

PALYNOS

Volume 27, n°2 - December 2004

NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PALYNOLOGICAL SOCIETIES

IFPS NEW OFFICERS

THOMAS LITT (PRESIDENT)

Thomas Litt is Professor of Palaeobotany at the Palaeontological Institute, University of Bonn, Germany. He was born in 1957. He studied prehistory, geology and botany at the University of Halle, and received a doctoral degree in geology from the University of Greifswald in 1987. Thomas was assistant at the Museum of Prehistory in Halle, before he served as a post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Geology of the University of Halle (1990-1993). He received the Habilitation (venia legendi) in geology from the same university. He was senior assistant at the Institute of Geophysics and Geology, University of Leipzig (1993-1994), before moving to Bonn.

Thomas teaches courses in palaeobotany and palynology, historical geology, Quaternary geology and palaeoclimatology. His research interests include the vegetation history of the Cenozoic (Pliocene and Pleistocene), based on pollen and plant macrofossils, and the stratigraphy, palaeoecology and palaeoclimate of the Quaternary. He has been involved in several national and international research programs dealing with annually laminated lacustrine sediments (Eifel Maar region Germany; Dead Sea, Israel; Lake Van, Turkey).

Thomas is chairman of the German Subcommission on Quaternary Stratigraphy and a voting member of the Subcommission on Quaternary Stratigraphy of the IUGS. In addition,

he is the new leader of the PAGES-PEP III Transect.



Thomas aims to do his best to increase the scientific role of the IFPS. This includes a better linkage to other international scientific programs, networks and organizations, such as the International Geosphere Biosphere Program – Past Global Changes (IGBP-PAGES) and the International Geological Correlation Program (IGCP). There are several activities and programs in which palynology is already involved, or should play an important role. It is extremely important to demonstrate the scientific potential of palynology. In this respect, the XIth Palynological Congress in Granada was very stimulating and fruitful, demonstrating that palynology is scientifically very strong when

interacting with other disciplines such as ecology, evolutionary biology, genetics, geosciences and stratigraphy, oceanography, climatology, archaeology and medicine.

Thomas will link his presidency with organization of the next IPC Congress in Bonn, Germany (2008). He is delighted that this invitation was unanimously accepted by the IFPS councilors in Granada. His intention is to team up with the palaeobotanists again, because it was a pity that the old and valuable tradition of a linkage between IPC and IOPC was interrupted. Thomas considers it important to revive better communication between both international societies. In many countries palaeobotany and palynology are under extreme pressure, and we need a critical mass to survive. Many of us are both palaeobotanists and palynologists. Therefore, Thomas' proposal is to unite the two Congresses (IPC and IOPC) in Bonn, in 2008. At the last palaeobotanical congress in Bariloche (Argentina 2004) our colleague Hans Kerp (a palaeobotanist from Münster, Germany) invited the next IOPC to Germany. This invitation was also accepted. Thus both the IPC and IOPC will be held in Bonn, and it will be convenient to attend both conferences. Thomas and Hans have even been considering a partial overlap with one or two days of joint sessions. They consider that there are several topics for symposia that would be of great interest for both palaeobotanists and palynologists.

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JIRI BEK (SECRETARY)

Jiri works at the Laboratory of Palaeobiology and Palaeoecology of the Geological Institute, Academy of Science, Prague, Czech Republic. His research interests are focused on Silurian-Permian dispersed spore assemblages and Carboniferous and Permian in situ spores, i.e. spores isolated directly from plant reproductive organs. He is interested in palaeoecology, taphonomy and reconstructions of various types of environments, based on palynological research. Jiri has served as the Councillor of the Organisation of Czech and Slovak Palynologists for ten years. From 2000 to 2004 he served as the Vice-President of the IFPS and from 2004 is serving as the Secretary-Treasurer of the IFPS.

During his tenure in this position Jiri aims to facilitate the organisation of smooth communication among all palynologists, based on his long term activities in IFPS. His main goal is to be an effective Secretary-Treasurer and aid to Thomas Litt with all his hard work. Another goal is to prepare and realize a UNESCO-IGCP Project concerning databases of Chinese and Russian palynomorphs.

mrbean@gil.cas.cz



CHARLES WELLMAN (PALYNOS EDITOR)

Charles has previously served the IFPS as a councillor for the CIMP, and will be taking over from Anne-Marie Lézine as editor of PALYNOS. Since 1997 he has been a lecturer in the Centre for Palynology (Department of Animal & Plant Sciences) of the University of Sheffield, U.K.

Charles completed his Ph.D. on early land plant fossils from the Silurian-Devonian "Old Red Sandstone" deposits of Scotland in 1991. This work was supervised jointly by Cardiff University (Prof. Dianne Edwards) and the Natural History Museum, London (Dr John Richardson). Charles continues his research on the origin and early diversification of land plants. This is conducted mainly through the study of fossil remains (dispersed spores and phytodebris, and land plant

megafossils), with a particular interest in studies of in situ spores and TEM analysis of spore wall ultrastructure. Charles also dabbles in the study of the spores of extant bryophyte groups that are purportedly related to the earliest land plants.

Charles hopes to carry on the good work of Anne-Marie Lézine in producing interesting and wide ranging editions of PALYNOS. To this end, please continue to send copy (news, meeting announcements, society activity reports, meeting reviews, book reviews, comments etc.) either directly to me or via the IPC councilor of your society who will pass them on to me.



c.wellman@sheffield.ac.uk

IFPS NEW COUNCILLORS

KEN HIGGS (CIMP)

[replacing Charles Wellman]



Ken Higgs was awarded a PhD from the University of Sheffield, England in 1975, and later that year joined the Geological Survey of Ireland in Dublin as a palynologist and stratigrapher. In 1986, he was appointed as Senior Lecturer in the Department of Geology at University College Cork, teaching in the fields of Palaeontology and Stratigraphy, and was promoted to Associate Professor in 2002. He has been acting Head of the Geology Department at UCC in 1997 and 2001. He has established a Palynology research group at UCC that is very active at both postgraduate and postdoctoral level. The primary focus of his research is Palaeozoic palynology, particularly Devonian and Carboniferous palynology, with an emphasis on the application of palynology in biostratigraphy and palaeoenvironmental studies. Since 1999, he has been the Chairman of the Spores and Pollen Subcommission of the CIMP.

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PHILIPPE STEEMANS (PPMB)

[replacing Emile Roche]

Philippe completed his PhD on Lower Devonian miospores from Western Europe in 1986, supervised by Professor Maurice StreeL at the University of Liège. Since 1990 Philippe has continued to work at the University of Liège, employed by the National Fund of Scientific Research for Belgium. His research interests continue to focus on Lower Devonian miospores, but also on cryptospores from the Ordovician and Silurian, and he has recently expanded his field of interest up into the Middle Devonian. Philippe's research interests have led to collaborations with many different petroleum companies, such as Saudi Aramco, Petrobras and TotalFinaElf. He is president of the Belgium PPMB Society, and he is member of a number of other scientific committees. Currently he is titular and co-titular of Ph.D. theses in Bolivia, Brazil and Saudi Arabia. He works at the University of Liège, but he also teaches at the University of Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) as an invited professor.



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GUY HARRINGTON (LSSPG)

[replacing Rob Marchant]

Guy Harrington is a Lecturer in Palaeobiology in the School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences at the University of Birmingham, UK and has held this position since January 2004. He gained initial exposure to pollen and spores as an undergraduate at Keele University and followed this with a Masters degree at the University of Cambridge in 1995. His original work centred on Holocene vegetation reconstructions from Hungary. But he followed

this work with a Ph.D. from the University of Sheffield in 1999 which concentrated on palynological and floristic changes across the Palaeocene–Eocene boundary from North America. He spent two and a half years as a research fellow at the National University of Ireland, Cork working on Cenozoic dinoflagellates and pollen from North America, which was followed by an 18 month fellowship in the Department of Paleobiology at the Smithsonian Institution. His current research concerns the changes in vegetation types in response to rapid global warming from deep-time as well as attempting to reconstruct palaeoenvironments and climate parameters from fossil pollen assemblages.

g.j.harrington@bham.ac.uk.

OTHER NEW COUNCILLORS

There have been a number of other changes to council, and an updated list of IFPS councillors is provided overleaf. Jiri Bek should be informed of any changes to this list. In the near future the editor will be requesting further details and biographies of new councillors that will appear in the next newsletter.



Current IFPS Councillors

Society	Acronym	Councillor
American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists	AASP	Owen Davies
American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists	AASP	Jim Riding
Asociacion de Palinologos de Lengua Espanol	APLE	Ramon Pérez i Obiol
Association de Palynologistes de Langue Francais	APLF	Marie-Pierre Ledru
Association de Palynologistes de Langue Francais	APLF	Nathalie Combourieu-Nebout
Arbeitskreis fur Palaeobotanik und Palynologie	APP	Rainer Brocke
Canadian Association of Palynologists	CAP	Rolf Mathewes
Commission Internationale de Microflore du Paleozoique	CIMP	Ken Higgs
Commission Internationale de Microflore du Paleozoique	CIMP	Thomas Servais
Collegium Palynologicum Scandinavicum	CPS	Dagfinn Moe
Gruppo di Palinologia della Societa Botanica Italiana	GPSBI	Laura Sadori
International Association for Aerobiology	IAA	Carmen Galan Soldevilla
Linnean Society Palynology Specialist Group	LSPSG	Guy Harrington
Organisation of Czech and Slovak Palynologists	OCSP	Olda Fatka
Palynologischsches Kring (Netherlands)	PK	Oscar Abbink
Palynologists and Plant Micropalaeontologists of Belgium	PPMB	Philippe Steemans
Palynological Society of China	PSC	Huaicheng Zhu
Palynological Society of Japan	PSJ	Yuichi Takahashi
Palynological Society of Poland	PSP	Malgorzata Malkiewicz
Russian Palynological Commission	RPC	Olga Dzyuba
Russian Palynological Commission	RPC	Valentina Fedorova
The Micropalaeontological Society: Palynology section	BMS	Paul Dodsworth
Turkish Committee for Palynology	TCP	Zutu Bati
International Union of Geological Societies	IUGS	Lucy Edwards
International Union of Biological Societies	IUBS	Jacques-Louis de Beaulieu
IFPS President – Thomas Litt		
IFPS Past President - Owen Davis		
IFPS Secretary-Treasurer - Jiri Bek		
IFPS Editor of PALYNOS – Charles Wellman		
Societies on hold		
Asociacion Latinoamericana de Paleobotanica y Palinologia	ALPP	
International Association for African Palynology	AIPA/IAAP	
Palynological and Palaeobotanical Association of Australia	PPAA	
Philippine Palynological Society	PPS	
Palaeobotanical Society, Lucknow	PSL	

MEETINGS REPORTS

XIth IPC, Granada, Spain 4th-9th July 2004

What a wonderful meeting! The city of Granada was a beautiful and comfortable setting for a memorable meeting. The conference facilities were great, the hotels were comfortable and inexpensive, the conference planning was good, and the science was excellent. Although the session field trips were canceled, many participants were able to take time off from the very full schedule of posters and talks to tour the region.

The 11th International Palynological Congress was held in Granada, Spain (July 4 - 9, 2004) and was attended by 617 registered palynologists. The participants included palynologists from 52 nations: España 110, France 53, England 48, Italy 38, USA 36, Australia 24, Netherlands 21, Sweden 21, Germany 20, Japan 20, Canada 15, Poland 15, Portugal 15, Argentina 14, Russia 14, Switzerland 12, Belgium 11, China 11, Mexico 10, Austria 9, Brazil 9, Denmark 9, Czech Republic 6, Hungary 6, Ireland 6, Norway 6, Iran 5, Finland 4, S. Africa 4, Serbia 4, Colombia 3, India 3, New Zealand 3, Bulgaria 2, Egypt 2, Greece 2, Israel 2, Ivory Coast 2, Saudi Arabia 2, Uganda 2, Ukraine 2, Wales 2, Croatia 1, El Salvador 1, Ethiopia 1, Latvia 1, Malaysia 1, Oman 1, S. Korea 1, Taiwan 1, Togo 1 and Uganda 1.

The Congress was held in the Palacio de Exposiciones y Congresos in downtown Granada. A total of 315 talks were presented in 37 symposia in four concurrent sessions; and there were 367 poster presentations. The abstract volume was published as Volume 14 of the journal "*Polen*." Ten proceedings volumes are planned for publication in various international journals.

The social highlights of IPC-11 included a cocktail reception, an Andalucian dinner, a field trip to the Sierra Nevada Mountains, a Gala Dinner and dance, and a guided visit to the Alhambra. Plenary lectures were presented by Eugenio Domínguez, "The use of aerial platforms in aerobiological studies," and Henry Hooghiemstra, "Ice-ages in the tropics : new

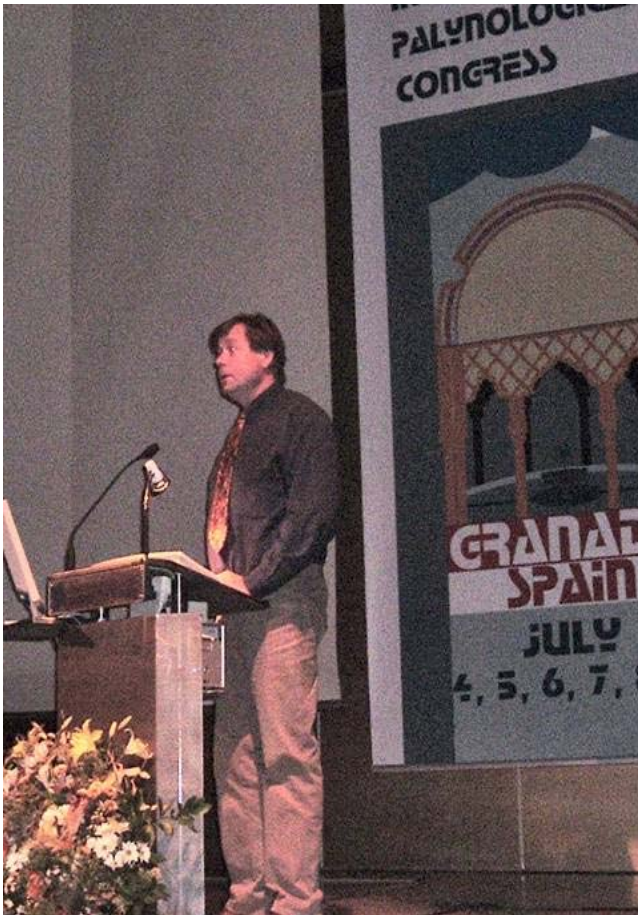
records and improved understanding of long Colombian pollen records".

The IFPS Council selected Bonn, Germany as the site of the IPC-12, August, 2008; and we all welcomed the next IFPS President, Thomas Litt, University of Bonn, and his cabinet : Jiri Bek (Secretary-Treasurer) and Charles Wellman (Newsletter Editor).

From Owen Davis (Past-president IFPS).



Dancers at the Andalucian Dinner



Henry Hooghiemstra's Plenary Address



Jim Doyle and Ann-Marie Lezine enjoying the opening ceremonies



Gala Dinner, Peter Kershaw pointing with approval to President Thomas Litt

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

XIIth IPC--2008 Bonn, Germany

XII International Palynological Congress
 Bonn, Germany, September 2008 (exact timing to be specified)

It was proposed to hold the next IPC in close conjunction with the next IOPC, which was also invited to Bonn. Both invitations were accepted during the recent palynological and palaeobotanical congresses in 2004. Therefore the conferences will run back-to-back in the same location. In addition, an overlap with joint sessions on themes of interest for both palaeobotanists and palynologists is currently being considered. At least some of the excursions will be combined.

Bonn has an excellent infrastructure for holding conferences. It is proposed to hold all official events in the Maritim Hotel Bonn. The exclusive

hotel is located directly at the edge of the former Government district. Bonn, the former capital of Germany, is a pleasant medium-sized university town with sufficient hotel accommodation in all price categories; a youth hostel is also available.

Bonn can be reached very easily:-

by air:

--Frankfurt International Airport (high speed train c. 1 hour)

--Düsseldorf International Airport (c. 40 minutes by train)

--Cologne-Bonn Airport (this airport is served by many low-budget air carriers)

by train:

Bonn has excellent railway connections. It is situated on an important international north-south line, whereas many other connections are possible from the nearby city of Cologne.

The public transport system (subway, tramways and buses) in the city is very well organized.

Bonn is Beethoven's birthplace, and has a very rich history and cultural heritage. The former capital of the Federal Republic of Germany is always worth a visit. The university city, situated on the romantic Rhine River, still shows many traces of the Romans dating back 2000 years, from the Middle Ages, the Baroque and the period of rapid industrial expansion. The city of Bonn and its surroundings offer excellent possibilities for a social programme for attending family members. The city of Cologne with many other museums is less than half an hour away.

Potential excursions include:

- Tertiary brown coal (e.g., Lower Rhine, eastern Germany)
- Tertiary Messel, Eckfeld
- Palaeobotany and Tertiary/Quaternary volcanism in the Eifel
- Jurassic in southern Germany
- Carboniferous and Lower Permian (e.g., Saar-Nahe, Thuringia, Saxony)
- Devonian (Rhenish Slate Mountains and adjacent regions)

See you in Bonn, Germany

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FUTURE MEETINGS

The PhytoPal Workshop 2004, Lille, France

16 December 2004

The second workshop of the PhytoPal project will be hosted Thomas Servais at the Université des Sciences et Technologies de Lille on Thursday 16th December 2004. This workshop is timed to occur just prior to the 48th Annual Meeting of the Palaeontological Association that will be held at the same venue on the 17th-20th December.

PhytoPal was created to forge closer links between scientists interested in Palaeozoic acritarchs and prasinophyte algae. The workshop is an informal day long meeting for Palaeozoic palynologists to present talks and posters on their on-going research projects.

More details of the PhytoPal project may be found on the following website:
<http://www.le.ac.uk/geology/glm2/phytopal.html>

Inquiries to Gary Mullins (Dept. of Geology, University of Leicester, Leicester LE1 7RH, UK. E-mail: glm2@le.ac.uk)

Geological problem solving with microfossils, Rice University, Houston, Texas, USA

6-11 March 2005

An international conference in memory of Garry D. Jones that aims to bring together a diverse array of geoscientists to showcase the problem-solving power of microfossils in a variety of geological settings.

Inquires to Thomas Demchuk [thomas.d.demchuk@conocophillips.com]. Further details can be found on the following website:
www.sepm.org/microfossils2005.htm

Linnean Society Palynology Specialist Group Meeting, Linnean Society, London, UK

27 April 2005

A one-day meeting of the LSPSG will be held on Wednesday 27th April at the Linnean Society, Piccadilly, London. This is to mark the retirement from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew of Madeline Harley (former secretary of the IFPS).

Speakers include Hannah Banks and Peter Crane (Kew), Bill Chaloner and Margaret Collinson (RHBNC, University of London), Raymond van der Ham (Leiden), Alan Hemsley (Cardiff), Michael Hesse (Vienna), Simon Owens (Kew).

For further details please contact Carol Furness at The palynology Unit, RBG Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AE, UK.

E-mail: c.furness@rbgkew.org.uk

XVII International Botanical Congress, Vienna, Austria

17-23 July 2005

The XVII International Botanical Congress is to be held in Vienna, Austria, and will include numerous symposia of interest to palynologists. Further details may be found at the following website [<http://www.abc2005.ac.at>].

38th AASP Annual Meeting, St Louis, Missouri, USA

18-22 September 2005

The 38th Annual Meeting of the AASP will be held on September 18-22, 2005 at the Raddisson Hotel and Suites Downtown in St. Louis, Missouri. Francisca Oboh-Ikuenobe (University of Missouri-Rolla) is in charge of logistics for the meeting, while Reed Wicander (Central Michigan University) and Paul Strother (Boston College) are co-ordinating the technical programme. Information about registration, technical sessions, abstract submission deadline, field trips, social events, and a tour of the

Missouri Botanical Gardens can be found on the following website:
<http://www.palynology.org/meetings.htm>

XI Russian Palynological Conference, Moscow

September 2005

The XI Russian palynological conference will be held on September, 2005 at the Paleontological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (Moscow). Presentations on all branches of modern palynology are welcome. The working language is Russian, but English presentations are acceptable.

For further details please contact: Natalia Zavialova (E-mail : zavial@mail.ru). More information will be available at www.paleo.ru at the end of this year.

Joint meeting of APLF & TMS (palynology group), Paris, France

3-7 October 2005

There will be a joint meeting of the APLF & TMS (palynology group) to be held at the Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris, France. The theme of the meeting is "Palynology, palaeolatitudes, land/ocean distribution patterns controlling climate and biodiversity".

Further details are available on the following website:
[http://www.nhm.ac.uk/hosted_sites/tms/].

Biogeography of Latin America— causes and effects

8-10 October 2005

The Missouri Botanical gardens is hosting a symposium "Biogeography of Latin America—causes and effects" that will be of interest to many palynologists. It is a special event (the 52nd annual symposium and the 51st supported by NSF) in that it extends over two days rather than the usual one-day, the proceedings will be published as a book by MBG press, it has a strong

palaeobotanical-palaeopalynological component, and there is an international representation of speakers from disciplines that typically are not part of the same panel (e.g., Chris Scotese on the Paleomap project; Paul Mann on the building of the Antillean Land Bridge; Lonie Thompson on ice cores from the Andes, Kilimanjaro and Tibet; Henry Hooghiemstra on vegetational history at the extremes—the high Andes and Amazonia; and others representing different fields of historical geology and palaeobiology).

The full program can be viewed on the following web site: www.mobot.org (search/systematics symposium).

For those who do not regularly attend the symposium, or have not visited the Gardens recently, October is a glorious time of year at the Missouri Botanical gardens and it is a pleasant venue for hosting an event we believe will be of special interest and importance.

The XIII Symposium of Latin American Paleobotany and Palynology, Bahia Blanca, Argentina

22-27 May 2006

More details and a web page address will be provided in the next issue of PALYNOS.

For further details please contact: Dra. Mirta Quattrocchio [simpxiii@uns.edu.ar].

CIMP General Meeting, Prague, Czech republic

4-6 September 2006

The next CIMP General Meeting will convene in Prague, the capital of the Czech republic. Czech palynology has a long tradition of research on Palaeozoic palynomorphs including acritarchs, spores and pollen. The meeting is open to all palynologists interested in any aspects of Palaeozoic palynology. The scientific program will include symposia, contributed talks, posters, poster sessions, and meetings of working groups, associated with workshops.

Pre-conference and post-conference field trips are planned to the Barrandian Early Palaeozoic.

3rd September 2005:-pre-conference fieldtrip to the Proterozoic to Ordovician of the Barrandian area.

6th September:-Post-conference fieldtrip to the Silurian and Devonian GSSPs of the Barrandian area.

Organizing committee:-

Jiri Bek (Institute of Geology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Rozvojova 135, 165 00 Prague 6, Czech Republic. E-mail: mrbean@gli.csa.cz)

Jirina Daskova (Institute of Geology, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Rozvojova 135, 165 00 Prague 6, Czech Republic. E-mail: daskova@gli.csa.cz)

Oldrich Fatka (Charles University Prague, Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, 128 43Prague 2, Czech republic. E-mail: fatka@natur.cuni.cz)

Further information will be available on the CIMP website:
[<http://www.shef.ac.uk/~cidmdp/index.html>]

and also the following websites:

[<http://www.gli.cas.cz>]

[<http://www.nature.cuni.cz>]

European Palaeobotanical-Palynological Conference, Prague, Czech Republic

7-12 September 2006

Registration deadline 31st December 2004. Inquires to Stanislav Opustil [eppc2006@nature.cuni.cz]. Further details are available on the following website: www.natur.cuni.cz/eppc2006/

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Palynology software

At last the long wait is over, Eric Grimm has completed the transition of his "Tilia Graph" software from DOS to the Windows® computer platform. Since the late 1980's "Tilia Graph" has been the most widely-used program of its kind, and it is easily the best supported diagram-drafting program, with its own internet listserv -- tilia-l@lists.colorado.edu. To join, send the message "subscribe tilia-l your name" to listproc@lists.colorado.edu. Be sure to replace "your name" with your real name like "John Jones."

The new Windows® program is **TGView Version 2.0.2**. It is a full-featured program with complete text – editing capabilities, sediment-column drafting capabilities with Trolls-Smith and bit-map patterns, many different options for zones, dates, grouping of pollen curves, etc. TGView will read *.til and *.tgf files produced by Tilia and the DOS program Tilia-graph, which is no longer needed. TGView saves diagrams to a new *.tgx file format (XML). Tilia is included with TGView 2.0.2 and can be launched from TGView.

The upgrade to TGView 2.0.2 is free for anyone who has previously purchased the Tilia Software Package. However, it must be registered. The program will not run until a valid Owner Name and Product Key have been entered in the registration dialog box, which will appear the first time you run the program. The encrypted Product Key is unique for each Owner.

To acquire a Product Key, email Eric Grimm grimm@museum.state.il.us with the original license number purchased for the Tilia Software Package and the name of the person to which it should be registered. You will then be sent by email a valid Product Key. If you don't know the original license number, please provide the name of the person who made the purchase. A record has been kept of all licenses purchased.

To download the program, go to <http://www.museum.state.il.us/pub/grimm/> and click on [Setup_TGView_2-0-2.exe](#). When prompted, select "Save" and select a temporary directory. For transport to other computers, this

file can be burned to a CD, and the program can be installed from CD. In the Windows Explorer, double click [Setup_TGView_2-0-2.exe](#) to run the setup program. The standard InstallShield setup will run and lead you through the installation.

To purchase a new copy of TGView 2.0.2, go to <http://www.museum.state.il.us/pub/grimm/> and click on [Tilia_Order_Form.pdf](#) for complete information on different ordering options.

New mailing list

Yuval Sapir and Stacey Smith are developing a new mailing list (Pollination Syndrome Network-POSYND-L). It is aiming to create an information network among evolutionary ecologists working on pollination. The goal of the Pollination Syndrome Network is to enhance communication among researchers in the area of pollinator-mediated floral evolution. They hope to develop this forum as a convenient place for the sharing of knowledge and ideas, in order to revise the generalisations which guide this fascinating discipline of evolutionary biology.

To subscribe go to:
[<http://www.isoft.com/scripts/wl.exe?s11=polsynd-l&h=listserv.indiana.edu>].

Equipment needed for new lab.

Antonio Maldonado is currently trying to get a pollen lab set up at the University of La Serena, Chile. He is part of a new interdisciplinary Center for Advanced Studies in Arid Lands. His salary is covered but he is having difficulty outfitting the lab. He particularly needs the following equipment.

- compound light microscope with zoom & lighting system
- drying oven
- centrifuge with swinging heads for 50 ml tubes and 3200 rpm
- piston corer (Wright or Livingston)
- sediment corer ("Russian flag" (Giktrof) corer)
- analytical balance (high precision)
- combusting furnace (550 to 925°C)

Dr. Antonio Maldonado
CEAZA

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Research opportunities and positions available

Palynologist Michael S. Zavada, Providence College, Rhode Island, USA, writes of three research opportunities in Madagascar.

1) We are working on a Lower Cretaceous palynoflora with dinos from the Mahajunga Basin, Madagascar. We would like the Dinos documented and identified, any one willing to do this can be considered a co-investigators on this material with Michael S. Zavada (Providence College) and Toussaint Rakotondrzfy (University of Antananarivo).

2) Looking for a student to be supervised at any college or university (I may or may not be a committee member, we do not have a graduate program at Providence College) to work on the extensive marine Eocene outcrops in the Mahajunga and Morondava Basins, Madagascar. Basic field geology e.g. mapping and naming of these formations, characterization of marine fossil etc., would be a good MS or PhD thesis. They could be written into my next field grant for Madagascar to spend 4-6 weeks in the field. We are interested in reconstructing Tertiary habitats in Madagascar. There are also some localized Miocene outcrops.

3) Also possible student for stratigraphic project. Need a student to work on offshore and onshore well material (SWC) in the Mahajunga Basin, Madagascar, I am currently trying to obtain this material from the Oil Exploration office in Madagascar. I will be specifically working on the angiosperm floras in these samples.

If interested please contact :

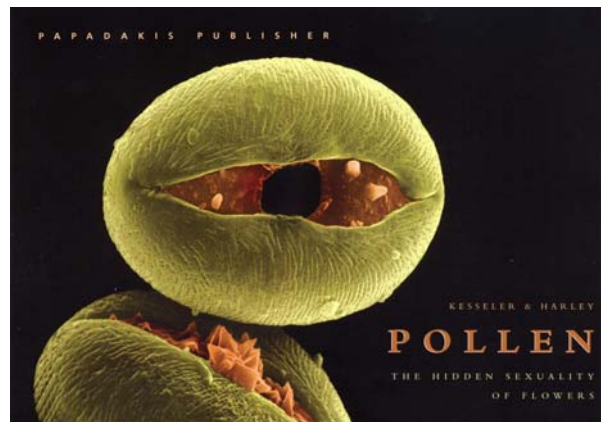
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NEW BOOKS

Pollen: the hidden sexuality of flowers by Madeline Harley and Rob Kessler

The book is the result of a meeting between a scientist and an artist, and their shared fascination of the perfect design of organisms too small to be seen without a microscope: pollen grains – enclosed beyond the accessible beauty of the flower, until the moment of release, when they will be carried by wind, water or animal vectors to achieve their purpose of procreation.



We all know that animals reproduce sexually, however, it still comes as a surprise to many people to learn that flowering plants also engage in sexual reproduction. Starting with a clear explanation of the structure and form of pollen, the authors go on to examine the remarkable events from pollination to fertilisation, and the many ways which pollen impacts on our lives. All of this is interwoven with a dazzling array of original images by the authors, many created specially for the book, and designed to capture the imagination of a non-specialist audience, interpreting this magical world in a way that no other book on the subject has ever done.

The remarkable diversity of these tiny and extraordinary forms has fascinated the scientifically curious since the development of the microscope in the 17th century. The authors examine the ways in which, during five centuries, the emerging revelations of microscopic forms have inspired successive generations of artists and illustrators to create works which open up the secrets of hidden worlds to new audiences.

After a period of separation, during the 20th century, the cultures of science and art are currently enjoying a collaborative renaissance; this book is a significant contribution to the new spirit of co-operative exploration.

Botanist **Madeline Harley PhD, FLS** is Head of the palynology Unit (Jodrell Laboratory) at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. She is recognised internationally for her work, which is mainly concerned with the study of pollen characteristics in the field of flowering plant relationships and evolution; she is particularly interested in pollen of the palms. She has authored and co-authored more than 60 scientific research articles, and her research results have been presented at many international conferences.

Visual artist **Rob Kessler** is a senior lecturer at Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design. He has a long career of working with plants as a source of inspiration for his work. He is currently NESTA (National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts) Fellow at Kew where he has been working with microscopic plant material. Some of his related work has recently been shown at the Victoria & Albert Museum, City Museum and Art Gallery, Stoke and Kew Gardens where he created a series of huge pollen banners, which were hung in woodland areas of Kew Gardens.

“Pollen: The Hidden Sexuality of Flowers” was published in October 2004 by Papadakis Publisher. 300 pages, fully illustrated, 305 x 280 mm. Approx retail price (HB) £35.00 (pounds sterling). ISBN 1 901092 44 5.

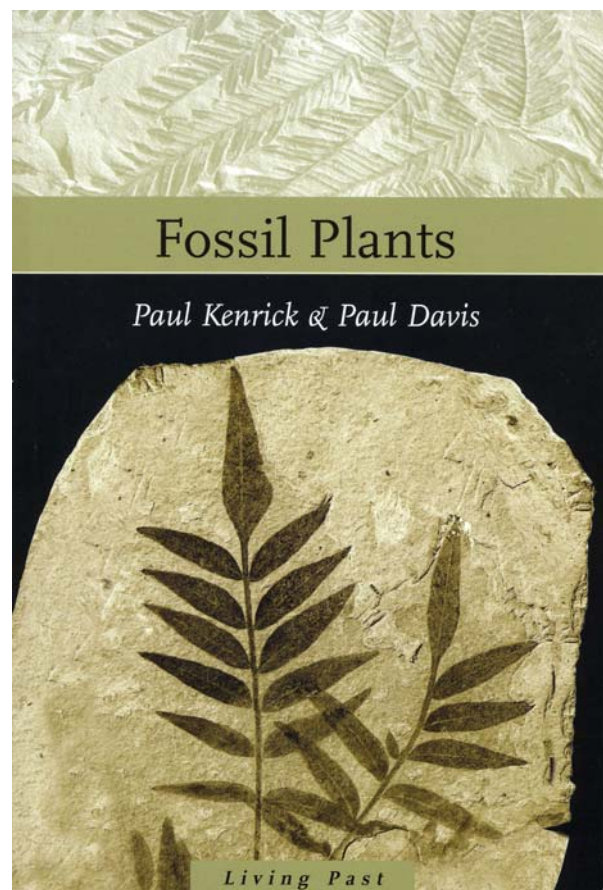
Fossil plants by Paul Kenrick and Paul Davis

From the first green algae to the knee-high forests of the Early Devonian buzzing with tiny arthropods to the lush jungles of the Jurassic and

beyond. This accessible introduction to fossil plants explores the gradual greening of the world. Weaving together strands from the past and present, snapshots of ancient and modern environments are illustrated with images of fossils and their “living relatives”. Discover the hidden past of plants and uncover the breadth of form and rare beauty of plants turned to stone.

This book is the third in the ‘Living Past Series’ published by the Natural History Museum, London. This series offers authoritative introductions to different aspects of the fossil world, furthering an understanding of the origins and evolution of modern plants and animals.

Paul Kenrick is a palaeobotanist in the Palaeontology Department of the Natural History Museum and **Paul Davis** is the Registrar of the Natural History Museum, London.

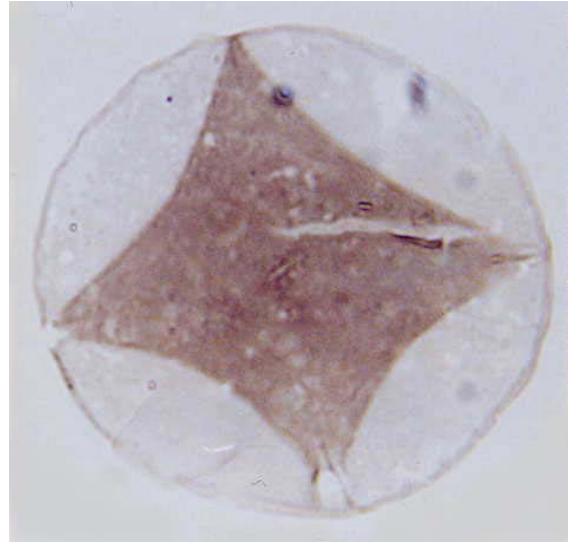


“Fossil Plants” was published in October 2004 by the Natural History Museum, London. 216 pages, fully illustrated, 154 x 234 mm. Price (SB) £16.95 (pounds sterling). ISBN 0-565-09176-X.

THESIS REPORT

Gareth Hughes was awarded a Ph.D. in December 2004 at the National University of Ireland, Cork (UCC) for his thesis on '*Palynology and biostratigraphy of the Devonian strata in the Appalachian Basin, eastern USA*'. His research was supervised by Prof. Ken Higgs, Geology Department, UCC.

The research has involved a palynological study of several isotopically dated volcanic ash bearing sections in the marine Devonian (Lochkovian – Frasnian) of the Appalachian Basin of New York State, Tennessee and West Virginia. The primary result of the research has been to establish a palynostratigraphy based on both miospore and acritarch assemblages in the studied sections. The palynological data has been closely correlated with existing conodont biostratigraphy in a number of the sections. The new integrated biostratigraphical data have allowed an inter-calibration with U-Pb zircon ages obtained from the associated volcanic ash beds and to produce a detailed correlation of the Devonian strata across the Appalachian Basin.



The Devonian acritarch Duvernaysphaera angelae Deunff, 1964

PALYNOS (ISSN 0256-1670) is published bi-annually (June and December) and is distributed electronically to all IFPS Councillors for local distribution to individual members of their **International Federation of Palynological Societies (IFPS)** affiliate society. The newsletter is also posted on the IFPS website (see below).

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

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

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