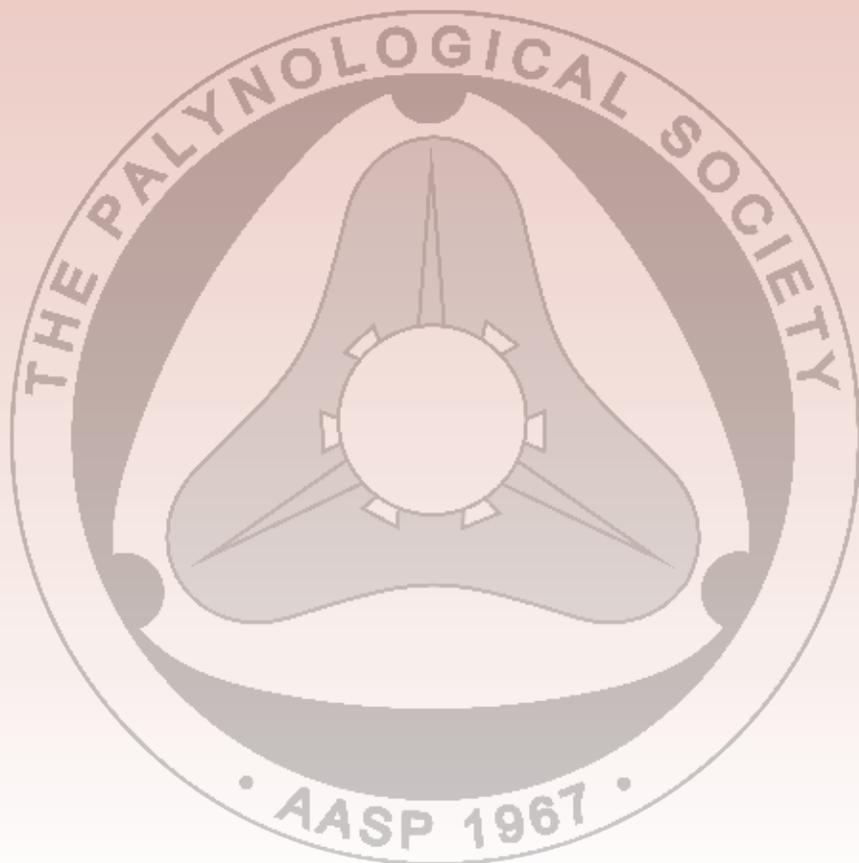


# AASP- THE PALYNOLOGICAL SOCIETY



*Nothofagidites flemingii* by S. Warny



## NEWSLETTER



**June 2010**  
**Volume 43, Number 2**



# A.A.S.P. NEWSLETTER

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Published Quarterly by the AASP - The Palynological Society

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# A.A.S.P.

## The Palynological Society

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

The AASP Foundation publishes the journal *Palynology* (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)  
Professor Svein B. Manum (awarded 2002)  
Professor Barrie Dale (awarded 2004)  
Dr. David Wall (awarded 2004)  
Dr. Robin Helby (awarded 2005)  
Dr. Satish K. Srivastava (awarded 2006)

### 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 Aural T. Cross (elected 1991)  
Dr. Robert T. Clarke (awarded 2002)  
Professor Vaughn Bryant (awarded 2005)  
Professor Alfred Traverse (awarded 2005)

### AASP Board of Directors Award recipient

Dr. Robert T. Clarke (awarded 1994)

### Teaching medal recipients

Professor Aural T. Cross (awarded 1999)  
Professor Alfred Traverse (awarded 2001)  
Professor Bill Evitt (awarded 2006)

### AASP Distinguished Service Award recipients

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



# A.A.S.P. NEWSLETTER

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Sophie Warny, Editor

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

## A Message from the President

# *Don't forget about palynology*

By Joyce Lucas-Clark

While trying to think of a topic to make into the president's message, the song "Don't you forget about me" was going through my head. I thought, "That's it! Don't you forget about me!" "Me" meaning Palynology.

It is hard times for Palynology. Not many jobs. Not much grant money. Not much appreciation by the outside world. Some of us are driven to taking other jobs to make a living (like me). But still, I think it is possible not to forget about Palynology. After all, it is our life's work and our science. It is the thing we are most proud of, after our children, of course. Well, that is how I feel about it anyway.

How can you remember Palynology? Dig out that old thesis that was never fully published.

Bring it up to date and publish it! It will make you feel good again about Palynology. Go to AASP meetings and reacquaint yourself with old friends and fellow scientists. Bring yourself up to date on the latest stuff going on in Palynology.

The Halifax meeting is coming up. It promises to be a pleasure to the ears and has two wonderful field trips to choose from. The venue is beautiful, with a view of the harbor. The area immediately around Halifax is as picturesque as any you will find anywhere with eastern seaboard harbors and light houses, glaciated granites of the Canadian shield.

Don't you forget about Us, the palynologists who are left. We are a fine bunch of friends and we all love Palynology. It doesn't get much better.



## **AASP 43rd Annual Meeting Registration opens June 1st!**

<http://www.palynology.org/meetings.html>

Convened with  
CAP (Canadian Association of Palynologists)  
CPC (Paleo Division Geological Association of Canada)

Harbourview Holiday Inn, Halifax, Nova Scotia.  
Sept. 29 - Oct. 1, 2010.

Organizers:  
Rob Fensome, Peta Mudie, Graham Williams,  
GSC-Atlantic, Bedford Institute of Oceanography,

# MANAGING EDITOR'S REPORT

Volume 33, in two parts, of *Palynology* was published during December 2009. Part one, the 'regular issue'; it is 284 pages long, and comprises twelve peer-reviewed research articles. Part two is a special edition in honor of John H. Wrenn, and was edited by Martin Head and Francine McCarthy. This is 179 pages and has an introduction plus 12 peer-reviewed articles. *Palynology* 33 continued the new style color, glossy front and back cover. Ian Harding (Southampton, UK) provided the stunning SEM of a Late Jurassic dinoflagellate cyst from Russia. Unfortunately we have again had some shipping difficulties; if any member did not receive their copy they should contact myself and Bob Clarke ([RTClarke1@aol.com](mailto:RTClarke1@aol.com)). *Palynology* is now available online via GeoScience World, BioOne, EBSCO, and JSTOR and we continue to receive significant royalty income from these bodies. No numbers of the *Contributions Series* were published during 2009.

I have now put the finishing touches to Part 1 of volume 34. This will be finalised soon, and will be printed and shipped in late May. The publication date will be 1st June. It will be around 150 pages and comprises an editorial and five articles (see listing below).

Manuscript submission is very healthy and more manuscripts are currently in review, in revision, and being copyedited. Part 2 of volume 34 will be published during December 2010. Note that all completed articles will be electronically published awaiting paper printing.

I am currently familiarising myself with "Manuscript Central". This is the electronic submission platform used by Taylor & Francis. I will inform the membership when this has been set up and can go live. A smooth and efficient transition will be achieved.

I am extremely grateful for the fantastic efforts of Bob Clarke, our Production Editor and distributor for volume 33. Vaughn Bryant has also continued to handle publication distribution. I would also like to sincerely thank Assistant Editor Fabienne Marrett, Sophie Warny the *Newsletter* Editor, and Judi Lentin the editor of the *Contributions Series*.

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## **Manuscripts for *Palynology* volume 34 (1), to be published 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010 (order unknown yet)**

- 1 Editorial
- 2 Pollen and spores from the Tendaguru Beds (Upper Jurassic-Lower Cretaceous) of Southeast Tanzania: paleoecology and biostratigraphy. By Eckart Schrank
- 3 Mississippian and Pennsylvanian palynostratigraphy of the Joggins area, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, Canada. By John Utting, Peter S. Giles, and Graham Dolby
- 4 Dinoflagellate cysts from the Cretaceous/Paleogene boundary at Ouled Haddou, southeastern Rif, Morocco. By Hamid Slimani, Stephen Louwye, and Abdelkabar Toufiq
- 5 Early maize pollen from Chaco Canyon, New Mexico, U.S.A. By Stephen A. Hall
- 6 *Maranhites isaacsonii* sp. nov., from the Devonian Cabanillas Group, Peru. By Gordon D. Wood

# Job Market

## POSTDOCTORAL POSITION IN NORTHERN SOUTHAMERICA NEOGENE PALYNOLOGY

The Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama is seeking to fulfill a postdoctoral position in a project related to the study of the Neogene palynology of Northern South America. A recent Ph.D. is required, a demonstrable track record of recent publications in the area of paleopalynology, and experience in neotropical Neogene palynology. Candidate must be fluent in English. Candidates must be willing to carry out short periods of field-work in Colombia and Venezuela. This is a one year position renewable for a second year depending on progress and availability of funding.

Position is available immediately. Starting salary is \$35,000-42,000/year depending on qualifications. There are additional funds for travel and field-work. Application review begins immediately and will continue until the position is filled. Prospective candidates should send a letter of interest and curriculum vitae to: Carlos Jaramillo (JaramilloC@si.edu). Additional information on Smithsonian Panama at [www.stri.org](http://www.stri.org)

**Faculty of Biological Sciences  
Institute of Integrative and Comparative Biology**



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**

**Research Fellow  
(Full-time, fixed term for 36 months)  
Project Title: Changes in European plant-pollinator communities**

You will assess recent change in pollinator (bee, hoverfly, butterfly) and wild plant communities across Europe using existing databases. The work will explore aspects of species diversity and community ecology, focussing on patterns of change in plant-pollinator communities, possible linkage between changes in pollinator and plant populations, functional diversity and species traits, and some of the drivers of change. The work will involve data gathering and statistical analysis, to address (for example) biodiversity change at different spatial scales, changes in plant-pollinator networks, impact of loss of food resources on pollinators and impact of pollinator loss on pollination services for wild plants. Extensive knowledge of statistical and spatial analysis of large biodiversity databases would be essential for this post; excellent communication and good leadership skills are also essential given the need to set-up collaborations with various data-holders across Europe. The post is part of the EU-FP7 STEP ("Status and Trends in European Pollinators") project, and so would involve collaborations with an interdisciplinary team of scientists from across Europe (and beyond).

You will have a first degree and PhD in population or community ecology, spatial ecology or a closely allied discipline and a strong background in population and community ecology.

**University Grade 7 (£29,853 - £35,646 p.a.)**

Informal enquiries to Dr. Jacobus Biesmeijer, [j.c.biesmeijer@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:j.c.biesmeijer@leeds.ac.uk), tel +44 (0)113 343 2815 or Dr. William Kunin, [w.e.kunin@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:w.e.kunin@leeds.ac.uk), tel +44 (0)113 343 2857

To download an application form and job details please visit <http://hr.leeds.ac.uk/jobs/>. Alternatively these may be obtained from the Faculty HR Office, tel + 44 (0)113 343 2250, email [fbsjobs@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:fbsjobs@leeds.ac.uk)

**Job ref 313348**

# ELECTION TIME

## AASP Secretary-Treasurer Candidate



### Dr. Thomas D. Demchuk

Well, according to the AASP historical records this will be my 13<sup>th</sup> election as Secretary-Treasurer, and 14<sup>th</sup> AASP election overall (for those of you old enough to remember I served as a Director-at-Large for 1995-96). I'm not sure what else I can tell you that I've not said before, perhaps two or three times in such previous biographies. I can honestly say that I've really enjoyed serving on the Board, working with my fellow Board members, and serving the AASP membership in general. There have been many, many highlights and very few bad moments that I can recall.....nothing that could not be worked out through the diligent efforts of the Board members and other volunteers.

My position has allowed me to travel to several of the mid-year Board meetings, and many of the Annual Meetings including a few IPC's. Fortunately for me, my company ConocoPhillips is supportive of my efforts towards AASP and this allows me to attend different palynological meetings both as a representative of ConocoPhillips and also as a Board member of AASP. It has been a pleasure meeting the diverse palynological community during my travels. Of course there is benefit to ConocoPhillips in that many of you I've met in an AASP social situation have become work colleagues on various projects around the globe.

As I've just turned the ripe old age of 50, believe it or not, I have become retirement eligible within the heritage Conoco pension plan, and within ConocoPhillips. It's hard for me to believe I've been working in Houston for almost 18 years: 13+ with ConocoPhillips and 4+ with Amoco Corp. Fortunately, my workload over the years has increased and has only gotten more interesting and challenging: I guess that's job security. I don't plan on going anywhere too soon as long as the work keeps my mind young and ConocoPhillips sees fit to keep giving me a paycheck every two weeks for my (alleged?) talents. You never know though, and I do plan someday to hang up my spreadsheets and enjoy a less-regimented lifestyle.....but not just yet. I hope you won't mind seeing me around for another year at AASP. See you all in Halifax in September.

## Webmaster Candidate

### Dr. Owen Davis

Owen Davis is a Professor of Palynology in the Department of Geosciences at the University of Arizona.

He has served AASP in various capacities since 1974. He was elected Director at Large 1988 and was a member of the Board when CENEX was formed. He was Managing Editor from 2001-04, and Webmaster from 2004-present. He was given the AASP Distinguished Service Award in 2005. He served as President of IFPS from 1996-2000, served as IFPS Webmaster from 1992 to present and has served as AASP Councillor to IFPS from 2004-present.

He has studied airborne pollen, Quaternary palynology and archaeological palynology for 39 years. He began studying "extra palynomorphs" in 1971 at Washington State University under the direction of Rexford Daubenmire and Peter Mehringer. He completed a Ph.D. study of the Quaternary Palynology of the northern Great Basin under Bob Bright, Herb Right, Ed Cushing and Margaret Davis at the University of Minnesota in 1982.

At the University of Arizona since 1982, he oversaw the construction of the UA palynology laboratory in 1986, after helping establish the Cranwell Smith Award in palynology.

He has authored or edited nine books, fifty-four peer-review publications, ninety-one chapters and miscellaneous publications, one-hundred forty-nine technical reports and one-hundred eleven meeting abstracts.



## Palynology Editor Candidate



### Dr. James B. Riding

JAMES B. RIDING is a palynologist/stratigrapher with the British Geological Survey based in Nottingham, England. He has over 25 years experience in Mesozoic-Cenozoic palynology. In the 1980s he worked mainly on the the Mesozoic palynology of onshore and offshore UK, principally the North Sea. His current interests presently include the palynology of Europe, Australasia, Antarctica, west Africa, the Americas, Russia and the Middle East, together with palynomorph provincialism, forensic palynology, paleoenvironmental palynology, palynomorph preparation techniques and the morphology, systematics and taxonomy of dinoflagellate

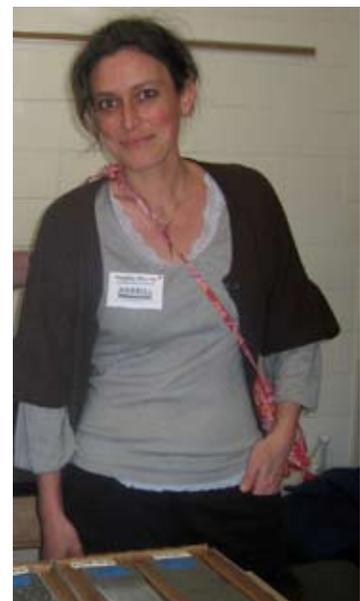
cysts. Jim studied geology at the University of Leicester, before persuing palynology by studying the famous MSc course at the University of Sheffield. He left Sheffield for BGS, where he received a PhD from the University of Sheffield in 1986 for a thesis on the Jurassic dinoflagellate cyst floras of northern and eastern England. The British Antarctic Survey have used Jim as a consultant palynologist and he has visited the Antarctic Peninsula for fieldwork tours during the Austral summers of 1989 and 2006. The most recent field season was spent on Seymour Island. He undertook a secondment to Geoscience Australia in Canberra, Australia in 1999-2000, where he worked on the taxonomy of Australian Jurassic dinoflagellate cysts with Robin Helby and Clinton Foster. The work emanating from this was published in 2001 as Memoir 24 of the Association of Australasian Palaeontologists. Jim was awarded a DSc by the University of Leicester in 2003. He served as a Director-at-Large of AASP between 1999 and 2001, was President in 2003, and became Managing Editor in 2004.

## Newsletter Editor Candidate

### Dr. Sophie Warny

Sophie Warny is an Assistant Professor of Palynology in the department of Geology and Geophysics & at the Museum of Natural Science at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. She received her Ph.D. from the Université Catholique de Louvain, in Belgium working with Dr. Jean-Pierre Suc. Her doctoral dissertation focused on the Messinian Salinity Crisis. Since graduating, she has been working on Antarctic sediments that were acquired via the ANDRILL SMS and the SHALDRIL programs. She is collaborating on these projects with Dr. Rosemary Askin (US), Dr. Ian Raine and Dr. Michael Hannah (New Zealand), and Dr. Barbara Mohr (Germany). In addition to her research, she teaches Historical Geology and Micropaleontology, and manages the education and outreach programs for the Museum. Starting fall 2010, her research group will count six master students and one PhD student. Three of them should graduate in the Spring 2011. The first student who graduated under her guidance, Dr. Rebecca Tedford, is now a biostratigrapher at bp. Sophie would be thrilled to host post-doctoral students and other visiting scientists in the remodelled CENEX facility, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Just contact her!

She has been a member of AASP since approximately 1993, won the AASP Student Award in 1996, and has served as the AASP Newsletter editor for the past five years, since 2006 (AASP NL 39.4).



### Dr. Francisca (Franca) Oboh-Ikuenobe



Franca Oboh-Ikuenobe joined AASP in 1991 soon after moving to Missouri University of Science and Technology (formerly the University of Missouri-Rolla). Since then she has been active in AASP, twice serving on the nominating committee (1995-1996; 2000-2001), organizing the 38<sup>th</sup> annual

meeting in St. Louis, Missouri in 2005, and serving as AASP councilor to the International Federation of Palynological Societies (1996-2004). She has been on the editorial Board of *Palynology* since 1995. Franca is an active member of several other professional societies, including the Geological Society of America (GSA), American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG), Association for Women Geoscientists (AWG), AAAS, Sigma Xi, SEPM – Society of Sedimentary Geology, and the Paleontological Society. She served as a Director for the AWG Foundation from 2005 to 2009, and is currently a member of the AWG's Chrysalis Scholarship Committee, and member-at-large, GSA Committee on Research Grants. In addition, she chairs the O.R. Grawe Award for outstanding undergraduates for the Association of Missouri Geologists.

Franca is currently Professor and Program Head of Geology and Geophysics in the Department of Geological Sciences at Missouri S&T, and was Associate Chair in 2005-2006. She was introduced to palynology by Dr. Babajide Salami as an undergraduate at the University of Ife in Nigeria (now Obafemi Awolowo University) where her honor's thesis focused on the Campanian-Maastrichtian sediments in the Anambra Basin. She graduated with a B.Sc. degree in Geology in 1983, spent one year as a Production Geologist with Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria during her mandatory National Youth Service Corps, and two months as a consulting palynologist with Shell before returning to Ife for a M.Sc. degree in Applied Geology (with Petroleum Geology option), which was awarded in 1987. She studied Neogene sediments from the Niger Delta under Salami's super-

vision. Franca worked briefly as an Assistant Lecturer at Ife and a part-time Palynologist/Geologist with a petroleum service company in Lagos before enrolling for a Ph.D. degree at New Hall College, the University of Cambridge as a Commonwealth Scholar in 1987-1990. Her Ph.D. thesis on the paleoenvironmental reconstruction of Miocene sequences in the Niger Delta integrated palynology with petrology, clay mineralogy, trace fossils, and foraminifera. Her professional experiences include stints as Visiting Professor at the University of the Western Cape and Witwatersrand in South Africa, and Shipboard Sedimentologist/Palynologist on Ocean Drilling Program Leg 159 to the eastern Equatorial Atlantic.

At Missouri S&T Franca teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in evolution of the earth, stratigraphy and sedimentation, systematic paleontology, micropaleontology, paleoclimatology and advanced palynology. She has mentored and continues to mentor several students to study palynology and encourages undergraduate students to conduct research in her laboratory. Her research interests in palynostratigraphy and palynofacies transcend several time slices: Cambrian-Ordovician, Cretaceous, Paleogene, Neogene, and Quaternary. Franca has collaborated extensively with micropaleontologists, sedimentologists, sequence stratigraphers, geochemists, and other palynologists on research projects funded by the National Science Foundation, the Petroleum Research Fund of the American Chemical Society and other funding agencies. She has done fieldwork and studied rocks in such far-flung areas as Australia, South Africa, Nigeria, offshore West Africa, Egypt, U.S. Gulf Coast and Western Interior, southeastern Missouri, and Colombia in South America. As a result of the integrated nature of her research, several of her publications can be found in such diverse journals as the *Journal of Sedimentary Research*, *Earth and Planetary Science Letters* and *Palaeo-3*, in addition to *Palynology* and *Review of Paleaeobotany and Palynology*.

If elected to the presidency, Franca would work with the Board of Directors to increase the visibility of palynology in the media, and to expand and strengthen AASP's membership base especially among students and the society's links with other micropaleontological and geological societies.

## President Elect Candidates (continued)

### Dr. Javier Helenes



Javier Helenes received a B.S. from the Instituto Politecnico Nacional in Mexico City, and an M.S. degree and a Ph.D. from Stanford University.

He has worked in Switzerland, Mexico, Canada, the United States, and Venezuela. He has also worked as consultant in Brazil, Colombia and Costa Rica.

Currently he is a researcher at the Department of Geology of the Research Center CICESE in Baja California, Mexico. His interests include Cretaceous-Tertiary dinoflagellates and geologic evolution from Baja California and the Caribbean-Gulf of Mexico region.

He is currently involved in projects from Baja California (Pacific Margin, and southern Gul of California) , Eastern Equatorial Pacific (ODP Samples), Venezuela (Eastern Basin), Brazil (Pelotas Basin) and Argentina (Austral/Magallanes Basin).

## Directors-at-Large



### Dr. Debra Willard

Debra Willard is a palynologist/paleoecologist with the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston, Virginia. She has over 20 years experience in

Paleozoic, Cenozoic, and Holocene palynology and paleobotany. She began her palynological career as an undergraduate at Penn State with Alfred Traverse and did her graduate work with Tom Phillips at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. There, she used palynomorphs and plant megafossils for paleoecological analyses of Carboniferous coals and clastic units of the Illinois Basin. Her postdoctoral work at the Smithsonian Institution combined systematic analysis of lepidodendrid lycopsids with palynological analyses of late Paleozoic clastic deposits from

the southwestern United States. Since joining the U.S. Geological Survey, her research has applied palynological methods to a range of topics: reconstructing mid-Pliocene vegetation; documenting responses of eastern U.S. vegetation to late Holocene climate fluctuations and human-induced changes in land cover and hydrology; calibrating surface pollen assemblages with source vegetation and environmental parameters; compiling pollen atlases from eastern U.S. wetlands; analyzing Cenozoic pollen records from the ACEX core collected near the North Pole in 2004; and evaluating the palynological signature from high-resolution Paleocene-Eocene pollen records from the Arctic and eastern United States. Her research program integrates pollen with other proxies from terrestrial, estuarine, and marine settings to understand the response of terrestrial ecosystems to natural climate variability, evaluate impacts of anthropogenic changes, and predict future ecosystem responses to different climate and environmental restoration scenarios.

## Directors-at-Large Candidates (continued)

### Dr. Lanny H. Fisk



While in high school in the Late Pleistocene, I was introduced to palynology by the late Dr. Ronald O. Kapp, PhD, who later wrote the book *How to Know Pollen and Spores* (now updated as *Ronald O. Kapp's Pollen and Spores*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition). It is all his fault that I still think palynology is

fun. At the time, Dr. Kapp was doing pollen analysis of a core from a glacial bog located at the edge of my family's property in central Michigan. I was excited to watch the progress of Dr. Kapp's research and from this early experience gained an appreciation for the value of palynology as a tool to make paleoenvironmental reconstructions. And, thus began my lifelong interest and obsession with palynology.

I have been a member of AASP since 1973 (37 years?! How time flies when you're having fun!), and my enthusiastic support of AASP has never waned. I attended my first AASP meeting that year in Anaheim, California (the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting) and have attended about half the annual meetings since, plus several IPCs. I have previously served the organization in limited ways. I was AASP representative to the organizing committee for North American Paleontological Convention IV in 1986 and also served as a judge for Best Student Paper/Poster awards at several meetings. I organized a one-day symposium entitled "*Palynology of Tertiary Floras of Western North America*" to honor pioneering paleobotanist and palynologist Dr. Harry D. MacGinitie at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in San Francisco in 1983 and a symposium to honor Dr. Kapp at the 2009 AASP annual meeting (the 42<sup>nd</sup>) in Tennessee.

I am an alumnus of Central Michigan University, Andrews University, and Michigan State University and received a PhD from Loma Linda University for a dissertation on palynology of the Eocene "Fossil Forest" of Yellowstone National Park. After teaching for six years at Walla Walla University, I returned to Michigan State University to take additional coursework in geology and do post-doctoral research in paleopalynology,

source rock analysis, and coal petrography.

I am currently the CEO and Chief Paleontologist of a successful consulting company I co-founded with former graduate students in 1982. In addition to administration, my primary responsibilities are age and paleoenvironmental reconstructions of palynological assemblages. I am also an adjunct professor teaching both geology and biology part time on the American River College campus of the Los Rios Community College District in Sacramento, California. Los Rios is the largest community college in North America with nearly 70,000 students. In addition to being a palynologist, I consider myself a paleobiologist, paleoecologist, and geologist and am a licensed Professional Geologist in both California and Oregon.

My palynological interests and experience are broad, crossing the divide between paleopalynology (Mississippian to Quaternary, but with primary emphasis on Paleogene) and actuopalynology (e.g., taphonomy of terrestrial pollen and spores in the marine environment and pollen analysis of bird stomach contents to determine foraging habits of nectar-feeding birds). I have published several peer-reviewed scientific papers and lots of abstracts, and have authored or co-authored a host of unpublished reports, primarily to government agencies.

My current research includes high-resolution palynostratigraphy of the K-T boundary and PETM and recognition and dating of minor marine incursions recorded in Late Tertiary and Quaternary sediments of the Central Valley of California representing sea-level fluctuations related to climate change. One of these days, I am going to slow down and start publishing the results of my research, but not now; I am still having too much fun doing the research!

I am honored to be nominated as one of the candidates for AASP Director-at-Large. After more than 37 years of associating and participating in many AASP's activities and events, I feel that it is time to give something back to the Society that has given so much to me. And, I finally have the time and company financial support to do so. I have been inspired by the dedication to AASP shown by numerous officers and Board members who have served this organization in the past and would like the opportunity to emulate their dedication. Like them, I will work tirelessly to ensure the continuing success of AASP -- The Palynological Society.

### Dr. Rebecca Tedford

Rebecca Tedford has been a member of AASP since 2005. Rebecca received her B.S. degree in Geology (2001) from Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge. She then traveled to the cold mid-west where she received her M.S. in Geology (2003) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her research focused on the stable isotopic stratigraphy and foraminiferal biostratigraphy during the latest Miocene Stable Isotope event (~7.7 Ma). After completing her master's she embarked on a journey into the world of palynology, returning to Louisiana State University to start a Ph.D. with Dr. John Wrenn. John introduced her to the wonderful world of palynology and phytoliths, in particular. In addition, working with John enabled her to become familiar with the extensive wealth of resources available at the Center for Excellence in Palynology (CENEX). Her research involved a multidisciplinary approach (i.e. pollen, phytoliths, MS, and stable isotopes) to investigating the latest Holocene vegetational and hydrological changes documented at Catahoula Lake, Louisiana.

During her Ph.D. she interned as a palynologist at BP in 2008, where she received exposure to Cenozoic dinoflagellates, spores, and pollen.

Upon completing her Ph.D. in 2009, under the advisement of Sophie Warny and Brooks Ellwood, she began her career at BP working in Gulf of Mexico Exploration as a biostratigrapher.

She loves her new position and the wide range of opportunities she has had since working here.

Rebecca is extremely honored by the nomination for the AASP director-at-large position and looks forward to the possibility of serving the palynological community.



### Dr. Andre Rochon

Andre Rochon is a marine geology professor at ISMER – Université du Québec à Rimouski since 2003 with

a specialisation in marine palynology. He obtained his PhD in Environmental Sciences in 1997 from the Université du Québec à Montréal. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Westminster (UK) from 1997 to 1999, and a researcher at

the Geological Survey of Canada at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography (Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada) from 1999 to 2003. He is a member of the inter-university research networks GEOTOP and Quebec-Ocean, and is currently a principal investigator in research networks such as ArcticNet, a Network of Centres of Excellence, and CAISN, the Canadian Aquatic Invasive Species Network. His research interests include: the Holocene paleoceanography of the Canadian Arctic using dinoflagellate cysts as proxy indicators; the cyst-theca relationships of Arctic dinoflagellate species; dinoflagellates and their cysts as marine invasive species in Canadian coastal waters; and the distribution of dinoflagellates/cysts in Canadian Arctic waterways. He has been a member of AASP since 1995.



**Dr. Susanne  
Feist-Burkhardt**

Susanne Feist-Burkhardt is currently a researcher in palynology in the Palaeontology Department at the Natural History Museum in London, UK.

She was introduced to palynology at the University of Tübingen, Germany, where she graduated in 1987. She studied for a Ph.D. on Lower and Middle Jurassic palynology at the University of Geneva, Switzerland, and then held a research and teaching position at Darmstadt University of Technology back in her home country Germany.

In 2001 she joined the Natural History Museum in London, where she is a researcher in micropalaeontology and leads the palynology group.

In her research she is interested in all aspects of palynology, with special focus on dinoflagellate cysts, their morphology and sys-

tematics, stratigraphy, evolution and their link to environmental change.

In recent years she has become increasingly interested in the palaeobiology of dinoflagellates and the use of various microscopical techniques, such as the confocal laser scanning microscope and recently the TEM for analysing and imaging palynomorphs. Her current research programme focuses on the taxonomy, stratigraphy, palaeobiogeography and palaeoenvironmental aspects of Triassic and Early Jurassic dinoflagellate cysts aiming to elucidate the evolution and radiation of dinoflagellates in the Early Mesozoic.

Until 2008 she coordinated and taught palynology at the MSc in Micropalaeontology jointly run by University College London and the Natural History Museum.

From this year, 2010, she will teach palynology at the University of Geneva, Switzerland. She is a member of the editorial boards of several micropalaeontological/palynological journals and served as a committee member of learned societies in Germany, France and the UK (i.e. Paläontologische Gesellschaft, Association des Palynologues de Langue Française, TMS Palynology Group).

From 2001 to 2005 she was Chair of the Palynology Group of the Micropalaeontological Society in the UK.

**ALL MEMBERS WILL BE ASKED  
TO VOTE SOON.**

**NEW THIS YEAR: ELECTRONIC VOTE!**



## How The Earth Was Made

### ***sometimes you just shouldn't say no***

Last month I got a rather excited e-mail from Vaughn Bryant saying that he had seen me on TV (always better than being seen on the wall in the post office), and he had copied his message to Sophie. Between them they convinced me that I should offer a bit of a description as to how I got involved in a television program. So, not being too bashful about this thing, here's the story.

In the late summer of 2006 I was contacted by Lucy Haken of Pioneer Productions (London) who asked me if I would be interested in helping them film a program for The History Channel. The program was tentatively identified as *The Continents*,

and I was to have some role in explaining the accumulation of coal deposits. The film crew proposed to do some videography in the Okefenokee Swamp, and someone had told them I might be a good person to host that segment. There were no promises, plans were uncertain, and there would be no compensation. Still, I thought it might be fun to give it a go, so I said yes.

I have rarely enjoyed anything more than the time I spent driving to Folkston, GA, and meeting with the crew from Pioneer who were to be my keepers for one long, but thoroughly enjoyable day. I had provided them with some ideas concerning



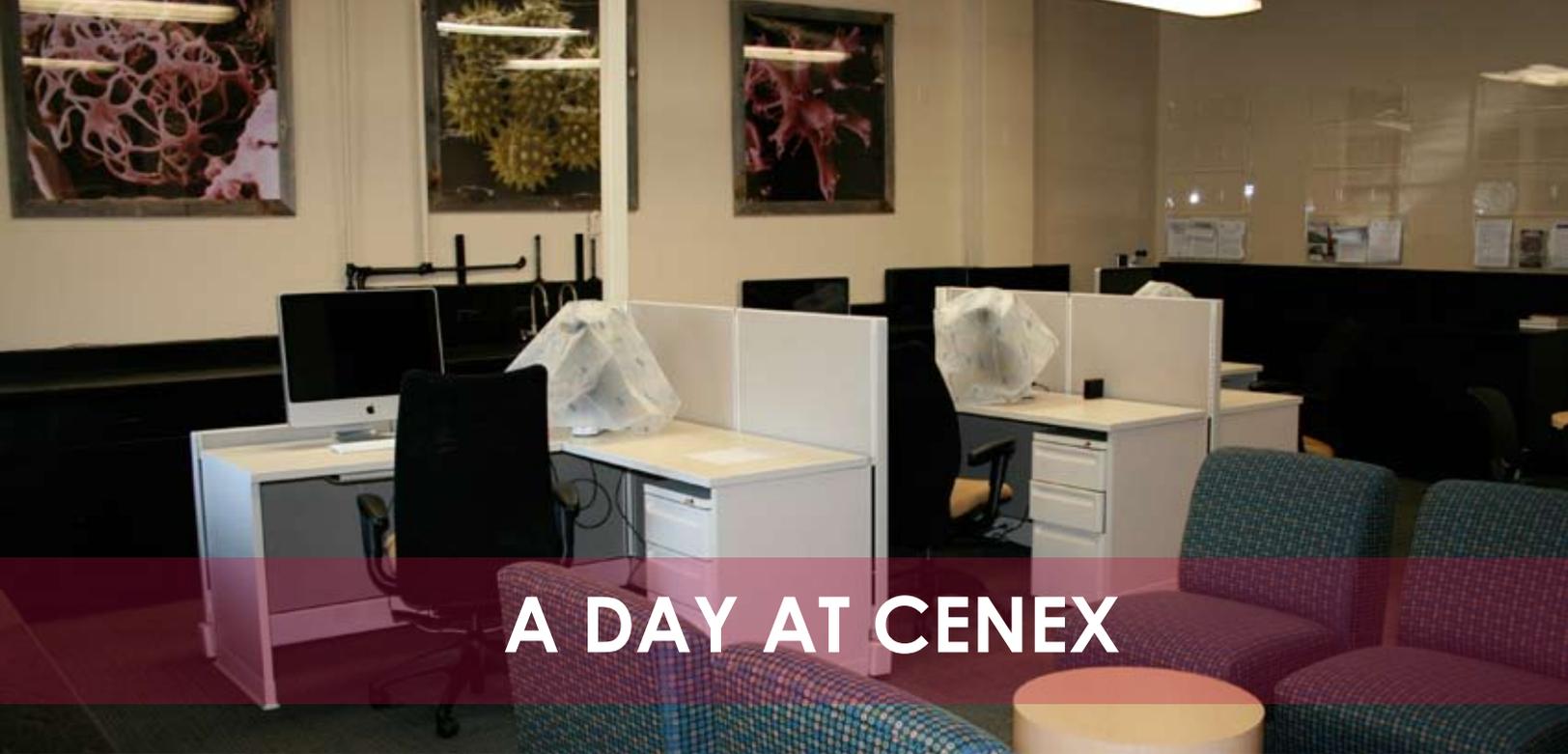
the Carboniferous, the development of coal deposits, and swamps, etc. I had no idea, however, what they really wanted, they had no idea what I could actually do; of course, none of us knew what the Swamp had in store. So, we held a rendezvous at Okefenokee Adventures, the outfitter for the east side of the National Wildlife Refuge. They kindly provided the equipment, the Refuge personnel gave us their blessing, and off we went down the Suwannee Canal. Some readers will remember the fieldtrip I lead for the AASP meeting held in Savannah several years ago, and we took much the same course to film what was eventually to become a part of *How the Earth Was Made*. I'll never forget the photographer who, holding his camera perilously close to the water in the canal, shot some stunning images. Repeated takes, bearing in mind the need to maintain visual continuity kept us filming some segments over and over. Continuity is tricky; I could appear in dry trousers early in the segment, then show up in wet ones, then reappear in dry ones, and that would be breaking the rule of visual continuity – once wet, never dry again. I've learned to look for lack of continuity in programs now, not to be a critic, but to wonder what the sequence of events during filming REALLY was.

The program was finally released in the spring of 2007, though I had no heads-up. My mother called me from Wisconsin one night and excitedly announced that

some friends of hers called her to tell her they had seen me on television! She knew nothing about it, and neither did I for that matter. It was actually some time before I saw the program air on The History Channel, but once they did show it, they showed it again and again – there I am in my canoe, talking about the tall trees of the Carboniferous forest, and comparing a lump of bituminous coal from southern Illinois to a handful of mushy peat from the Okefenokee Swamp. I know when The History Channel has shown it yet again because I invariably have students pop in to say they saw me on TV, or a friend will call and say “We heard a familiar voice on the TV, and there you were!”

I am thrilled that The History Channel has put such great faith in a program that is all Earth Science. In fact, they have turned this into quite a series of productions, so if you just Google *How the Earth Was Made*, you'll get all the information. Furthermore, I am relieved to learn how many people watch a program that is purely education – no cloak and dagger, just cool science. On the one hand, my segment is not long, but on the other hand they gave me the entire Carboniferous! So, go buy yourself a copy, and learn how the Earth was made. I couldn't be more proud to have been a part of such a production.

Fred Rich



## A DAY AT CENEX

Most AASP members and readers of the *Newsletter* are no doubt aware of the Center for Excellence in Palynology (CENEX). Ken Piel recently wrote an excellent article updating the current status and new developments surrounding CENEX. (see: *AASP Newsletter* 42(4), December, 2009). More recently I had the pleasure of visiting CENEX and sharing a full, very interesting day, with Sophie Warny and some of her students learning a bit more about Gulf Coastal palynology and the workings of CENEX.

Susan and I arrived on Thursday, May 6, late in the day and based on a recommendation from Dave Pocknall, found a room at the Hilton Baton Rouge Capital Center. This hotel is "top-of-the-line" and the view from the rooms, whether from the city side or the Mississippi River side, is truly spectacular. Early on Friday we made our way to the Louisiana State University (LSU) and to the Old Howe-Russell Building (Geoscience Complex) where we eventually found Sophie's office and work area. It is within this building that CENEX is housed.

Sophie has done wonders with the facilities and the space provided to her for CENEX development. We had visited CENEX years earlier when only a few rooms and a laboratory were available for palynological research. Today, the original rooms still house

office and preparation rooms, with several rooms across the hallway renovated to house graduate student space, and areas for reading and using the extensive modern and fossil pollen reference collections. We were impressed with the spaciousness, the clean atmosphere, and the well-dressed work stations for her students. State-of-the-art microscopes and computers are the obvious assets, but on the shelves just behind the student work spaces are boxes and boxes of reference slides from around the world, no doubt constituting one of the largest pollen and spore reference collections in North America. Plans are underway to eventually have this collection, with data and photographs, online.

Sophie has been a busy person, with stacks of papers and journals and manuscripts neatly arranged on a table near her desk. These she told me were the several projects with which she is currently involved. She does well at multi-tasking.

We met three of her students and learned of their specific projects. Lee Foersterling is working on Middle Miocene palynomorphs from Antarctica, a part of the larger project which Sophie is now working on with Rosemary Askin. Russell Crouch is already hard at work on the palynology of Holocene Mississippi Delta deposits, a project which will eventually earn him a Masters degree. This



Top: Garzon, Foersterling and Crouch current CENEX graduate students.

Middle: Jarzen and Wary at LSU CENEX

Bottom: Sophie and Sue Jarzen look at the CENEX reference collections.

project is conducted as a cooperative project with Dr. Harry Roberts. Sandra Garzon, a graduate student from Colombia, and part of the Carlos Jaramilo team, is working towards her Masters, studying the palynomorphs from the upper Cretaceous sequences of central Colombia.

For the school session starting this fall, Sophie has accepted three new Masters students and one Ph.D. candidate. These students are coming to LSU and CENEX to be a part of the growing interest in the vast library and reference resources in palynology. Students are being directed toward CENEX by Reed Wicander, Carlos Jaramilo, Fred Rich and several other palynological centers. Interest in CENEX as a dynamic research center is growing.

While we only spent one full day with Sophie, we did manage to get some work done on the microscope. One of the projects with which Sophie is working with several other investigators involves the analysis of core material in the Gulf of Mexico near Galveston, Texas. She and her coauthors are looking at the palynoflora from sites suspected as having human occupation. The pollen assemblage may show signs of human habitation, thereby making this one of the oldest occupied sites in the region. The results of this work will be published soon. I learned something new!

The next day, Saturday, Susan and I drove the 10 or so hours back to Gainesville refreshed with new ideas, and sparked with the contagious enthusiasm offered to us by Sophie, her students, and her family. While we were somewhere in the panhandle of Florida, Sophie and her gang were somewhere in the waters near Dauphin Island off the coast of Alabama, sampling for phytoplankton levels. This work is in response to the recent oil spill in the Gulf, a spill which will change the biota of the Gulf waters for some time to come. Wary and her students plan to continue to obtain and analyze water samples from the Gulf over an extended time period in order to better understand the effects of this current oil spill disaster. CENEX is on the spot, on location with data!

Our day at CENEX was filled with learning and sharing and understanding the sorts of research that are now underway at our Center for Excellence in Palynology.

D.M. Jarzen  
May 11, 2010



## Palynologist Tracks Origins Of Bootleg Honey From China

COLLEGE STATION, April 29, 2010 – A Texas A&M University scientist spends hours at a time peering at slides of pollen samples, comparing them to track down the origins of honey with questionable heritage. Some of the samples contain labels from other countries when in fact they originated in China but were re-routed to avoid tariffs of up to 500 percent, says Vaughn Bryant, a palynologist and an anthropology professor at Texas A&M University.

The tariffs were attached to the import of Chinese honey about two years ago because exporters there were “dumping” it in the U.S. – selling it at a much lower price than its cost, which is about one-half what it costs U.S. honey producers. The practice has almost ruined the market for domestic honey, says Bryant, who is also director of the palynology laboratory at Texas A&M.

China is the largest honey producer in the world.

Bryant, who examines more than 100 honey samples a year for importers, exporters, beekeepers and producers, says he believes he is the only person in the United States doing melissopalynology – the study of pollen in honey – on a routine basis. For the last five years, he has analyzed the pollen in honey

samples from all over the world to determine the nectar sources and origin of the honey.

He examines imported samples purported to come from Viet Nam, Cambodia, Indonesia and Laos, and usually discovers that the samples are blends “with a little honey from those countries and a majority of the blend coming from Chinese sources.”



“Now there are lots of shenanigans going on to avoid having to pay those tariffs, and the investigators are way behind in following them,” Bryant says. “The beekeepers of the U.S. have been pleading with the FDA to enact stricter guidelines about accurate labeling for honey, but that is a long, slow process. Meanwhile, I’m trying to help out here and there, but it’s almost impossible to keep up.”



Some foreign exporters get around the tariff by mixing honey from different sources, while others infuse up to 50 percent high fructose corn syrup into the honey, he says.

DNA studies of the pollen in honey are expensive and difficult, Bryant says. Isotopic studies can reveal the source, provided you have a data-base of isotope signatures, which for now are very limited, he adds.

“We’ve never had ‘truth in labeling’ for selling honey, and we should,” he says. “And the U.S. needs to make it illegal to import honey that has been filtered to remove the pollen, which makes it almost impossible to detect where it came from.”



Bryant has been a professor of A&M since 1971. He holds degrees in botany. Such variety has enabled him to chart paleoenvironments and ancient human diets to his current emphasis on forensics and honey research.

either biology or anthropology at Texas A&M. Bryant has degrees in geography, anthropology and forensics. He has helped him to address many topics – ranging from paleoenvironments and ancient human diets to his current emphasis on forensics and honey research.

John Thomas, who was an entomologist with the Texas A&M Extension Service from 1957 to 1992 and is a beekeeper and a major donor to the new Texas Honey Bee Facility at Texas A&M, says he is grateful for Bryant’s work.

“We have fought with the Chinese importers because honey is not a primary export there; it is just a byproduct they get from these other products they produce for medicinal purposes,” Thomas says. “This system the A&M anthropologists have devised is a mechanism to trace the origins of the honey through the pollens. Unfortunately, it doesn’t solve the problem.”



About research at Texas A&M University: As one of the world’s leading research institutions, Texas A&M is in the vanguard in making significant contributions to the storehouse of knowledge, including that of science and technology. Research conducted at Texas A&M represents an annual investment of more than \$582 million, which ranks third nationally for universities without a medical school, and underwrites approximately 3,500 sponsored projects. That research creates new knowledge that provides basic, fundamental and applied contributions resulting in many cases in economic benefits to the state, nation and world.

Contact: Kelli Levey, News & Information Services, at (979) 845-4645 or Vaughn Bryant at (979) 845-5255.

# OBITUARY

## William A. Watts

With great sadness, we note the passing of William A. Watts, an outstanding scientist, an inspiring mentor, and a dear friend, on April 26, 2010.

Bill, as we knew him, was an Irish Native and studied botany and later Quaternary paleoecology with Dr. Frank Mitchell at Trinity College Dublin. He joined the Trinity faculty in 1955, went on to become Dean of Science and

then served as a highly effective Provost from 1981 to 1991. Bill first came to the US in 1962 at the invitation of Herb Wright who was setting up the Limnological Research Center at the time and wanted European experts in palynology and plant macrofossils to help develop the program. While at Minnesota, Bill developed an avid interest in North American Quaternary paleoecology and pursued an active interest and research program here until his passing. His first North American papers were on sites in the northern Great Plains, but he soon turned his attention to the Appalachians and the southeastern US, especially Florida. Bill's work was instrumental in showing that great vegetation and climate changes had occurred far south of the Laurentide ice sheet and that the long-held ideas of vegetational stability for this region were unviable. In the late 1970s while a visiting scholar at the University of Washington, he developed a research interest in the Pacific Northwest, which led to an NSF proposal that funded two Ph.D. dissertations and a postdoc. In later years, Bill worked on long vegetation records from Italy.

Bill was a member of AMQUA since its inception, a speaker at the inaugural meeting in Bozeman in 1970, most recently at Flagstaff in 1996, and was the keynote speaker at the 1988 meeting in Amherst. In 2008, Bill received the AMQUA Distinguished Career Award and was honored at the Penn State meeting <http://www.amqua.org/about/awards/>.

More than an esteemed scientist, Bill was a great friend. He encouraged and assisted students and young scientists and welcomed them into his research activities. Fieldwork with Bill was always a great adventure and learning experience, and guaranteed to be accompanied by good food and laughter. Bill, we'll miss you.

Cathy Whitlock  
Eric Grimm



Photo: William A Watts, 2008 Distinguished Career Award (left), W. Raymond Wood, 2007 Distinguished Career Award (middle), Leila Gonzales, 2008 Denise Gaudreau Award for Excellence in Quaternary Studies (right).

# OBITUARY



## Thomas van der Hammen (1924-2010)

*We dedicate this book to the life and work of professor Thomas van der Hammen who was one of the most important Dutch geoscientists, making many links between geology, biology and archaeology. The study of altitudinal vegetation distributions in the northern Andes is a red line through his work and it has served studies of the Neogene uplift history of the northern Andes as well as studies of pollen-based Pleistocene climate change. During more than two decades he lectured at the University of Amsterdam and inspired generations of Dutch students. Since his retirement in 1989 he has lived in Colombia where, with his never-ending enthusiasm, he continued to motivate large numbers of Colombian students.*

### Biography

Thomas van der Hammen was born in the Netherlands in 1924 and had an innate interest and love for nature. After the Second World War he studied geology at Leiden University. He was trained as a palynologist by professor F. Florschütz but also had regular contact with other founding fathers of this discipline such as

J. Iversen and R. Potonié. His PhD dissertation was on ‘*Late glacial flora and periglacial phenomena in the Netherlands*’, a subject that would remain of interest to him for the rest of his life. In 1951 he started working for the Geological Survey in Colombia and did pioneering research on Cretaceous and Cenozoic sediments. Through his trade mark multidisciplinary approach he unraveled the stages of tectonic uplift of the Andes. Later, he and his co-workers were able to make a link with the evolution of the montane forest and páramo vegetation of the Northern Andes.

In 1959 Thomas returned to the Netherlands and worked at the Department of Geology of Leiden University. He developed a research line in palaeoecology and climate history in the eastern part of the Netherlands while continuing his research in tropical palynology, often in cooperation with the geologist Lex Wilmstra, and focusing on exploratory studies in Guyana, Suriname and in the Amazon Basin. In 1966 Thomas moved to the University of Amsterdam where he was appointed as a professor in Palynology. A suite of both Dutch and Colombian (PhD) students were trained in topics such as geology, archaeology, biostratigraphy, climate history, vegetation analysis,

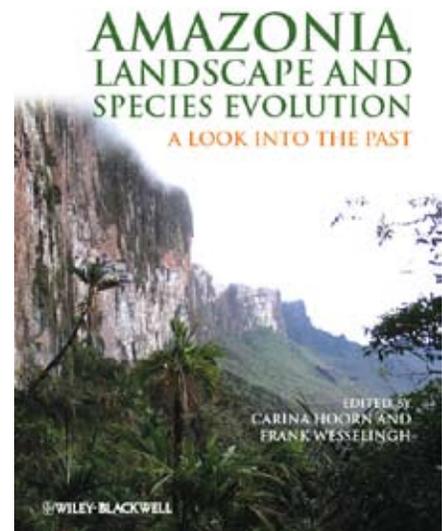
and conducted field work in areas located in Brazilian Amazonia, Colombian Amazonia, Colombian Andes, and Venezuela. During the late 1970s and early 1980s he designed the large 'Ecoandes Project' and the 'Tropenbos Colombia Programme' respectively. The *Ecoandes Project* focused on integrated palaeo/actuo-ecological research of transects across different sectors of the Colombian Andes. These unprecedented studies resulted in 7 volumes of the book series *Studies of Tropical Andean Ecosystems* published at Cramer/Borntraeger in Germany. The *Tropenbos Colombia Programme* studies focused on a wide variety of subjects, ranging from fishery, plant systematics, floristic inventories, sociogeographical studies, anthropology, palaeoecology, geology, and tropical vegetation ecology. These studies resulted in 20 volumes of the series *Studies on Colombian Amazonia*, published at Tropenbos-Colombia office in Bogotá. To promote distribution of scientific results among Colombian institutes and colleagues around the world in 1973 he started the series *El Cuaternario de Colombia / The Quaternary of Colombia* which he edited up to volume 20 (1995).

Perhaps his most valuable contribution to science was to increase our understanding of history of Pleistocene climate change. His training in the climate history issues of Western Europe enabled him to show us that the Neotropics also had a dynamic history of climate change. Thomas van der Hammen discovered the immense value of the pollen archives in the deep intra-Andean sedimentary basins. He studied the first deep bore holes in the Bogotá Basin and the Fúquene Basin and created a basis for later studies on long continental pollen records from Colombia. During the decades that Thomas lectured in the Netherlands he played an active role in Dutch nature conservation and in developing international structures for nature assess-

ment studies. His contributions to the advancement of science were rewarded by her Majesty Queen Beatrix with knighthood.

After his retirement he implemented his valuable experience in Colombia and, in collaboration with national research institutes such as the Geographical Institute (IGAC), the Geological Institute (Ingeominas), the Archaeological Institute, and the Von Humboldt Biodiversity Institute, he helped to promote many collaborative studies. Thomas van der Hammen was author of more than hundred international peer-reviewed publications and contributed much to our understanding of tropical ecology and tropical climate history. His contributions to the training of Colombian scientists, and to the development of nature conservation and awareness of infrastructural issues in Colombia are highly valued. For the latter Thomas received the Colombian *Order of San Carlos*, which he received out of the hands of the Colombian President. Thomas's enthusiasm, charisma, vision and ability to make people work together made him a most inspiring person and a true leader.

Henry Hooghiemstra and Carina Hoorn



Amazonia, Landscape and Species Evolution: A Look into the Past  
 Edited by Carina Hoorn, Frank Wesselingh  
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Special offer price to AASP members: £71.25 / €86.25 / \$135.00



## Nova Scotia 2010

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September to Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2010**  
**Harbourview Holiday Inn, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia**

**Joint Meeting of [AASP-The Palynological Society](#),  
the Geological Association of Canada Paleontology Division, and  
CAP- Canadian Association of Palynologists**

**Local Organizing Committee.** Rob Fensome, Nelly Koziel, Peta Mudie and Graham Williams,  
Geological Survey of Canada, Bedford Institute of Oceanography, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

### **Society Representatives.**

For AASP-TPS — Francine McCarthy, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario;  
For GACPD — Mike Melchin, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia; For CAP —  
Elisabeth Levac, Bishops University, Sherbrooke, Quebec.

**Location.** The meeting will be held at the Harbourview Holiday Inn in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, with a modern conference centre overlooking the Halifax skyline across Halifax Harbour. The Inn is minutes away from buses and ferries that take visitors directly to historic downtown and waterfront Halifax, with its many dining venues to suit all tastes, a variety of traditional pubs (some with their own brews), and opportunities for harbour cruises. The hotel is also across the road from a sports complex, including swimming pool and gym; and close to downtown Dartmouth with its own waterfront attractions, restaurants and pubs. Dartmouth is known as the City of Lakes and is the starting point of the historic Shubenacadie Canal, a Nineteenth Century link between the Atlantic and the Bay of Fundy. Short bus rides or drives take the visitor to the seashore and attractive waterside walks. Autumn foliage should be in its early stages at the time of the meeting, and the weather is usually (but not always) fine and temperate in early fall, so participants should bring layers of clothes to adapt to changing temperatures.

**Costs (all in Canadian Dollars).** Pre-registration will be \$190, \$90 for students; on site registration will be \$225 and \$110 respectively. Pre-registration deadline is 27 August 2010, field trip deadline to be announced.

The hotel rate at Harbourview Holiday Inn Hotel will be \$149 plus taxes per person for single or double occupancy, with \$15 for additional beds. The organizing committee will do their best to play “match-maker” for individuals seeking to share rooms. We encourage participants to stay at the Harbourview Holiday Inn --- the more rooms we use, the better will be the price for the meeting rooms.

Door-to-door airport bus transport from Halifax International Airport is about \$21.

**Meeting Events.** The social program includes an opening night “Meet and Greet” and public lecture. Natalia Rybczynski of the Canadian Museum of Nature has agreed to give the public talk on new Cenozoic mammals from the Arctic, and the Arctic’s role as an evolutionary pump. Natalia is an excellent speaker and has been involved with exciting Arctic finds, including the preserved remains of a beaver dam. A dinner is planned for GAC Paleo Division and business lunches for CAP and AASP, accompanied by traditional Nova Scotian Town Crier, bagpipers and the Order of Good Cheer awards. Dependent on interest and availability, a mid-conference harbour cruise aboard the sternwheeler Harbour Queen will be planned.

**Technical Sessions.** The planned technical program will accommodate more than 60 talks (with two concurrent sessions), including keynotes. The sessions will include:

**1) Paleobotany in all its aspects.** Conveners, Graham Williams and John Calder. This session will highlight macro and micropaleobotany (palynology of spores and pollen) and talks on how the two subdisciplines shed new light on ancient plant communities and evolution are especially welcome. The session could include talks on classic localities such as Joggins and other North American Carboniferous localities, as well as those elsewhere. Another focus could be the impact of evolving plant cover on sedimentation. It is hoped to include some contributions relating to the K/T boundary and other work of Doug Nichols (recently deceased).

**2) Canadian Paleontology.** Conveners, Mike Melchin and Paul Johnston. Some of the world’s most significant paleontological discoveries have been Canadian. Possible topics could include the Mistaken Point fauna, Burgess Shale, Tiktaalik, Miguasha fish, Joggins vertebrates and invertebrates, and Wasson Bluff.

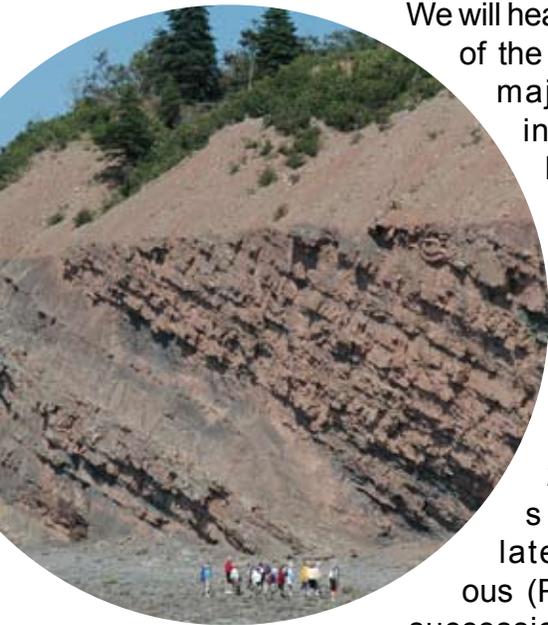
**3) The Amazingly Diverse World of Quaternary Palynology: A Session in Celebration of the Career of Jock McAndrews.** Convener Francine McCarthy. The versatile palynological career of Jock McAndrews and his students has covered the spectrum from Holocene freshwater dinocysts and other non-pollen palynomorphs, through the archaeopalynology of mammoth skulls and varved lake sediments to volumes on modern pollen morphology and identification. In celebration, a keynote talk will be given by Roger Byrne from the University of California at Berkeley, Jock’s first post-doctoral associate and co-worker at Crawford Lake in 1973. Roger is now studying wildfire records and human impacts of landscapes using varved marine sediments off California and Mexico.

**4) New frontiers in paleobiology.** Conveners, Rob Fensome and Peta Mudie. One focus of this session will be the integration of molecular and fossil data, and several potential speakers have been approached on this topic — Kazumi Matsuoka will give a keynote talk on DNA and the classification Pleistocene – Recent dinocysts. Another focus could be on the elucidation of the phylogeny of groups such as ferns and angiosperms using both molecular and fossil data.

**5) General session.** Convener, Elisabeth Levac. Papers addressing industrial uses of paleontology are especially encouraged.

**Field Trips.** Two field trips are being planned, both on the Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October. At the moment, participant costs are about \$100 Canadian for each trip, inclusive of lunches and museum entrance fees, based on a minimum of 20 and a maximum of 29 people per trip.

***Field Trip 1 --- Bay of Fundy: Parrsboro Shore and Joggins Fossil Cliffs***



We will head to the shores of the Bay of Fundy, major stops being in the Five Islands-Parrsboro area and Joggins, the latter designated a UNESCO World Heritage site in 2008 for its spectacular late Carboniferous (Pennsylvanian) succession exposed in the famous "Fossil Cliffs". The

trip's coordinators will be Rob Fensome and Graham Williams, with various experts "chipping in" along the way. We will leave the hotel at 8.00 am and head to the north shore of the Minas Basin, where we will explore either the Mesozoic rocks at Five Islands or the mid Carboniferous section at East Bay, Parrsboro, the choice depending on tide constraints. The first underwater turbines for tidal power generation in North America are currently being installed in the Bay of Fundy near Parrsboro. The site has been chosen because offshore is the Minas Channel, through which more water flows during a tide change than the water flowing from all the world's estuaries during equivalent time. We will eat lunch at the Fundy Geological Museum, which highlights Canada's oldest-known

dinosaurs.

In the afternoon, on the way to Joggins, we will stop at the Cobequid Fault, Nova Scotia's ancient answer to the San Andreas Fault (though no longer active). Once at Joggins, we guarantee low tide and the possibility to explore both the exciting new Joggins Fossil Centre and the cliffs. This part of the trip will be coordinated by Melissa Grey, Science and Education Coordinator at the Joggins Fossil Centre. Joggins was the haunt of Victorian geological superstars William Dawson, Charles Lyell, Abraham Gesner (discoverer of kerosene) and William Logan (first director of the GSC). The site was also mentioned in Darwin's Origin of Species, and is associated with coal mining and Canadian confederation. All of this historical interest is in addition to the fact that it is home to the world's earliest known reptiles and land snails, and spectacular fossil tree trunks (if erosion cooperates). There is also a till section for Quaternary enthusiasts.

We will take "tea" at the Joggins Fossil Centre and thence return to Dartmouth via the Trans-Canada Highway and Veterans Memorial Highway. This will be a long day trip and participants should not plan on taking an evening flight.





### **Field Trip 2 --- Nova Scotia's Atlantic Shore: Quaternary and Environmental Geology**

This field trip will explore Nova Scotia's Atlantic Shore, focusing on Quaternary and environmental geology. The coordinator will be Peta Mudie, and leaders at particular sites will include geologists Ralph Stea, Bob Taylor, Mike Parsons, Peter Giles and archaeologist Roger Lewis. This trip will also leave the hotel at 8 am. First stop will be West Lawrencetown, where we will see a wave-eroded section of a drumlin with older Hartlen and younger Lawrencetown tills, and Cambrian bedrock outcrops with glaciated grooves and striations. The drive will then take us along the coastline of embayments to the Chezzetcook drumlin field and salt marsh, via Minesville abandoned gold mine, with its ongoing history of arsenic and mercury pollution from tailings. At Chezzetcook, we will view vegetation zonation and explore the history of the salt marsh.

The trip will then continue to Peggy's Cove, southwest of Halifax, where (weather permitting) we will eat lunch near Peggy's Cove lighthouse perched on glacier-scoured Devonian granite, part of the South Mountain Batholith, the largest granitic body in the Appalachian Orogen. The unique landscape of Peggy's Cove and surrounding areas was produced by the Wisconsinan glaciation. On retreat of the ice, rising sea level filled the scoured areas, forming an endless array of

coves and inlets now hosting an endemic ice-age relic flora and ponds filled with bog moss, sundew and pitcher plants.

On the return trip, we will first examine exposures of Mississippian Windsor Formation shell-bearing carbonates near Glen Margaret, then explore the Quaternary geology and archaeology of eastern St. Margaret's Bay, and visit one of the last remaining Mi'kmaq shell middens on Indian Point where the coast is rapidly changing from erosion and urban development. Roger Lewis, of the Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, will talk about the history of Mi'kmaq archaeological sites in the region before our return to Dartmouth.

Don't miss all the stimulating and fun events at Nova Scotia 2010 — registration will be available in spring 2010. Contact Rob Fensome ([rfensome@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:rfensome@nrcan.gc.ca)), Peta Mudie ([pmudie@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:pmudie@nrcan.gc.ca)) or Graham Williams ([graham.williams@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:graham.williams@nrcan.gc.ca)) for more details and updates.

Page 34 top: Joggins' Fossil Cliffs, Canada's newest UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Page 34 bottom: Tidal flats at Five Islands, on Nova Scotia's Minas Basin, site of the highest tides in the world.

Above: Drumlin at Lawrencetown on Nova Scotia's Eastern Shore.



Photos : Pablo Etchevers

## SYMPOSIUM ON THE PALEOGENE OF SOUTH, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN La Plata, Argentina, 20-24<sup>th</sup> September, 2010

A symposium on the Paleogene of South and Central America will be held at the X Argentinean Congress of Paleontology and Biostratigraphy and VII Latin American Congress of Paleontology (La Plata, Argentina, 20-24<sup>th</sup> September, 2010).

The aim of the symposium is to have an overview of research related to the Paleogene of South and Central America, facilitating the exchange of information and integration of results from different disciplines and regions.

Participants are invited to submit abstracts on all aspects of the Paleogene of South and Central America/Caribbean, particularly on stratigraphy, biostratigraphy, paleogeography, paleontology, paleoecology, and paleoclimates. Contributions on global aspects of the Paleogene and from other regions of the world are also welcome.

Details and deadlines for submission of abstracts will be at the Congress's web page. (<http://www.congresospaleo2010.fcnym.unlp.edu.ar>). For details on the symposium, please contact Carlos Jaramillo ([jaramilloc@si.edu](mailto:jaramilloc@si.edu)) or Carolina Nañez ([carolina.nanez@yahoo.com](mailto:carolina.nanez@yahoo.com)).

The Society for Organic Petrology  
27th Annual Meeting

Theme: Advances in Organic Petrology

September 12-16, 2010 - Denver, Colorado, USA



TSOP



TSOP is an international society for scientists and engineers involved with coal petrology, kerogen petrology, organic chemistry and related disciplines

## ANNUAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Denver, Colorado, USA  
Sheraton Denver West Hotel

September 12-16, 2010



## 8th EUROPEAN COAL CONFERENCE

part of GeoDarmstadt 2010

October 10-13, 2010  
Darmstadt, Germany

**Second Circular**

[www.geodarmstadt2010.de](http://www.geodarmstadt2010.de)

### Introduction

The 8<sup>th</sup> ECC is organised on behalf of the *European Coal Geology Group*, an informal association uniting academics and applied scientists and technicians from industry and the public sector. Their interests are primarily concerned with the geology of European coal deposits, with special attention to environmental issues surrounding the continuing importance of coal as an energy source in Europe. As the hard coal mining continues to contract in some countries, the problems and opportunities related to mine closure are also considered. The newer technologies of Coal Bed Methane (CBM), Coal Mine Methane (CMM) and Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) are becoming more important as traditional mining is challenged, and the opportunities for underground storage of CO<sub>2</sub> continue to promote lively technological debate.

The 8<sup>th</sup> ECC follows those in Leicester (UK) 1993, Prague (Czech Republic) 1995, Izmir (Turkey) 1997, Ustron (Poland) 2000, Mons (Belgium) 2002, Belgrade (Serbia) 2005 and Lviv (Ukraine) 2008.

The conferences continue to bring together the coal industries of Western and Eastern Europe, encompassing studies of both lignite and hard coal, underground and surface mining, economic and environmental issues and problems. We hope that the conference will lead to significant progress in understanding the geological nature of our coal deposits and the technical solutions during and after their utilisation. As part of **GeoDarmstadt**, we hope to communicate these topics to a wider audience and encourage a multidisciplinary exchange of ideas.

The 8<sup>th</sup> ECC is organised in the framework of GeoDarmstadt 2010, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geowissenschaften (DGG) and the Geologische Vereinigung (GV).

**All organisation communication including registration and the submission of abstracts must be performed over the internet at [www.geodarmstadt2010.de](http://www.geodarmstadt2010.de).**

**In the frame of the ECC8 we plan to publish full papers of the accepted contributions to this conference in a special volume of the International Journal of Coal Geology. Authors who plan to publish should send a message to [juch@gd.nrw.de](mailto:juch@gd.nrw.de).** Please note that all manuscripts for publication shall be finished and submitted not later than one month after the conference.

### Organisation

DGG / TU Darmstadt

### Supporting institutions

BGR, GD NRW, DMT

### Organising Committee

Andreas Hoppe, TU Darmstadt  
Dierk Juch, GD NRW, Krefeld  
Ralph Schlüter, DMT, Essen  
Sandro Schmidt, BGR, Hannover  
Ogarit Uhlmann, F&U confirm, Leipzig  
Angelika Vieth, GD NRW, Krefeld



# Pollen, Spore Master Class

August 16-20, 2010 Utrecht, The Netherlands

## Course Outline:

General Pollen/Spore Morphology and Taxonomy  
Concepts and Applications

Paleozoic Spore Chronostratigraphy and Paleoeology  
(with special focus on Middle East plays)

Mesozoic Spore/Pollen Chronostratigraphy and Paleoeology  
(Australia, N.W. Europe, North America)

Cenozoic Pollen Chronostratigraphy and Paleoeology  
(North and South America)

Special Focus on Neogene Pollen Chronostratigraphy and Paleoeology  
(West Africa, Southeast Asia)

Quaternary/Holocene Palynostratigraphy and Paleoeology  
Fieldtrip: Type-Maastricht

## Confirmed Instructors include:

Guy Harrington, Carlos Jaramillo, Andy Lotter, Robert Morley, Henry Hooghiemstra,  
Michael Stephenson, Thomas Demchuk, James Eldrett and Jim Riding

TNO Personnel: Oscar Abbink, Timme Donders, Dick Munsterman, Roel Verreusel.

Additional instructors will be announced in future advertisements



## The Aims and Deliverables of the Class will be:

- \* Provide instruction on basic pollen/spore/algal taxonomy as an aid in identifying and classifying varied terrestrially-derived palynoflora
- \* Provide a general background into terrestrial palynomorph morphology, taxonomy, chronostratigraphy, paleoecology and paleoclimate through the Phanerozoic
- \* Provide case studies of standard and innovative Industrial applications of terrestrially-derived pollen/spore/algae to subsurface problem solving, including calibration to sequence stratigraphic modeling (system tracts):  
Middle East - Paleozoic; Southeast Asia - Cenozoic; Offshore Nigeria - Neogene
- \* Each of the age-specific topics and lectures will be accompanied by Type-Maastricht in the Southern Netherlands, an opening evening Icebreaker, and mid-week Dinner
- \* Maximum enrollment will be 35-40 participants.
- \* Course fees are anticipated to be: 500 Euros (Students), 750 Euros (Academic/Consultant), 1100 Euro (Industry)

For additional information regarding this course, please contact either:

Thomas D. Demchuk (Thomas.D.Demchuk@conocophillips.com)  
or James Eldrett (James.Eldrett@Shell.com)

Please visit the AASP website ([www.palynology.org](http://www.palynology.org)) and read future issues of the AASP Newsletter for additional information

**CIMP 2010 General Meeting in Poland  
Warsaw-Kielce, September 13-16, 2010**



INVITATION

PAPERS & ABSTRACTS

REGISTRATION & DEADLINES

FIELDTRIP

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE



**Invitation to CIMP 2010 General Meeting in Poland**

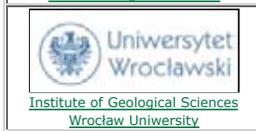
Dear Palynologists,

We kindly invite you to the **General Conference of Commission Internationale de Microflore du Paléozoïque (C.I.M.P). Palynology and its possibilities: a record of climate and environmental changes, Warsaw-Kielce, September 13-16, 2010.**

The Institute of Geological Sciences of Polish Academy of Sciences with Polish Geological Institute National Research Institute and the Institute of Geological Sciences of Wrocław University are pleased to host this meeting and to showcase long (since the XIX century) and ongoing tradition of the Polish palynological research.

We propose the capital city of Poland - Warsaw as location of the Meeting. We plan 3 days of presentations (lectures and posters) and 3-day field trip in the Holy Cross Mountains where we can visit many outcrops of the Palaeozoic deposits. We also consider one day workshop before field trip, comparative studies of the palynological slides collections of the CIMP 2010 participants. Conference language is English.

The CIMP 2010 General Meeting offers the opportunity to meet nearly all Polish palynologists and foreign guests working on Palaeozoic strata, to discuss problems and solutions in this field, to identify new issues, and to shape directions and joint projects for future research.



[Reply Form »](#)

**Home page**  
[www.ing.pan.pl/CIMP-2010/index\\_cimp.htm](http://www.ing.pan.pl/CIMP-2010/index_cimp.htm)

**Correspondence and Secretariat**



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**KEY DEADLINES:**

- Return Reply Form: **December 31, 2009**  
e-mail address: [cimp2010@ing.pan.pl](mailto:cimp2010@ing.pan.pl) ,
- Registration fee: **March 31, 2010**  
For details see the webpage of conference
- Payment for the post conference excursion: **March 31, 2010,**
- Submission of the abstract: **May 31, 2010,**
- Submission of the paper: **June 30, 2010.**