Seidenkrantz (Aarhus University, Denmark)  
Karin Zonneveld (Department of Historical Geology/Palaeontology, University of Bremen/MARUM, Germany)

Additional workshops will be organized in parallel to the meeting: any proposals are welcome (send an e-mail to dino11@mail.epoc.u-bordeaux1.fr)
The next Joint Meeting will be held in Florence (Italy) from 15th to 16th September 2016 and is entitled "Silicofossil and Palynology Joint Meeting for Advanced Research in Biostratigraphy, Palaeoceanography and Palaeoclimatology". The first day of the conference will be dedicated to silicofossils (radiolarians, diatoms, silicoflagellates, sponges etc.) and the second day to palynomorphs (dinoflagellate cysts, pollen, spores, etc.). The main purpose of the conference is to bring together micropalaeontologists, biologists, sedimentary geochemists and ecologists to analyse and discuss the role of each group in the different research fields.

The meeting will consist of sessions for oral and poster presentations and will take place at the Villa Ruspoli, Florence.

VENUE
The conference venue is at the Villa Ruspoli of the University of Florence located in “Piazza della Indipendenza 9, Florence” (Indipendenza Square) in the center of the city, about 800 m from "Piazza del Duomo" (Cathedral Square) and 600 m from the Santa Maria Novella Train Station.

The Villa is one of the conference facilities of the University of Florence, and within the conference location, we will utilise three principal rooms: "Sala Rossa" (Red Room), Sala Camino (Fireplace Room) and Sala Colonne (Columns Room).
TRAVEL GRANTS

At the end of the meeting two Travel Grants of 300 Euro for students younger than 30 years old will be awarded. The first grant will be for the best oral presentation or poster regarding Silicofossil research, and is offered by "The Micropaleontological Society". The second grant will be for the best oral presentation or poster in Palynology research and is sponsored by AIQUA (Italian Association for Quaternary Research).

REGISTRATION AND ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The Registration and Abstract submission deadline is 20th July 2016. Registration after 20th July will include a small surcharge.

Please send the Registration Form and Abstracts to silicopaly2016@gmail.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference fees</th>
<th>Registration before 20\textsuperscript{th} July</th>
<th>Registration after 20\textsuperscript{th} July</th>
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<tr>
<td>TMS member - Regular</td>
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<td>TMS non-member - Regular</td>
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<tr>
<td>TMS non-member - Student</td>
<td>40 €</td>
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Oral presentations will be held in the "Sala Rossa", with available time for each presenter set at 20 minutes (with 3-5 minutes of discussion included).

The posters will be displayed in the Sala Camino and in the Sala Colonne for the duration of the conference. Maximum size of the posters is A0.

Conference fees include: conference bag, abstract book, note paper, pen, pencil, tea and coffee breaks.

The Conference dinner will be held on Thursday 15\textsuperscript{th} September, the price is 42 Euro. Note that the seat places at the dinner are limited to 80 people.

For the payment of the conference fees and the dinner utilise the TMS website http://www.tmsoc.org/silico-paly-2016/

**HOW TO GET TO FLORENCE BY AIR**

The center of Florence can be easily reached from the Amerigo Vespucci airport (Florence airport) using the "Vola in Bus" bus shuttle. The journey time is about 20 minutes, or slightly longer if there is heavy traffic. The airport is 5 km from the city center. For more information, visit the airport website at: http://www.aeroporto.firenze.it/en/.

Otherwise, the Florence city center can easily reached in one hour by bus shuttles and trains from the other nearby airports such as Pisa airport (Galileo Galilei airport, about 80 km from Florence) or Bologna airport (Guglielmo Marconi airport, about 100 km from Florence).
Other international airports are in Roma (Fiumicino and Ciampino airports) and in Milano (Linate and Malpensa airports), about 300 km from Florence (about 2.5 hours by train).

**ACCOMODATION**

You can easily make your hotel reservation with Booking, Expedia, or Trivago websites. Please make your reservation as soon as possible, because September is one of the best months to visit Florence and there is a high demand for hotel accommodations. This is a selection of Hotels in the Florence city centre close to the conference venue. The price per night (with breakfast) or the discount indicated are for the participants of the meeting. Please directly contact the hotel via email indicating the Title of the meeting.

Plus Hostel Florence**, via Santa Caterina D'Alessandria 15 (info@plusflorence.com) - discount 10% price with free cancelation (check Booking, Expedia, or Trivago websites).
Soggiorno Laura**, via Camillo Cavour 102 (info@soggiornolaura.com) - single room 65 €, double room 90 €.
Hotel Panorama***, via Cavour 60 (info@hotelpanorama.fi.it) - single room 73 €, double room 92 €.
Hotel Botticelli***, Via Taddea 8 (info@hotelbotticelli.it) - single room 110 €, double room 150 €.
Hotel Porta Faenza***, via Faenza 77 (info@hotelportafaenza.it) - single room 120 €, double room 140 €.
Hotel Ginori al Duomo****, via de' Ginori 24 (info@hotelginorialduomo.com) - single or double room 219 €.

**ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

Organising committee: Marco Chiari, Claire Allen (TMS, Silicofossil Group); Manuel Vieira, Matthew Pound (TMS, Palynology Group) and Adele Bertini (Department of Earth Sciences, Florence).

For further informations on the meeting please contact Marco Chiari (marco.chiari@unifi.it)
SPONSORS

The Micropaleontological Society

Beta Analytic Ltd.

Italian Association of Quaternary Research

CNR - Institute of Geosciences and Earth Resources, Florence

University of Florence
Italian Paleontological Society
Every four years the world community of palynologists and palaeobotanists are gathered to discuss the latest advances in their researches, and exchange technical developments. Hence, the meeting of these two communities will take place in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil. This will be the first time that both the XIV International Palynological Congress (IPC) and the X International Organisation of Palaeobotany Conference (IOPC) will gather together in a joint congress in the southern hemisphere. The joint event will be on 23-28 October 2016. It will be an excellent opportunity for Brazil, a country rich in plant fossil sites and boasts a highly diverse flora in the world, to host the leading experts in various disciplines and promote scientific innovations.

VENUE

Founded in 1549 by Portuguese navigators, Salvador is now the third largest city in Brazil, famous for its Carnival and its afro-Brazilian culture. Salvador is also the biggest black city out of Africa. It is rich in historical sites, which includes it to the UNESCO World Heritage List, especially the “Baía de Todos os Santos”.

The Elevator Lacerda was the first urban elevator in the world. It was built to connect two cities that existed (and exist) within the city of Salvador: the Lower Town and the Upper Town. Its choice is a reference to the theme of the event “Palaeobotany and Palynology: towards new frontiers” that is allusive to the role of Paleobotany and Palynology at the interface with new areas of knowledge. In addition, it is also a way to mark the presence of the two events together in a new land: Salvador, which has the Elevator Lacerda one of its main symbols.

The venue is situated in the beautiful beach of Salvador, and offers exceptional transport links by bus, which takes you to the city centre in just 15 minutes.

The congress sessions will be held in: Bahia Othon Palace
Av. Oceânica, 2294 – Ondina | Salvador - BA, 40170-010.
Phone: + 55 71 2103-7100

SYMPOSIAS

A great diversity of palaeobotanical and palynological topics will be presented in symposia and poster sessions at the congress. The Organizing committee will accept symposium proposal (up to 31 October 2015), and after evaluation of Scientific Committee, the selected symposia will be presented for subscriptions. Fill in the form attached for proposing a symposium. Besides symposia, some general sections will be scheduled on many areas of Palaeobotany and Palynology (Morphology, Technique, Taxonomy, Applied Subjects and others).
PROPOSED SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Timetable</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
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<td>08:30 to 10:30</td>
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<td>10:30 to 11:00</td>
<td>Pre-Congress Courses</td>
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<td>13:00 to 14:30</td>
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<td>14:30 to 16:30</td>
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<td>16:30 to 17:00</td>
<td>Pre-Congress Courses</td>
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<td>17:00 to 19:00</td>
<td>XIV IPC XIOPC Opening Ceremony</td>
<td>Oral and poster presentations</td>
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<td>Oral and poster presentations</td>
<td>XIV IPC XIOPC Opening Ceremony</td>
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<td>Cultural activities</td>
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FIELD TRIPS (POST CONGRESS):

- Baía de Todos os Santos (Bahia State) – one day
- Chapada Diamantina (Bahia State) – four days
- Chapada do Araripe (Bahia State) - five days
- Natural Monument of the fossilized Tocantins trees (Bielândia / Filadélfia, Tocantins State) – five days
**REGISTRATION FEES**

The registration fee includes:
- Access to all congress sessions and the exhibition areas.
- Ice Breaker (Welcome reception).
- Congress documentation and abstracts volume.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Periods</th>
<th>Professional</th>
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<tr>
<td>Up to DEC.2015</td>
<td>R$ 600,00</td>
<td>R$ 450,00</td>
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<tr>
<td>JAN-MAR.2016</td>
<td>R$ 800,00</td>
<td>R$ 550,00</td>
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<tr>
<td>APR-SEP.2016</td>
<td>R$ 1,000,00</td>
<td>R$ 650,00</td>
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<tr>
<td>OCT.2016</td>
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<td>R$ 750,00</td>
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</table>

Course fee – R$ 100,00

*Students must be enrolled in an educational (or scientific) institution (Please send an official proof of student status by email: inscricoes@gt5.com.br)

The Congress fee is mandatory for all attendees including speakers, presenters (oral and poster) and those chairing or attending a session.

There will be grants from IFPS and IOP for those professionals and student who will attend the congress. As soon as possible rules and directions will be released.

**COMMITTEES**

**ORGANIZING COMMITTEE**
- Francisco de Assis Ribeiro dos Santos, UEFS, President
- Cláudia Elena Carneiro, UEFS
- Francisco Hilder Magalhães e Silva, UNEB
- Jailson Santos de Novais, UFSB
- Luciene Cristina Lima e Lima, UNEB
- Marileide Dias Saba, UNEB
- Paulino Pereira Oliveira, UEFS
- Ricardo Landim Bormann de Borges, UNEB
- Rita de Cássia Matos dos Santos Aratijó, UNEB

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**
- Luciene Cristina Lima e Lima, UNEB, Coordinator
- Luciano Maurício Esteves, IB/SP
- Paulo Eduardo de Oliveira, USP
- Roberto Ianuzzi, UFRGS
- Tânia Lindner Dutra, UNISINOS
- Vânia Gonçalves Lourenço Esteves, UFRJ/MN

**ORGANIZERS**

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UEFS

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UNEBA

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UFSB

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URCA

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

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anapaulacarvalho@gt5.com.br
www.gt5.com.br
Centenary (1916-2016) of Pollen Analysis and the Legacy of Lennart von Post

A two-day symposium to celebrate 100 years since the first pollen diagram was presented by Lennart von Post and to examine his legacy of the science of pollen analysis and vegetation history.

Three themes

PAST – Lennart von Post and pollen analysis
PRESENT – current developments and research
FUTURE – visions for the future

Lectures from 25 scholars who have played important roles in the development of pollen analysis as a tool for the reconstruction and understanding of past climate, vegetation, landscapes, and diversity and the use of this knowledge to address current and future ecological questions.

When: **24-25 November 2016**
Where: The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Stockholm

To pre-register contact: marie-jose.gaillard-lemdahl@lnu.se before July 31st 2016
Key-note talks

Past:
• Björn E Berglund (Lund, Sweden): Lennart von Post and Scandinavian palynology into the mid-20th century
• H John B Birks (Bergen, Norway and London, UK): Lennart von Post and palynology since the 1960s
• Kevin J Edwards (Aberdeen, UK): Lennart von Post, palyno-historiography and continuity

Present:
• Steve Jackson (Tucson, USA): The pollen record as a long-term ecological observatory
• Kathy Willis (Oxford and Kew, UK): biodiversity and conservation biology
• Anne-Marie Lézine (Paris, France): A Mid-Holocene ecological crisis in western Africa
• Henry Hoogheimstra (Amsterdam, The Netherlands): Palynology and research in Latin America

Future:
Round-table discussion on the future of pollen analysis (chair: Henry Hoogheimstra)

Introduction by Ralph Fyfe (Plymouth, UK), Lindsay Gillson (Cape Town, South Africa), Steve Jackson (Tucson, USA), Anupama Krishnamurthy (Pondicherry, India), Anne-Marie Lézine (Paris, France), and Matts Lindbladh (Alnarp, Sweden)

Capacity for 175 participants in addition to the 25 speakers
Contact marie-jose.gaillard-lemdahl@lnu.se to register your interest
The Natural History Museum, London is offering a one week course in Quaternary Palaeoecology, funded by NERC (w/c 23rd Jan 2017). This training initiative targets NERC-funded PhD students and early-career environmental science researchers who wish to acquire or enhance their understanding of Quaternary palaeoecology in addition to improving their taxonomic expertise.

Summary: A suite of biological groups will be reviewed during the five day short course, covering beetles, chironomids, diatoms, pollen, and vertebrates. Each day will be dedicated to a different group, with morning lectures focussing on the review of taxonomy, the use of biological evidence as proxy indicators, the role these organisms played in Quaternary communities and how they were affected by past climate change. The afternoon sessions will be dedicated to the provision of bespoke laboratory and desk-based activities, with the students being introduced to relevant NHM reference collections and learning the basic taxonomic skills required to differentiate between taxa.

Venue & duration: The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, South Kensington, London

Eligibility: The course is available to all environmental science students, postgraduate researchers and early-career scientists. Priority will however be given to those with NERC funding or whose PhD award was NERC funded. There is a maximum of 12 places available. All course costs, UK travel and accommodation costs are covered. Lunch and light refreshments will also be provided.

How to apply: please download the application form provided and return by the CLOSING DATE: 25th November 2016.

For further information please contact: Tom Hill (Thomas.Hill@nhm.ac.uk)
CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT:

Geologic Problem Solving with Microfossils IV

proceeds designated for the Garry Jones and Brian O’Neill Memorial Fund for NAMS Student Research and an SEPM Foundation Fund

APRIL 5-9, 2017

The Whitehall Houston Hotel (formerly the Crowne Plaza - Downtown)
Houston, TX - USA

Organized by NAMS/SEPM (North American Micropaleontology Section) with support from the Society for Sedimentary Geology (SEPM)