



JOINT MEETING TSOP - AASP - ICCP

The Society for Organic Petrology, AASP-The Palynological Society
and the International Commission for Coal and Organic Petrology

September 18 – 23, 2016

Houston, Texas USA

FIRST CIRCULAR

We are pleased to present the initial announcement regarding this first historic joint meeting of these three related geological, geochemical and biological scientific societies. The purpose of this joint meeting is to bring together a diverse group of scientists to discuss the close relationships between organic petrology and palynology, to foster thoughtful discussion and address issues that may be of benefit to furthering the respective sciences. Key themes to be addressed during joint activities include palynofacies and source rock assessment.

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

The meeting will begin with TSOP and ICCP technical sessions and commission meetings on Monday and Tuesday, sessions for all three societies on Wednesday, and sessions and commission meetings for ICCP and AASP on Thursday and Friday. Each of the societies will have ample opportunity to conduct their needed business meetings. Social activities are also being planned accordingly, although a couple of evenings will be open to allow members to enjoy the nightlife of downtown Houston. The Conference Dinner for all attendees is being planned for Wednesday evening and will showcase views of the area skyline.

Houston is a significant transportation hub and the international airport (IAH) is serviced by all major airlines from Europe and Asia. Both airports (IAH and HOU) are serviced by the major US-based airlines. Transportation to and from the hotel area from both airports is available via taxi, shuttle, and MetroBus. Further information on fares and routes will be distributed in later circulars. Our current negotiated room rate at The Magnolia hotel is US\$179/night (single occupancy). Double- and triple- occupancy will be priced accordingly. This room-rate includes a complimentary hot breakfast, a late afternoon happy hour (complimentary beer/wine), a complimentary bedtime cookie buffet, and free internet.

The local Organizing Committee consists of Thomas Demchuk (ConocoPhillips), Jen O'Keefe (Morehead State U.), Thomas Gentzis (Core Laboratories) and Joe Curiale (Chevron). Over the next several months we will do our best to keep the societies and membership informed of new events and deadlines. In the very near future we will be soliciting ideas and potential speakers for our joint technical sessions. We look forward to a great joint meeting in September of 2016.