



A.A.S.P. NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly by the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists Inc.

May 2000 Volume 33, Number 2

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A.A.S.P.

American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists Inc.

The American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, Inc. - AASP - 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* (annually), 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)

AASP Board of Directors Award recipient

Robert T. Clarke (awarded 1994)

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)

AASP Distinguished Service Award recipients

Robert T. Clarke (awarded 1978)
Norman J. Norton (awarded 1978)
Jack D. Burgess (awarded 1982)
Richard W. Hedlund (awarded 1982)
John A. Clendening (awarded 1987)
Kenneth M. Piel (awarded 1990)
Gordon D. Wood (awarded 1993)
Jan Jansonius (awarded 1995)

Awards at each Annual Meeting: Unocal Best Applications Paper Award, Best Student Paper Award, and Best Poster Award.

Student Scholarships to support studies in palynology. Currently up to two scholarships of \$1000 (U.S.) each annually. The qualification of the student, the originality and imagination evident in the proposed project, and the likelihood of significant contribution to the science of palynology are factors that will be weighed in selection of award winners. Previous winners of this award are eligible only if they are pursuing a different degree than the one they were pursuing when they received the previous award. AASP Scholarships are available to all students of palynology in all countries. Students need not be AASP members. Application forms appear in the January issue of the AASP Newsletter. Chairman of the AASP Awards Committee is Owen K. Davis (palynolo@geo.Arizona.EDU).

AASP Membership Application - Membership in AASP is for the calendar year. Dues are \$30.00 U.S. per year for individuals and \$40.00 U.S. per year for institutional members. All members of AASP receive *Palynology* which is published annually, the AASP Newsletter, which is mailed out four times a year, and an annual Membership Directory. Dues may be paid up to three years in advance. Overseas AASP Members (Individual or Institutional) who would like to receive their AASP Newsletter and *Palynology* by air mail, rather than book rate surface mail, need to include the applicable postage surcharge (noted below). Credit card users must pay a \$1.00 U.S. surcharge per transaction. Air mail surcharge (increased for 1995 and beyond): Europe & South America: \$12.00 U.S. per year. Africa, Asia & Australia: \$15.00 U.S. per year. Credit card surcharge \$1.00 per transaction.



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The AASP 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 in the industry. Every effort will be made to publish all information received from our membership. Contributions which include photographs should be submitted a week before the deadline. Deadlines for next issues of the newsletter, are September 1, 2000 and December 1, 2000. All information should be sent on computer disks (MS Word for Windows is best) or by email; if possible, send a hard copy. Always send a duplicate typescript of all electronic copy sent for checking. 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.

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

by Fred Rich

The Board of Directors met for the mid-year Board meeting on April 8 and 9. We met at the Menger Hotel, an elegant and genuinely historic facility in downtown San Antonio, and the venue for the 2001 meeting of AASP. The practice of meeting in the city that will host the annual meeting is an excellent idea. We all had ample opportunities to look around San Antonio, and "test" the facilities. Thomas Demchuk deserves great thanks for having chosen San Antonio, and the Menger. For those of you who are unfamiliar with the place, San Antonio is a colorful and exciting city. It is located in west central Texas, and, in my mind, epitomizes all that is Texas. Its most famous attraction is, of course, The Alamo, the seat of Texas independence and an American icon that is as recognizable as the Statue of Liberty. The Menger Hotel, incidentally, is right across the street from The Alamo. Furthermore, the hotel is about three blocks from San Antonio's famous River Walk. The river is more like a Venetian canal, bordered by restaurants, shops, tree-lined walkways, and a great many pubs. The 2001 meeting is scheduled for October 21-24, so be prepared to submit an abstract in time to visit one of America's most interesting cities.

The business that we conducted in San Antonio resulted in seven pages of minutes. Rather than presenting the tedious details, here are some highlights:

- The 2002 meeting is planned for University College, London. As details take shape we will provide information. The current plan is to meet from September 11-13, during the school's break between terms. Jamie Powell (British Micropaleontological Society) and Chris Denison have been in rather constant contact with one another as they set out the plans.
- The Treasurer's report in San Antonio was certainly rosey. AASP enjoys considerable solvency, and the Board decided to put our money to work. We have invested our funds in accounts held by Chace Texas Bank, and anticipate much greater returns than we currently receive with our certificates of deposit. The Board will review the progress made on those accounts as time goes by, and a full explanation will be available for members at the annual business meeting held in Reno.
- Speaking of Reno, plans continue to develop as we get closer to the date of the annual meeting of the Geological Society of America. The meeting will be held in Reno, Nevada, the week of November 12, 2000. This is our first attempt at meeting jointly with GSA, and while some

members have voiced reservations about our mingling with GSA (at the potential expense of getting lost) most people who have expressed an opinion are enthusiastic about the experiment. AASP will host a topical session on Monday the 13th, with a mixture of invited papers and papers that have been submitted for consideration. We will also have a booth on the exhibit floor so that all those poor people who don't know about the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists will become acquainted with us. Every member of AASP should receive a Convention Issue of GSA Today, and all the details will be spelled out in that publication. Please be ready to board a plane for Reno in November!

AASP had 777 members as of 3/19/2000. I want to express my thanks to all of you for having helped to make this one of the most successful professional societies in the world. Our future is very bright, and I appeal to student members particularly to prepare themselves to get increasingly involved with this organization. That is how I started in about 1975, and I am grateful for all the really wonderful experiences that AASP has offered me.

Best wishes to your all,

Fred Rich,
President

**FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER I
Thomas D. Demchuk**

Here are a few AASP figures from the desk of the Secretary-Treasurer, which were presented to the Board of Directors at the mid-year meeting in San Antonio last month.

Secretary's Report: As of March 27, AASP had a total of 777 members; 649 were individual members, 116 institutional and 12 retired. This total is an increase of 6 members since the meeting in Savannah. The distressing fact, however, is that 55 individual members have not paid their dues since 1997 and will be purged from the membership listing. Elsewhere in this newsletter, these 55 member's names are listed. If your name appears here, or if you recognize a name, please remember that this is the last newsletter that person will receive. As well, 72 members have not paid their membership dues since 1998, and 139 have not renewed from 1999. Please pay up your dues, by check or credit card.

Treasurer's Report: As of March 19 of this year, AASP had a total of (almost) \$100,000 in various accounts and certificates of deposit. Although various payments have been made since then, interest accruing in the accounts and CD's, and recent membership dues have pushed this total above \$100K. As you will read elsewhere in the newsletter, you will see that the Board of Directors has proposed increasing the monies for scholarships, as well as initiating funding for student travel. As part of our

responsibility to make sure AASP money is handled wisely, our certificates of deposit have been cashed in and we are now invested in the stock market. A rather conservative portfolio of money market and mutual funds has been initiated, which will derive greater interest for funding future AASP endeavors.

**NEWS FROM AUSTRALIA AND THE UK
by Jim Riding**

Some very sad news of a generic micropalaeontological nature from England is that Professor Brian M. Funnell latterly of the University of East Anglia passed away in early May. Brian, who was well known for his work on the geology and calcareous microfaunas of the Cenozoic of the southern North Sea Basin, was retired but still active in the subject. He was Chair of the British Micropalaeontological Society (BMS) from 1984-1986 and was a deservedly popular figure in both the fields of teaching and research. We extend our sincere condolences to Brian's family. The BMS meeting on micropalaeontology and climate change at the Geoscience 2000 meeting at Manchester in April was a resounding success. I will try to obtain a fuller report for the next Newsletter. At the BMS Annual General Meeting this November, AASP member Martin Head of the University of Cambridge has agreed to present a lecture. Jan Pawlowski is to be the other speaker. Tim Potter has taken over from Dave Jolley as the new chair of the palynology group of the BMS.

Over in Australia, Huibert van den Brink has sent me a report which details palynological work at the recently opened Centre of Excellence in Petroleum Geology at the School of Applied Geology at Curtin University at Perth, Western Australia. This centre offers opportunities for postgraduate student positions in both palynology and other stratigraphical studies. An undergraduate student at Curtin is currently finishing a project of the palynology of the Cornea Field. The material for this study comprises Shell wells in the Browse Basin. The Curtin Centre of Excellence has strong links with the University of Western Australia, also in Perth, and the two institutions have plans to establish a Western Australian biostratigraphy research consortium.

DONALD W. ENGELHARDT
by David Wall

All too often in the final year of the departing century, we learned of the passing of revered friends and colleagues in palynology. Unfortunately the year 2000 began on another sad note as many of us were shocked to learn of the death of Donald (“Don”) W. Engelhardt on February 13th after a brief battle with cancer. Don died in Columbia, South Carolina, USA just twelve days before his 65th birthday. He was a staunch supporter and contributor to the AASP and was President in the 1972-73 term. He attended almost all of the Annual Meetings, beginning in the mid-sixties up to and including last year’s gathering in Savannah, Georgia, after which he was taken ill.

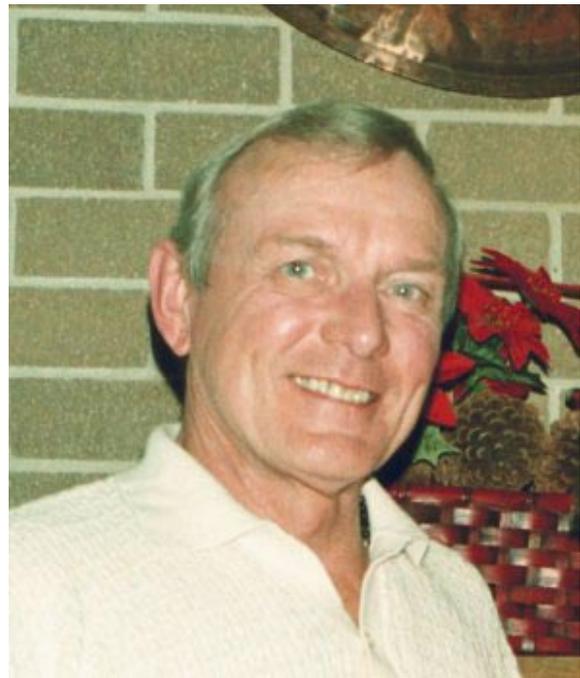
Don spent the greater part of his career with Amoco Production Company. He joined it in 1961 (when it was still known as Pan American Petroleum Corporation) and retired in 1992 when he took a position with the Earth Sciences and Resources Institute at the University of South Carolina. This he held until his untimely death. While he was with Amoco, Don spent four years at the Tulsa Research Center, thirteen years at the Denver Region in Colorado and finally fourteen years in the Houston Region. He attained the level of Senior Paleontologic Associate and spent several years both as a supervisor of Paleontology and a Division Geologist for the West Texas-New Mexico operations group. His work initially focussed on “domestic” frontiers such as the Gulf of Mexico, Rocky Mountains and particularly Alaska, but later shifted to “international” ventures as far flung as (then) Yugoslavia, Eastern Africa, Southeast Asia, Myanmar (Burma) and northern South America.

At the University of South Carolina, Don was an active contributor and participant in the mission of the University. He served on dissertation committees, proposal review committees, and in general promoted the cause of the University. He continued his biostratigraphic research on many projects in the Earth Sciences and Resources Institute (ESRI-USC), including most recently, the palynology of the Savannah River Site. This work is part of a new venture to promote micropaleontology in application to environmental preservation and restoration. It will be published in a forthcoming multi-authored book.

Don’s Ph.D. dissertation at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, was a palynologic study of local postglacial and interglacial deposits and in subsequent years, Late Tertiary pollen and spore biostratigraphy became his specialty. However, his daily work at Amoco was extremely diversified and included Permian to Recent ages and extended to other fossil groups such as dinoflagellates and algae plus kerogen typing and allied paleoenvironmental studies. Don liked to describe it as “a little bit of everything”. His dedication and willingness to attempt new ventures gave him encyclopedic knowledge of taxonomy and literature. This he generously shared with his co-workers and in short courses he taught at the

University of Arizona, Arizona State and Rice University. He authored and co-authored some nine publications on new Tertiary pollen genera and dinoflagellates.

In his day to day life, Don was extremely well liked by his colleagues and greatly admired for his unrelenting enthusiasm for palynology. He never tired of the excitement of discovery and exchanging experiences with his colleagues. He held an ultra-positive attitude and never complained even though he endured some very difficult times. Those of us who knew his smile and companionship will miss him “a bunch”. He leaves behind his wife Cynthia and three children.



TAMARA FEDOROVNA VOZZHENNIKOVA

(1914 -2000)

by Vera I. Ilyina, Natalia K. Lebedeva and Eugeniy A. Elkin (Institute of Petroleum Geology, Siberian Branch of RAS, Novosibirsk, Russia) and Valentina A. Fedorova (All-Russian Petroleum Scientific Research and Geological Exploration Institute, St.-Peterburg, Russia)



The death of Tamara F. Vozzhennikova at Moscow in February 23, 2000, has brought to a close the life of a famous scientist, the founder of the school of Soviet (Russian) paleoalgalogists, one of the organizers of the Department of Paleontology and Stratigraphy at the Institute of Geology and Geophysics, the Siberian Branch of Academy of Sciences in Novosibirsk.

Tamara F. Vozzhennikova was born in February 7, 1914, in the Vyatskaya province of Russia. She

has developed into a specialist-algalogist within the precincts of the Leningrad State University, where in the 1930's, she has graduated from the rabfak (workers' faculty), then the biological department, and finally the post-graduate courses at the department of hydrobiology. Tamara F. started her scientific activity with the study of recent algae. In 1949, she received her Ph.D. in biology as the author of the paper "Alga flora of the mountain streams in Tadjikistan".

In 1950, T.F.Vozzhennikova headed the palynological group at the Institute of Mines and Geology of the West Siberian Branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences, where with a great enthusiasm she began to study the morphology and systematics of the Mesozoic and Cenozoic Peridinales of Siberia.

During the creation of the Siberian Branch of the USSR AS, the organizing talent of Tamara F. manifested itself most brilliantly. She took an active part in the creation of the Department of Paleontology and Stratigraphy at the Institute of Geology and Geophysics of Siberian Branch of the RAS. Beginning in 1958, she, as the head of the paleophytologic laboratory, together with the famous leaders of paleontology and stratigraphy B. S. Sokolov, V. N. Saks, and A. V. Fursenko, has developed the structure and scientific programs for the Department and has been engaged in selecting the specialists and providing newly formed laboratories with equipment.

Tamara F. Vozzhennikova devoted more than 40 years of her scientific life to the Institute which became home for her. She has been the head of the laboratory for more than 20 years, which became the leading center of palynology and paleoalgalogy in Siberia. Thanks to her initiative and direct guidance, the First All-Union Palynological Meeting was held in Novosibirsk in 1965, at

which a wide spectrum of problems, related to the study of fossil algae, was discussed. In 1971, Tamara F. Vozzhennikova was the most active member of the Organizing Committee of the 3d International Palynological Conference, held at the Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Siberian Branch of the USSR AS (Akademgorodok).

Her scientific interests were within the scope of investigation of recent and fossil diatoms, coccolithophorids, and dinoflagellates. She placed special attention on the morphology, classification and phylogeny of dinoflagellates. The fundamental monographs by T. F. Vozzhennikova "Introduction into the study of fossil peridinales" and "Fossil Peridinales from the Jurassic, Cretaceous, and Paleogene deposits of the USSR" became known worldwide. These works served as a basis for her doctorate thesis in geology and mineralogy, which she successfully defended in 1967.

To solve the problems of dinoflagellate phylogeny and to reconstruct conditions of their habitat in ancient seas, Tamara F. studied recent algae during two expeditions in the Pacific Ocean on board of the scientific-research ship "Vityaz" and conducted investigations of microphytoplankton in the Black Sea. Special attention was paid to revealing dinoflagellate possibilities for solving biostratigraphic and paleobiographic problems. In 1979, she published the monograph "Dinocysts and their stratigraphic implications".

Tamara F. Vozzhennikova generously gifted her entire experience to her students. The colloquia on morphology and evolution of different groups of dinoflagellates and other algae, which were held under her guidance in 1980's-90's, have shown the significance of these fossils for developing detailed stratigraphy of the Mesozoic and Cenozoic deposits. These colloquia united all paleoalgalogists of Russia and Commonwealth of Independent Countries. They served as a powerful incentive to investigating the dinoflagellates from marine strata of Siberia, Russian Platform, Caucasus, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and other regions.

The fundamental monographs by Tamara F. Vozzhennikova were translated into many languages and were highly appreciated by the specialists of the world. They serve as handbooks for several generations of paleoalgalogists and palynologists of many countries. Her last scientific work, written together with the Canadian famous specialist doctor J. Lentin, was devoted to revision of the type material of some dinoflagellate genera and species. It was published in Canada in 1993. In 1990, for the outstanding service to investigation of fossil dinoflagellates, Tamara F. Vozzhennikova was elected the honoured member of the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists, and was awarded by a memorable medal.

Last years Tamara F. lived in Moscow, surrounded by her dear and nearest daughter and granddaughters. In the person of Tamara F. Vozzhennikova, the science and all those who were closely acquainted with her, have lost a prominent scientist, warm-hearted and well-wishing person. A pure image of Tamara F.Vozzhennikova will remain for ever in memory of those who had occasion to meet her.

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FROM THE DESK OF THE SECRETARY-TREASURER II

The following AASP members are two years in arrears of payment of their membership dues. Thus, this is the last copy of the newsletter these people will receive. If you see your name on this list, you are strongly urged to get your AASP membership up-to-date. Also, if you see a name you recognize on this list, please advise to pay their membership as soon as possible.

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ODP LEG 189; TASMANIAN GATEWAY = PALYNO-GATEWAY!!

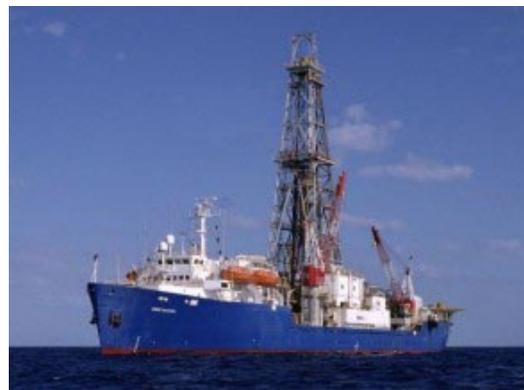
March 12 to May 13, 2000



A synopsis of results by Co-chiefs: Dr. Neville F. Exon and Dr. James P. Kennett and Staff Scientist: Dr. Mitchell J. Malone & The Leg 189 Science Party
Your reporter onboard the *RV JOIDES RESOLUTION*: Henk Brinkhuis

The mission of Leg 189 was to test the hypothesis that Antarctic cryospheric evolution resulted from the isolation of Antarctica by the Circum-Antarctic current. Five sites (1168-1172), located in water depths from 2148 to 3568m, were drilled to document these paleoceanographic and paleo-climatic changes associated with the opening of the Tasmanian Gateway as Australia moved northward from Antarctica during the Cenozoic. Three sites (1168-1170) are located at different latitudes in the Indian Ocean, one site (1172) is in the Pacific Ocean, and one site (1171) is located between the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

Besides an array of marine geological specialists, the Resolution's illustrious shipboard science party included eight (!) biostratigraphers, covering major microfossil groups that included calcareous nannofossils, diatoms, dinoflagellate cysts, radiolarians, pollen and even rarities such as benthic and planktic foraminifers.



Initial findings during ODP Leg 189 indicate its great potential for palynology in general, and dinoflagellate cyst analysis in particular. Upper Paleocene to Eo-Oligocene sediments from four drilled sites yield up to 200,000 palynomorphs/gram, and a first ever Oligocene-Neogene dinoflagellate cyst record for the Southern Ocean was established. Calibration of the palynological records from the various sites is excellent, thanks to ODP's multidisciplinary approach. The integrated biostratigraphy, in conjunction with onboard chemo- and magnetostratigraphy, and physical property studies provided an accurate chronology of sufficient resolution, and great potential, for successful future high-resolution studies throughout the Cenozoic record.

Most sites were designed to penetrate to Middle to Upper Eocene strata, recording the Middle Eocene-

Quaternary climatic development preserved in carbonate and siliciclastic sediments. In addition, an upper Paleocene to Lower Eocene succession was encountered at Site 1171. The most conspicuous change in the sediment and biotic sequence occurred during the transition from the Eocene to the Early Oligocene with conspicuous reduction in sedimentation rates and deposition of glauconite sands. Below this transition, palynomorphs, and notably dinoflagellate cysts may reach massive concentrations as stated earlier. Above the earliest Oligocene, (acid-resistant) organic matter is largely absent from the drilled successions, with the exception of Site 1168. This is considered to reflect a transient E/O event associated with temporary increased bottom water activity in the basin. The timing of this episode is consistent with the hypothesis of linkage with initial opening of the Tasmanian Gateway and/or major cooling of Antarctica and associated cryospheric development.

The sedimentary successions of the combined sites records three major phases of paleoenvironmental development:

(1) Middle to early Late Eocene rapid deposition of shallow water siliciclastic sediments during rifting between Antarctica and South Tasman Rise, a time of minimal or no connection between the southern Indian and Pacific Oceans.

(2) A transitional interval of slow sedimentation, with shallow-water Late Eocene-earliest Oligocene glauconitic siliciclastic sediments rapidly giving way to Early Oligocene clayey biogenic carbonates, representing the activation of bottom currents as the Tasmanian Gateway opened and deepened during early drifting and increased surface biogenic productivity.

(3) Oligocene through Quaternary deposition of biogenic carbonate sediments in increasingly deep waters and in increasingly open ocean conditions, as the Southern Ocean developed and expanded with the northward migration of the South Tasman Rise and the Australian continent. The sedimentary sequence seems to record an integrated history of interplay between decreasing continental influence, rifting and subsidence of the rise, Antarctic cooling, Circumpolar Current development and other related factors.

In summary, the Eocene siliciclastic sedimentary interval contains a remarkable sequence of abundant organic-walled dinoflagellate cysts, pollen and spores, in addition to sufficiently persistent calcareous microfossils to assist with age control. The integrated biostratigraphy, in conjunction with onboard chemo- and magnetostratigraphy, and physical property studies, provided an accurate chronology of sufficient resolution, and great potential for successful future high-resolution studies. The microfossils will provide an integrated record of terrestrial and shallow marine paleoclimatic history of the Antarctic continental margin in the Middle Eocene through Early Oligocene. The Oligocene pelagic biogenic sediments provide a sequence of calcareous and siliceous microfossils for integrated studies of the early development of the Southern Ocean, as the South Tasman Rise

both subsided and migrated towards the north. The younger Neogene succession generally contains a sequence of calcareous and siliceous microfossils that are abundant and well preserved throughout, and will provide excellent paleoceanographic records. Major biostratigraphic achievements of Leg 189 will also include the first comprehensive Cenozoic zonations for the southern Australia cool temperate region for planktonic foraminifers, calcareous nannofossils, siliceous microfossils, AND, of course, dinoflagellate cysts.



JOB NEWS

* The Department of Geological Sciences invites applications for a post-doctoral position in geobiology at Indiana University. Appointment will be for one year, possibly renewable for one additional year, beginning on or around August 1, 2000. We desire an individual who is broadly interdisciplinary and will provide research linkages between geobiology and any other area of geological sciences, or between paleontology and other scientific disciplines. The successful candidate will be expected to be involved in teaching an advanced undergraduate course in geobiology in the Fall Semester, 2000. A Ph.D. or equivalent in a relevant discipline is required. Salary will be \$31,000 per annum, and will include an additional \$2,000 in research support.

Review of applications will begin on April 1, 2000; position will remain open until filled. Candidates should address directly how they will link paleontology with any other area of geological sciences or with any other scientific discipline in their letter of application. Candidates should submit their application letter, curriculum vitae, and a list of four references (including e-mail addresses and phone numbers) to: Dr. Christopher G. Maples, Chair, Department of Geological Sciences, Indiana University, 1001 East Tenth Street, Bloomington, Indiana 47401 U.S.A., Indiana University is an EEO/AA employer.

* Scholarships: Support for Graduate Student Research in Palynology. The latest AASP Newsletter announces the 2000 student scholarships. You access the newsletter at http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/associations/aasp/ and read about them at <http://www.bio.uu.nl/~palaeo/AASP/NL33-1.pdf> or download the application forms at http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/associations/aasp/content/scholar.html

BOOKS

* BOOK REVIEW: **Huitième index bibliographique sur la morphologie des pollen d'Angiospermes**. Eighth bibliographic index to the pollen morphology of angiosperms. **K. Thanikaimoni & R.W.J.M. van der Ham**. Institute Français de Pondichère, 1999, Pondichère, India, 346 pages. ISSN 0971-3107, US\$23.00. by David M. Jarzen, Florida Museum of Natural History, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

Like many other palynologists, I was very pleased to see the 8th Bibliographic Index to the pollen morphology of angiosperms published last year. It seems that just about the time I feel that there should be another edition, the next edition appears. For this we can now thank Mrs. K. Thanikaimoni (wife of Dr. G. Thanikaimoni) and Dr. R.W.J.M. van der Ham.

The first 5 volumes of the "index" were published, by the late Dr. G. Thanikaimoni from 1972 through 1986. These first 5 volumes were indeed a necessary tool for anyone involved with the study of pollen morphology and angiosperm systematics. The sixth index was continued by Mme. C. Tissot, and through collaboration with Dr. R.W.J.M. van der Ham, the seventh index was produced. A history and publication dates of the earlier indexes are printed on the publication data page of the current volume.

Following the format of earlier volumes, this index is divided into three sections: an alphabetical generic listing (including 12243 genera), a family index listing all included genera in all eight volumes, and 995 bibliographic references published up to December, 1997. The generic listing provides reference to citations in earlier editions by volume number, while those works new to this volume are cited in the reference section. Generic and family names are verified through Airy Shaw (1988) and the Index Kewensis Supplements. The indexes become valuable in searching out the known published references to the pollen morphology of angiosperms. I have nearly always been successful in locating a published work involving the taxa of angiosperm with which I was concerned.

The information provided includes letter designations following the citations in the generic listings indicating the type of study or studies incorporated in the paper cited. "L" indicates light microscopy, "S" for scanning electron microscopy, "T" for transmission electron microscopy, "R" for replica and "V" for video. New to the 8th index are the designations "ST, A" and "F", indicating the relatively new techniques of Scanning Tunneling, Atomic force microscope studies, and Fluorescence microscope studies respectively.

An entry in the volume may look like this:
GYMNOCARPOS (1,4,7)

Petrusson & Thulin (1996-S); Reille (1995-L)
Thus, reference to the genus *Gymnocarpus* is found in volumes 1,4 and 7, wherein those volumes relative papers are cited. In the current 8th index the papers by Petrusson & Thulin, covering scanning electron microscope work and the paper by Reille using light microscopy, are cited.

The second section of the volume contains an alphabetical listing of angiosperm families and the genera included within that family which are cited in this and previous volumes of the Index. The listing is of course extremely valuable as it provides the researcher with the genera that are most likely to bear similar morphological features, especially those families having stenopalynous pollen. In this way a quick search of the papers covering other genera within the same family may provide clues to the affinity of fossil pollen forms.

Overall I found this and the previous volumes of the Index to be a very valuable addition to my library. I use the index frequently enough to realize the completeness and careful work put into this effort by the current authors and those who have preceded them. It is probably fairly obvious that I recommend these Indexes to all those concerned with the morphology of modern and fossil angiosperm pollen.

Airy Shaw, H.K. 1988. *Willis' A Dictionary of Flowering Plants and Ferns*. 8th ed. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 1245 pp.

Petrusson, L. & Thulin, M. 1996. Taxonomy and biogeography of *Gymnocarpus* (Caryophyllaceae). *Edinb. J. Bot.* 53:1-26.

Reille, M. 1995. *Pollen et spores d'Europe et d'Afrique du nord*. Supplement 1. Laboratoire de botanique historique et palynologie, Marseille: 327 pages.

* Advance orders are now being taken for the book **Travels with the Fossil Hunters** (ed. P.J. Whybrow: 240 pp., 103 color plates, hardback) on web sites of Cambridge University Press in the USA and UK, as well as USA book web

sites. About \$25 or 19.95GBP depending on discounts. Publication date April 13th. Published by CUP in association with The Natural History Museum, London*.

Contributors: Sir David Attenborough, Richard Fortey, Andrew Smith, Alison Longbottom, Angela Milner, Chris Stringer, Per Erik Ahlberg, Peter J. Whybrow, Steve Culver, Paul D. Taylor, Peter Andrews, Jerry Hooker

Description: *Travels with the Fossil Hunters* tells twelve stories of expeditions to remote parts of the world in search of diverse fossils such as dinosaurs and human ancestors. Palaeontologists relate the problems and curiosities they encounter whilst working in extreme conditions, from the deserts of the Sahara and Yemen to the frozen wastes of Antarctica, from the mountains of India to the forests of Latvia. They tell us what field expeditions are really like: dodging bullets in West Africa or rabid dogs in Pakistan, surviving yak-butter tea in Tibet or raw fish in China. Along

the way they also describe the palaeontology and geology of the countries they visit and the scientific reasons for their expeditions. Copiously illustrated with spectacular colour

photographs and with a foreword from David Attenborough and an introduction from Richard Fortey, this fascinating book will appeal to anyone interested in travelling and fossils, amateurs and professionals alike. Chapter Contents Foreword Sir David Attenborough; Introduction Richard Fortey; 1. Across Tibet by jeep, pony and foot Andrew Smith; 2. Fishing - and some dinosaurs - in the Sahara Alison Longbottom and Angela Milner; 3. Digging the rock Chris Stringer; 4. A summer in Latvia Per Erik Ahlberg; 5. Brains in Abu Dhabi's desert Peter J. Whybrow; 6. Thomas Hardy, Driver ants and some West African fossils Steve Culver; 7. Two passages to India Paul D. Taylor; 8. Digging for dragons in China Angela Milner; 9. Close encounters in Pakistan Peter J. Whybrow; 10. The day of a thousand fossils Peter Andrews; 11. Ancient bones in the frozen continent Jerry Hooker; 12. Arabia Felix, fossilised fruits and the price of frogs Peter J. Whybrow. Contact/Order: USA: <http://www.cup.org>, UK: <http://www.cup.cam.ac.uk/> or UK <http://www.nhbs.com/xbscripts>

* Marsh's Dinosaurs, The Collections from Como Bluff, John H. Ostrom and John S. McIntosh, With a new foreword by Peter Dodson and a new historical update by Clifford Miles and David Hamblin

"When I began my career in paleontology, Marsh's Dinosaurs was one of the very first books on my shelf. Now my students, and the enormously expanded public who devour great dinosaur books, will have the same opportunity afresh. Huzzah!" Peter Dodson, from the foreword

In the 1870s a wealth of fossil dinosaur and Jurassic mammal bones were uncovered at Como Bluff, Wyoming, the first major discovery of such remains in the world. O. C. Marsh, then paleontologist for Yale University's Peabody Museum, managed to finance and claim the greater portion of the excavations. He reunited the bones that were excavated and had lithographs made of them. This classic book, first published in 1966, recounts the trials, fortunes, and misfortunes behind the collection of the Como Bluff fossil bones and reproduces most of the lithographs. This edition of the book includes a new foreword by Peter Dodson that places the discovery at Como Bluff as well as the book that describes its historical perspective, and a historical overview by Clifford Miles and David Hamblin that presents the current state of work at this famous site.

John Ostrom is professor emeritus of geology and geophysics at Yale University and editor emeritus of the American Journal of Science. John McIntosh is professor emeritus of physics at Wesleyan University. Peter Dodson is professor of veterinary medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and author of The Horned Dinosaurs. Clifford Miles is chief executive officer and David Hamblin is an employee at the Western Paleontological Laboratories.

Tim Shea tim.shea@yale.edu, Electronic Promotion Coordinator Yale University Press, P.O. Box 209040, New Haven, CT 06520-9040, 203/436-1321 (phone), 203/432-5455 (fax), Phone orders: 800-987-7323. Be sure to visit the Yale University Press Web Site at: <http://www.yale.edu/yup>

VARIA

* **Paleo21**: In the final installment of the Paleo21 Reports and Recommendations for Paleontological Organizations (http://www.nhm.ac.uk/hosted_sites/paleonet/paleo21/rr/) this topics of Museums and Institutes and of Professional Societies are considered.

In his report on Museums and Institutes, Doug Erwin reviews their tripartite roles in public outreach, research, and curation/conservation and touches on the issue of how electronic databases will contribute to changes in these areas of operation. Meanwhile, Sergio Archangelsk and colleagues discuss the changing roles of professional paleontological societies; especially as those roles pertain to issues of organization within scientific and national contexts http://www.nhm.ac.uk/hosted_sites/paleonet/paleo21/rr/societies.html. As always, please post comments, questions, disagreements, extensions, alternative points of view, etc. on either of these topics to the PaleoNet listserver (PaleoNet@ucmp1.berkeley.edu). To post and receive messages to and from PaleoNet you must be a list subscriber. Subscriptions are free and complete subscription information is available in the PaleoNet web sites at: www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/Paleonet/Listservers/PaleoNet.Html OR www.nhm.ac.uk/hosted_sites/paleonet/Listservers/PaleoNet.Html.

There will be no new Paleo21 material posted next week while the Paleo21 organizers consider how best to proceed with the dissemination of the final paleontological theme reports. Look for new Paleo21 material in mid-April.

* The following links are proposed by Bruno Granier, bgranier@emirates.net.ae. The first one involves a "Virtual field trip in SE Spain" (the English version will come soon, but you can have a look at the Gallery). http://www.geocities.com/bruno_granier/index.html Le Crétacé inférieur de la Costa Blanca au Nord-Est d'Alicante (Espagne) [Français], <http://www.angelfire.com/sc2/cretace/index.html> Early Cretaceous Tethyan Stratigraphy [English] <http://www.angelfire.com/sc2/cretace/forum.html> Forum: Modify the J/K boundary! Valanginian relative sea level curve ? [English], <http://www.multimania.com/bgranier/index.html>: Early Cretaceous calcareous Algae [English], <http://www.multimania.com/bgranier/index-fr.html>: Algues calcaires du Crétacé inférieur [Français],

* Professor R McNeill Alexander, FRS, Editor of **Proceedings of the Royal Society of London: series B** invites members of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontologists and other researchers in paleobiology to submit short, high quality research articles to the journal. Proceedings B is a rapid publications journal with an international circulation, publishing twice every month and welcomes research papers in all areas of biological science including vertebrate and invertebrate paleontology, paleoecology and paleobotany. The target publication time is only 3 months from acceptance, and the journal itself is published twice every month.

For more than a century Proceedings: Biological Sciences has been at the forefront of scientific dissemination, publishing research papers in all

disciplines of the biological sciences. As a journal of the Royal Society it has the support of an internationally prestigious, independent academy whose mission is to recognise excellence in science. The reputation of the journal rests on its ability to call upon the services of the Royal Society Fellowship, 69 of whom are current Nobel Laureates. Fellows of the Royal Society are amongst the most distinguished members of the scientific community and by utilising them and other eminent scientists in the rigorous peer-review of research papers, we ensure only the highest quality science is accepted for publication.

At any time during both the refereeing and production processes authors can personally contact the Editorial and Production Departments for updates on the progress of their manuscript. The Editorial Department also deals directly with the referees of each paper, so confirming our commitment to an immediate and responsive service. Publishing with Proceedings is straightforward and we also welcome electronic submission of manuscripts. For information and advice on how to proceed either visit www.pubs.royalsoc.ac.uk or contact Mr Aosaf Afzal on +44 (0)20 7451 2629, email: aosaf.afzal@royalsoc.ac.uk

* **Plankton web site updated:** The web site for the "Checklist of phytoplankton in the Skagerrak-Kattegat (including heterotrophic protists)" has been redesigned to be easier to use. It contains lists of plankton occurring in the area and species sheets with pictures, references etc. Since many plankton species occur in other areas it is useful also for researchers, students and others interested in other areas.

There are 177 diatom species in the list and 97 have links to "species sheets". There are 178 species of dinoflagellates in the list and 96 have links to "species sheets". There are 291 species of other plankton in the list and 89 have links to "species sheets". The web site has had over 28 000 visitors since the start in January 1996. Please visit: <http://www.marbot.gu.se/sss/ssshome.htm>. Send comments to the web site creators Mats Kuylenstierna mats.kuylenstierna@marbot.gu.se or Bengt Karlson bengt.karlson@marbot.gu.se.

AGENDA: News on upcoming events; (from the CAP webpages, <http://www.ualberta.ca/~abeaudoi/cap/conf.htm> and the PAGES webpages, <http://www.pages.unibe.ch/>)

2000

* May 30-June 3, 2000 **American Geophysical Union 2000 Spring Meeting**, Washington DC, USA, Internet: <http://www.agu.org/meetings/sm00top.html>

* June 1-3, 2000. **Plaeograssland Research 2000:** A conference on the reconstruction and modelling of grass-dominated biomes, Westbrook, CT, USA, <http://www.wesleyan.edu/~kbeuning/PGR2000>

* June 2-6, 2000 **CAPE 2000: Sea Ice in the Climate System: The Record of the North Atlantic Arctic**, Kirkjubaejarklaustur, Iceland Contact: Aslaug Geirsdottir,

Chair, Local Organizing Committee Email: age@rhi.hi.is, <http://instaar.colorado.edu/~duvall/cape/cape2000.html>

* June 4-8 2000. **GSA Penrose Conference: Great Cascadia Earthquake Tricentennial**. Seaside, Oregon, USA. Details: John J. Clague, Earth Sciences, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, V5A 1S6 Canada. Tel: (604) 291-4924; Fax: (604) 291-4198; jclague@sfu.ca

* June 18-23 2000. **17th International Radiocarbon Conference** Jerusalem, Israel. Details: PO Box 29041, Tel Aviv 61290, Israel, E-mail: trgt@netvision.net.il Website: <http://www.radiocarbon.co.il/>

* June 19-23, 2000 **2nd Chapman Conference on the GAIA hypothesis**, Valencia, Spain, <http://bioweb.uv.es/gaia2000>

* The **10th International Pollen Congress** will be held **June 23-30, 2000** in **Nanjing China**. DEADLINES: - March 31, 2000 is the last date to register at reduced rates and - April 10, 2000 is the last date to send Abstracts. The information you need is available online at IPC 10 Web Page <http://www.nigpas.ac.cn/10th/10th.htm> or Preliminary 3rd Circular: http://geo.arizona.edu/palynology/ipc10_3.html

* June 26-30 2000. **World Conference on Natural Resource Modelling**. Wageningen, The Netherlands. Theme: The Ecology of Scale, and the emphasis will be on spatially explicit models. Details: Max Rietkerk, Wageningen University, Department of Environmental Sciences, Bornsesteeg 69, 6708 PD Wageningen, The Netherlands. Tel: 31 317 485437; Fax: 31 317 484845; Max.Rietkerk@staf.ton.wau.nl. Website: <http://www.slm.wau.nl/natcons/RMAconf/>

* July 10-14 2000. **8th International Symposium on Pollination** Mosonmagyaróvár, Hungary. Theme: "Pollination: integrator of crops and native plant systems" Details: Prof. P. Benedek, Zoology Department, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, Pannon University of Agricultural Sciences, H-9201 Mosonmagyaróvár, Vár 4. Hungary Fax: 36(96)215-931, E-mail: benedek@movar.pate.hu

* July 12-14 2000. **5th International Ancient DNA Conference** Manchester, England, U.K. Details: Terry Brown adna5@bi.umist.ac.uk

* July 30 - August 3 2000. **Sixth Quadrennial Conference of the International Organization of Paleobotany (IOPC IV - 2000)** Qinhuangdao, Hebei, China. Details: Prof. Lujun Liu, Secretary-General of IOPC-VI Organising Committee, Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, Academia Sinica, 39 East Beijing Road, Nanjing 210008, PR China, Tel.: +86-25-6637 208, Fax: +86-25-3357 026 E-mail: paleobot@public1.ptt.js.cn

* August 6-17 2000. **31st International Geological Congress** Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Theme: "Geology and

Sustainable Development: Challenges for the Third Millennium". Details: Secretariat Bureau, Av. Pasteur, 404 - Casa Brazil 2000 - Urca, Rio de Janeiro - RJ - Brazil, CEP 22.290-240. Tel: 55 21 295 5847, Fax: 55 21 295 8094, E-mail: 31igc@31igc.org, Website: <http://www.31igc.org>

* August 20-24 2000. **8th International Symposium on Paleolimnology** Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada. Details also appear at the PEARL website at <http://darwin.biology.queensu.ca/~pearl/paleo2000.htm>

* August 21-28, 2000 **Third International INTIMATE** (Integration of Ice-core, Marine and Terrestrial Records of the Last Termination) Workshop Kangerlussuaq, Greenland, Internet: <http://www.geo.vu.nl/~intimate/>

* August 22-27 2000. **Association québécoise pour l'étude du Quaternaire (AQQUA) 2000 and Canadian Geomorphology Research Group (CGRG) Annual Meeting**. Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal, Québec, Canada. Participants to this joint meeting are invited to take a critical look at the Québec and Canadian contribution over the last thirty years to the knowledge of the Quaternary, as well as to evaluate the impact of new technologies on solving the problems we face today. A special session on the Holocene and general presentations will complete the program. The first circular will be sent in May 2000. Until then, contact Michel Lamothe, Département des sciences de la Terre, UQAM; lamothe.michel@uqam.ca

* August 25-27 2000. **16th International Diatom Symposium**. Hellas, Greece; Athens 25-27 August, Aegean Islands, 28 August - 1 September. Details: Dr. Richard M. Crawford, Curator: Friedrich Hustedt Diatom Collection, Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research, AM Handelshafen 12, 27570 Bremerhaven, Germany. Tel: 49 471 4831 530; Fax: 49 471 4831 425; rcrawford@awi-bremerhaven.de, Website: <http://www.uoa.gr/IDS2000>

* 25-29 August, 2000 **Monsoon Climate, Geomorphologic Processes and Human Activities**, Nanjing, China, Contact: Dr. Ke, E-mail: xke@netra.nju.edu.cn

* Third International **Bioerosion Workshop, Barcelona (Spain), August 28th - September 3rd, 2000**, Address for more information: <jordim@natura.geo.ub.es>. Second Circular can be found at <http://www.ub.es/dpep/con1.htm>

* September 4-8 2000. **International Symposium, High Mountain Lakes and Streams: Indicators of a Changing World** Innsbruck, Tyrol, Austria. Details: University of Innsbruck, Institute of Zoology and Limnology, Technikerstr. 25, A-6020 Innsbruck, Austria. E-mail: hmls2000@uibk.ac.at Website: <http://zoology.uibk.ac.at/congress>

* September 4-9 2000. **Second European Symposium on Aerobiology Vienna**, Austria. Website: <http://betula.hno.akh-wien.ac.at/s2000/linksprog.html>

* September 4-9 2000, **Goldschmidt 2000 Conference:**

Rapid Climate Change Continents/Oceans, Oxford, UK
Internet <http://www.campublic.co.uk/science/conference/Gold2000/index.html>

* **Oct-Nov 2000. Digital Biota IV:** The Fourth International Conference on Evolution and Cyberbiology Shark bay **Australia:** Our next "expeditionary" conference: Visit the last living examples of 3.45 billion year old Stromatolites while discussing the origins and future of life on Earth, Cyberspace and Solar System Space. The first Biota Conference took place in the summer of 1997. We journeyed to the fossil deposits of the Burgess Shale in Canada and traveled back to a time 530 million years ago when multicellular life was exploding in diversity. In 1998, Digital Biota 2, held in Cambridge UK, was devoted to the engineering of complete, biologically inspired, synthetic organisms. Last year's Digital Biota 3 at San Jose State University in the USA brought the concept of Cyberbiology to the creators of Cyberspace in Silicon Valley. Digital Biota 4 (DB4) will take us back to an expedition to a world renowned fossil site: the living Stromatolite colony of Hamelin Pool at Shark Bay, Western Australia. We will then move on to an event (now being planned) in Sydney. The landscapes of Western and Southern Australia hold some of the earliest evidence of life on Earth. Accessible sites such as Hamelin Pool in the Shark Bay world heritage reserve afford us the opportunity to "reach out and touch" biota of a very distant aeon as we did at Digital Burgess in 1997. As we found at our first conference, journeys to actual sites of Paleological interest are equally inspiring to all disciplines participating in Biota events. More information on the conference can be obtained by contacting biota@ccon.org

* November 13-16 2000. **Geological Society of America, Annual Meeting**. Reno, Nevada, U.S.A. Conference theme: "Crossing Divides". Details: GSA HQ, Box 9140, 3300 Penrose Place, Boulder, Colorado 80301, U.S.A. Tel: (303) 447-2020, X133, E-mail: meetings@geosociety.org AND



the **AASP 2000 Reno, Nevada, U.S.A., to be held in conjunction with the GSA Annual Meeting** Details: Tom Demchuk (thomas.d.demchuk@usa.conoco.com), Fred Rich (frich@gasou.edu), or Paul Strother (strother@bc.edu). See for more information the announcement below.

* The **tenth Brazilian Meeting of Paleobotanists and Palynologists** (X Reunião de Paleobotânicos e Palinólogos – X RPP) will be held **December 11-16, 2000**, at the Guarulhos University in the Greater São Paulo metropolitan area. This year's program offers a broad spectrum of activities, including keynote addresses and round-table discussions on: "Phytostratigraphy of the Glossopiteris flora"; "Phytogeographic patterns: Paleoenvironmental implications of present and past distributions of plants"; "Palynostratigraphy of Mesozoic sequences applied to petroliferous systems: Methods of

high-resolution study and perspectives”; “Palynostratigraphic correlations of the Late Paleozoic of Gondwana”. Abstracts for oral presentations (15 minutes plus 5 minutes for discussion) and posters should be mailed by 30 June 2000 in hard form and 3 ½ diskette (WORD 97 or 98 format using Times New Roman 12 font and 1,5 spacing). Information on accommodations and how to get to the meeting will be available in mid-March by e-mail and in the Second Circular to be sent out in July. For further information, contact: Profa. Dra. Maria Judite Garcia (President, Organizing Committee) Universidade Guarulhos, Laboratório de Geociências Praça Tereza Cristina, 01 - Guarulhos, SP, Brazil – 07023-070 Telephone: 55 (11) 6464-1708 Fax. 55 (11) 6464-1702 or 6464-1694 e-mail: geo@ung.br

2001

* May 27-30 2001. **GAC/MAC Joint Annual Meeting**, St John's, Newfoundland. Details: Douglas Boyce, Department of Mines and Energy, Geological Survey Division, Regional Geology Section, P.O. Box 8700, St John's Newfoundland, A1B 4J6, Canada, Tel: (709) 729-2163, Fax: (709) 729-4270, E-mail: wdb@zeppo.geosurv.gov.nf.ca

* July 9-22 2001: **A Vertebrate Palaeontology field school/ expedition** organized by the Australian Vertebrate Fossil Field School of the Queensland Museum Palaeontology Department. This two week field school will teach the principles of vertebrate fossil excavation and field techniques, as well as involve the serious excavation of Pleistocene- Holocene cave and surface fossil sites in north Queensland, and the survey of a major limestone karst region for similar fossil sites. The setting is in tropical Queensland, which during the austral winter is extremely pleasant, in the middle of the dry season.

This is an unrivalled opportunity for amateurs, professionals and anyone who is interested in gaining experience in palaeontological techniques downunder. In addition we will have on-board recognised experts in the local living fauna. We now call for initial expressions of interest in this field work. We expect the cost, inclusive of meals, transport from site to and from Townsville Airport, and all field notes, tuition and guidance to be approximately \$2100 Australian per person.

Participants will be required to arrange return transport to Townsville, north Queensland, Australia. All materials collected will be retained by the Queensland Museum but special arrangements can be made for institutional and other exchanges of excess material not needed for the associated research program. Note: A permit is required to export fossils from Australia. A limit of 20 people is to be placed on this field school. Please register your interest by emailing to the address below; please include full name, email, address etc alexC@qm.qld.gov.au Dr Alex Cook, Curator, Geology and Palaeontology, Queensland Museum

* September 18-22 2001. **PAGES - PEP III Conference**. Le Centre de Congres, Aix-en-Provence, France. PAGES - PEP III is concerned with studies of past climate variability in Europe and Africa. Key aims are to assess variability on different time-scales, to assess the impacts of past climate change on natural ecosystems and human society, and to provide a firm basis for the verification and testing of climate models. Website: <http://www.geog.ucl.ac.uk/ecrc/pep3>

* November 5-8 2001. **Geological Society of America, Annual Meeting**. Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. Details: GSA HQ, Box 9140, 3300 Penrose Place, Boulder, Colorado 80301, U.S.A. Tel: (303) 447-2020, X133, E-mail: meetings@geosociety.org

2002

* October 28-31 2002. **Geological Society of America, Annual Meeting**. Denver, Colorado, U.S.A. Details: GSA HQ, Box 9140, 3300 Penrose Place, Boulder, Colorado 80301, U.S.A. Tel: (303) 447-2020, X133, E-mail: meetings@geosociety.org



!!!!!!!!!!!!!! SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT !!!!!!!!!!!!!

AASP 2000 in Reno, Nevada, November 13-16, 2000

In conjunction with Geological Society of America
by Thomas Demchuk, Fred Rich and Paul Strother

This year, AASP's annual meeting will have a little bit of a different flavor. We will be holding our meeting in conjunction with the Geological Society of America in Reno, Nevada during the month of November. AASP is an Associated Society of GSA, and will hold all its usual meeting functions within the framework of the larger GSA meeting. A Topical Session has been sponsored by AASP, "Frontiers in the Palynological Sciences" (Topical Session #115) which will

highlight the some of the best palynology research being undertaken today. As well, other General Palynology sessions (both oral and poster) will be available for those speakers not part of the topical session. All interested AASP members are strongly encouraged to submit abstracts for the meeting. Abstracts can be submitted electronically, to the website <http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2000/t-abs.htm> by August 1st. Hard copy abstracts may also be submitted, by July 25th. Abstract forms may be acquired from GSA headquarters by contacting them through the same website. All abstracts will be thoroughly reviewed by the GSA technical committee, of which AASP will be a part. When submitting your abstract either electronically or hard copy, you must check discipline box Paleontology/Paleobotany to make sure your abstract is accordingly reviewed and included for the appropriate sessions. Further, you must check your abstract as volunteered if you plan to submit it for consideration in the Topical Session.

All information concerning registration and accommodations, and other meeting information will be sent out to all AASP members during the month of June. AASP has arranged through GSA, to mail out the June issue of the GSA newsletter, GSA Today to all AASP members. In this meetings issue, you will find all information regarding fieldtrips, short courses, other sessions, abstract submission information, hotel information and reservations, and registration forms for the meeting. Since AASP is an Associated Society, AASP members pay the regular GSA membership registration fee. Make sure you check the box stating you are a member of a GSA Associated Society. When making your hotel reservations, the AASP board of directors has designated the Reno Hilton as AASP headquarters, but this should not preclude you from making reservations at the hotel of your choice. With the social activities and meetings being planned by AASP, staying at the Reno Hilton will make your attendance at these functions much easier.

Details are currently being worked out regarding the two Board of the Directors meetings, and the AASP Business Luncheon. Please be aware that the Business Luncheon is an additional item on the registration form, and should be checked as part of your registration submission. The Board of Directors will do their best to keep this additional cost to a minimum, while preserving formality. The meeting Icebreaker will be held on the evening of Sunday, November 12th in the Exhibits Hall. AASP will have a booth in the Hall, where we will be showing off our organization, along with our publications and other advertising. Please stop by during the course of the Icebreaker and say hi. Additionally, a "social evening" is being planned at a local establishment with all attending AASP members invited. This will be an opportunity to get together with other AASP members who are at the. Look for additional details concerning these events in the next AASP newsletter. By that time, all meeting activities will have been finalized including speaker acceptance, session dates and times, business luncheon date and location, and social event date, time and location.

This year's meeting for AASP is unique opportunity for members. Please take part in GSA activities including fieldtrips and/or short courses. Of course, there will be many other interesting geological sessions for members to attend. All information concerning the meeting may be found at the GSA website, <http://www.geosociety.org/2000/geninfo.htm>.