

IOP NEWSLETTER 78

December 2004

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**PROPOSED REVISIONS OF IOP STATUTES AND BY-LAWS, TO BE
PRESENTED FOR RATIFICATION AT THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
TO BE HELD AT THE INTERNATIONAL BOTANICAL CONGRESS IN
VINENNA, AUSTRIA IN JULY OF 2005**

The views expressed in the newsletter are those of its correspondents, and do not necessarily reflect the policy of IOP.

President: Margaret Collinson (UK)
Vice Presidents: Mikhail Akhmetiev (Russia), Zlatko Kvaček (Czech Republic), Volker Mosbrugger (Germany)
Secretary: Gar Rothwell (USA)
Conference/Congress Member: Hans Kerp (Germany)

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO IOP STATUTES

Since the last revisions in the IOP Statutes were ratified by the membership in December 1987, the World (in general) and IOP have changed substantially. To further strengthen the organization and conduct our activities in the most up-to-date fashion, both the IOP By-Laws and IOP Statutes have been under revision for the past three years.

At the 2002 meeting of the Executive Committee, held in conjunction with the General Council Meeting at the 6th European Paleobotany-Palynology Conference in Athens, Greece, the Executive Committee determined that the need for "Independent Regions" no longer is as important as in the past, and it was decided to begin to phase out the concept of "Independent Regions." This empowers the membership from such regions with the same voting privileges as members from other regions. A new flexible dues structure was adopted that would allow all dues paying members from all regions to vote on all IOP business and in all IOP elections. The dues structure decided upon at that time is \$10 US, or 10 Euros, or 5 Pounds sterling, depending on the region, with provision for lower dues to be paid in some of the old "Independent Regions" as long as is needed.

Continuing this process, the Secretary drafted proposed revisions to the IOP Statutes and distributed them for comments by the Executive Committee officers in 2003. Additional revisions were made in 2004. As stipulated in Article 10 of the IOP Statutes, these proposed amendments are being published in the IOP Newsletter, so that they may be voted upon by the membership at the next General Council Meeting to be held in Vienna, Austria, July 2005.

The most important changes in the IOP Statutes are as follows:

1. The office of Secretary is changed to that of Secretary/Treasurer, with the expectation of establishing a central treasury for more effectively conducting the business of IOP.
2. Several changes are made to allow IOP business to be conducted using electronic communications and the internet.
3. Independent Regions are omitted.

4. The IOPC is added to the IBC as a preferred place for conducting important General Council Meetings and Executive Committee business.

5. Detailed procedures for conducting IOP elections via electronic voting are added.

6. IOP Vice-Presidents and Members at Large are limited to no more than one consecutive term of office.

The proposed IOP Statutes are printed at the end of this Newsletter in a single-column format for easy comparison to the current IOP Statutes, which are posted on the internet at: <http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~rothwell/IOP-Newsletters/index.htm>. All proposed changes to the IOP Statutes are in **red**. Added passages are in **bold face**, and omitted passages are emphasized with a **strikethrough**. If the duplication of your copy of this IOP Newsletter has not been made on a color printer, a color-coded copy of the revisions can be found at the same web address as the old IOP Statutes.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

IGCP 469 Late Variscan terrestrial biotas and palaeoenvironments.

The next meeting will be held in the National Museums & Galleries of Wales, Cardiff, UK, on the 14th-16th April 2005. The meeting will include two days of presentations and workshops covering macrofloras, palynology, macrofaunas and sedimentology of the late Westphalian - early Stephanian (late Moscovia) of the Variscan Foreland and adjacent basins. For further details contact helen.fraser@nmgw.ac.

Chris Cleal
National Museums and Galleries of Wales

7th European Palaeobotany - Palynology Conference

Dear Colleagues,
We would like to invite you to the 7th European Palaeobotany - Palynology Conference held in Prague, September 6-11, 2006! The conference is open to all scientists interested in any aspect of the plant fossil record. The scientific program will include symposia, contributed papers, poster sessions, and meetings of working groups, associated with workshops. Pre- and

post-conference field trips to the Barrandian Early Palaeozoic, Permo-Carboniferous, Cretaceous and Cenozoic are also planned. The official language of the conference is English. We look forward to seeing you in Prague!

EPPC2006 Organizing Committee
www : <http://www.natur.cuni.cz/eppc2006>
e-mail : eppc2006@natur.cuni.cz

22nd Mid-Continent Paleobotanical Colloquium

The 22nd Mid-Continent Paleobotanical Colloquium will be held on Friday April 8th through Sunday April 10th, 2005 at Georgia College & State University (GC&SU), Milledgeville, Georgia. The meeting is being organized by Melanie DeVore (melanie.devore@gcsu.edu) and Kathleen Pigg (kpigg@asu.edu).

Milledgeville was the antebellum capital of Georgia. The former governor's mansion is part of the campus and Charles Lyell stayed there during his visit to Georgia. Sherman used the dining room in the mansion as his command post when Union forces occupied Milledgeville. Other points of interest include the recently restored homestead of author Flannery O'Connor and various historical sites. Milledgeville has a colorful history and has been the home of Charles Herty (first President of the American Chemistry Society, one of the founders of NIH and first football coach of the University of Georgia), Carl Vinson and Oliver Hardy.

The meeting will open on Friday April 8th with registration (3 pm to 5 pm) in Herty Hall, on the GC&SU campus. and reception to follow. Saturday April 9th will be devoted to talks and poster sessions, followed by a guided tour of the on-campus Governor's mansion and an evening reception and banquet. Sunday April 10th there will be a field trip to the Hardie Mine, one of the most productive Eocene vertebrate fossil localities in Georgia. We will possibly visit another site depending on whether the kaolin companies have reclaimed the pits. Another optional stop will be the Lockerly Arboretum located in Milledgeville. The cost of the meeting will be \$70 for professionals and \$35 for students. This includes registration, reception and banquet. The deadline for abstract submission (to kpigg@asu.edu) will be 10 March, 2005. We look forward to seeing you in Milledgeville!

Melanie DeVore (GC & SU), and
Kathleen Pigg (Arizona State)

NEW IGCP PROJECT 499 - "DEVONIAN LAND-SEA INTERACTION: EVOLUTION OF ECOSYSTEMS AND CLIMATE (DEVEC)"

We are pleased to announce a new IGCP-Project which was accepted by the UNESCO/IGCP Scientific Board in February 2004. It is dealing with the Devonian as a critical period with respect to the diversification of early terrestrial ecosystems and their interrelation with the development of marine paleoecosystems. The geotectonic setting was characterized by the switch from the post-Caledonian to the pre-Variscan situation. Plant life on land evolved from tiny tracheophytes to trees of considerable size in combination with a global increase in terrestrial biomass, and vertebrates started to conquer the land. Extensive shallow marine areas and continental lowlands with a wide range of different habitats existed and the climate changed from greenhouse to icehouse conditions towards the end of the Devonian. Both rapid evolution of terrestrial ecosystems and climate change had a pronounced influence on sedimentation and biodiversity not only in the terrestrial but also in the marine realm ("Devonian Change") including reef development. A major goal of the project is to focus on controls and interactions of the respective facies parameters in different paleogeographic settings in order to refine the global picture by international co-operation in a number of case studies and geoscientific disciplines. The study of responses and interactions needs detailed characterization of facies and high-resolution correlation which can only be provided by a refined stratigraphy including biostratigraphy, lithostratigraphy, chronostratigraphy, etc. Characterization of facies and correlation of stratigraphic units is especially difficult in marine-terrestrial transitions which will be an important focus of the project. Resolution of sea-level changes will be enhanced by recognition and exact correlation of their effects which may be hidden just in these transitions. On the background of the global geotectonic situation (paleogeography s.l.), this will be an important prerequisite for a better discrimination of eustatic, climatic, and biotic controls, both on a regional and global scale, and may also give a clue to underlying causes of global changes.

For more detailed information and supporting the network and communication among the participants of the project a website is provided (www.senckenberg.de/igcp-499/). Colleagues interested in participation should contact one of the leaders in Frankfurt, for palynology/paleobotany preferably V.

Wilde; colleagues from Turkey should directly contact M. N. Yalçın (all contact details see above). Mailing address for all of the project leaders in Frankfurt is: Forschungsinstitut und Naturmuseum Senckenberg, Senckenberganlage 25, D - 60325 Frankfurt am Main, Germany.

Leaders of the project are Dr. Peter Königshof (*), Dr. Jurga Lazauskiene (**), Dr. Eberhard Schindler (*), PD Dr. Volker Wilde (*) and Prof. Dr. M. Namik Yalçın (***)

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** Geological Survey of Lithuania, Department of Lithostratigraphy and Tectonics, Konarskio 35, LT-2009 Vilnius, Lithuania, Jurga.Lazauskiene@lgt.li (Phone: 370 2 332889, Fax: 370 2 3361 56)

*** Istanbul University, Engineering Faculty, Department of Geological Engineering, TR- 34850 Avcilar-Istanbul, Turkey mny@istanbul.edu.tr (Phone: 0212 4210704, Fax: 0212 5911997)

STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS

The Evolving Earth Foundation 2005 student research grant program in the earth sciences makes a total of ten grants available annually, for amounts of up to \$3000 per grant. Undergraduate students, graduate students, and post-doctoral researchers at accredited U.S. colleges and universities or research institutions are eligible and encouraged to apply for grants. The deadline for application is March 1st, 2005.

The Evolving Earth Foundation web site at <http://www.evolvingearth.org/index.htm> will provide full grant program details. While visiting our site, we encourage you to take the time to look at our new section on the fossil flora from the Eocene McAbee site in British Columbia at <http://www.evolvingearth.org/mcabee/mcabee.htm>.

Rick Dillhoff
Everett, WA

CENTENNIAL OF PETRIFIED FOREST NATIONAL PARK, ARIZONA, U.S.A.

In 2006 the Petrified Forest National Park in east-central Arizona will be 100 years old. This noteworthy event will be celebrated with a two day symposium in May 2006 when workers will present invited papers about their research on the world famous Late Triassic biota of the park. Field trips will be conducted to important fossil localities during the symposium and a book will be published about the fossil resources of the park for distribution at the meeting. More information about the symposium will be available in the spring of 2005.

Nearly 98 years exactly after the Petrified Forest National Park was designated on 8 December 1906, President George Bush signed a bill more than doubling its size in early December 2004. This signing capped nearly 20 years of effort by paleontologists of all persuasions, archaeologists, local citizens and politicians to add some 52,000 hectares (125,000 acres) of fossil-rich Upper Triassic strata to the park giving it a total area of about 91,000 hectares (218,000 acres). Although the park was originally founded so that the petrified logs that occur there in such an abundance could be preserved and studied, it was soon discovered that the same strata that contained the fossil wood also contained well-preserved leaves, seeds, palynomorphs, and other plant parts as well as large numbers of vertebrate fossils including the remains of some of the earliest dinosaurs. Since the same fossil rich strata underlying the original park extend under the new lands it is anticipated that many new plant and animal fossils will be discovered there as well. More information about the park and its fossil resources can be found at www.nps.gov/pefo/.

Sidney Ash, Albuquerque
sidash@aol.com

OLD NEWSLETTERS TO BE ADDED TO WEB SITE

As part of the ongoing effort to develop, reconfigure, and improve the IOP Web Site, we are currently transcribing all of the old Newsletters to PDF files and posting them on the web. Some of the more recent Newsletters already have been posted, and can be accessed at <http://cscwww.cats.ohiou.edu/%7EIOP/news/index.html> Others will follow as they are transcribed, and new Newsletters will be added as they are published.

At the present time, we are missing several of the early Newsletters. The missing issues are numbers: 10, 11, 26, 29, 32, 40, 41, and 45. If you have any of these and are willing to provide a copy, please contact the secretary <rothwell@ohio.edu>. We are hoping to have the complete Newsletter archive completed and available by the summer of 2005. Thanks in advance for your help.

NEWS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

Shya Chitaleay Honored with Cardinal Award

Shyamala (Shya) Chitaleay, of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland, Ohio, USA, will be honored on October 28, 2004 by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources with its Cardinal Award. This award is given yearly for outstanding achievement in "wise use and protection of our natural resources for the benefit of all." As you know, Shya is curator and head of the Paleobotany Department at the Cleveland Museum. During her time there (25 years!), she has expanded the paleobotanical collections tremendously, and provided a home for several 'orphaned' collections, including the Hoskins Collection of more than 25,000 specimens from the University of Cincinnati. In 1982, she began a Fossil Society at the Museum to encourage amateurs to become involved in the collections and in field work. In July of 2004, the Columbus Dispatch newspaper (Columbus, Ohio) did an article about Shya's work at the museum and the obstacles she had to overcome early in her life in order to get an education and to pursue her studies in paleobotany. Those of us who know Shya personally are continually amazed by her energy and her devotion to paleobotany. Congratulations, Shya!

Edie Taylor
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas, USA

Selena Smith Wins New NSERC Award

Selena Smith, Ph.D. student at the University of Alberta is the first recipient of the André Hamer Postgraduate Prize. This award is named in memory of a promising young scientist who worked with Arthur MacDonald, the 2003 winner of the Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal for Science and Engineering. MacDonald, a professor of physics at Queen's University, donated

\$100,000 from his Herzberg award to establish two \$10,000 annual prizes for outstanding candidates in NSERC's master's and doctoral scholarship competitions.

Growing up on an acreage near the Edmonton suburb of Stony Plain, Selena Smith absorbed her mother's interest in plants. And Smith knew from an early age she was interested in fossils. But it was a fateful phone call one of her high school teachers made to the University of Alberta that helped Smith realize she could combine her interests.

"I was in the International Baccalaureate program. We had to do an extended essay and I wanted to do mine on biology," Smith said. "My biology teacher was really good. She didn't want us to do just a literature review, so she called up the university and asked to speak to a paleobotanist. And we happened to have one. There are three in Canada and I happened to be in the same city as one. So I did that project and that got me hooked."

Smith's twinned curiosity about plants and fossils, which she continues to pursue as a PhD candidate at the U of A under the supervision of Dr. Ruth Stockey, has helped her earn the André Hamer Postgraduate Prize, a new award bestowed by the Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (formerly NSERC). The \$10,000 award, which Smith received yesterday in Ottawa, recognizes doctoral students who demonstrate excellence in their early achievements in research, as well as interpersonal and leadership abilities.

Smith is grateful for the award, but she's no less grateful for the opportunity to work on the U of A's paleontological site near Princeton, British Columbia, where the abundance of fossilized plant remains presents a rare opportunity to apply her paleobotanical skills.

Scott Lingley
Department of Biological Sciences
University of Alberta

Vive la France! Classic works of French paleobotany now available online.

I have used the on-line catalogue of the Bibliothèque nationale de France several times to look up references, but if you have not looked at it before, now is the time to try. The main page of the library is <http://www.bnf.fr/>. They now have an English version of their information and help pages which makes it easier to navigate the tremendous amount of information that is available.

The most exciting development is the electronic documents system, titled 'Gallica,' available at:

<http://gallica.bnf.fr/>. This is truly a celebration of French culture and history, including scientific history. All of the classics of French paleobotany are here in full text and figures, including works by René Zeiller, Adolphe Brongniart, Bernard Renault and Cyrille Grand'Eury. They are displayed page by page as pdf files, but it is possible (by clicking on "Télécharger") to download a single pdf file of an entire document or only selected parts of it. I tested this system by downloading Grand'Eury's *Mémoire sur la Flore du Carbonifère du Département de la Loire*. I received a single pdf file of all 677 pages and it only took a couple of minutes to form the document (with a high-speed connection). A very impressive system! As is noted on the introductory page, most of the documents are facsimiles, so the plates are not very good. Nevertheless, the documents are there in their entirety and the BNF is to be congratulated for making this information available to the rest of the world in an easily accessible format.

Eddie Taylor
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas, USA

Website with Access to Classic Monographs

The Gallica website of the National Library of France provides free download pdf and tif files of many classic 19th century paleobotanical monographs. It is an important source for web access to monographs by authors including Brongniart, Heer, Lesquereux, Nathorst, Newberry, Saporta, Sternberg, and Unger. The quality of reproduction is variable, sometimes poor for the diagrams, and other authors who were important contemporaries of those listed above are not yet represented. Nevertheless, the ability to access these volumes, which provide the basis for nomenclature of many European, North American, and arctic fossil species, is a wonderful opportunity. The site also includes selected neobotanical and geological monographs.

The website, [<http://gallica.bnf.fr/>] is provided in French. To explore for paleobotanical monographs, click "Recherche" on the title bar. On the resulting new page, type the desired Author's name in the blank labeled "Auteur" then click the search button labeled, "Rechercher". This will open a new page with a list of available publications by that author. To download an item: 1. Click on the appropriate icon to the left of the title, 2. On the new page that opens, click the word, "Télécharger" at top of page, 3. then click "OK" icon at

bottom of page. This will begin the process of compiling the file for download. After a few seconds or minutes, a blue-colored text, "en cliquant ici" appears. 4. Click on this line to download the file to your computer.

Steve Manchester
Florida Museum of Natural History

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

As initiated in the last Newsletter, we are now including changes of address for IOP members (and museums too) in the IOP Newsletter. Please send your change of address information to your Regional Representative and/or to the Secretary so that this information can be added to the membership information and included in a Newsletter.

Dear friends and colleagues,

The Museum für Naturkunde has moved to a new building in the city of Chemnitz. The new address is:

Museum für Naturkunde
Moritzstraße 20
D-09111 Chemnitz

fon (49) 371-4884551
fax (49) 371-4884597
general E-mail: info@naturkunde-chemnitz.de
my e-mail: roessler@naturkunde-chemnitz.de
Please note that the old E-mail addresses will not work after December, 2004.

All the best
Ronny Roessler
Chemnitz

OBITUARIES

Professor Miklos Kedves (1933 - 2003)

It was with great regret that we received, at the Paleontology Department of the Geology Faculty of the Complutense University at Madrid, the news of the demise of Prof. Miklos Kedves, "Research Councillor" of the Botany Department of the "Josef Attila" University at Szeged (Hungary), city in which he was born on March 1933.

Dr. Kedves died the 6th of November 2003, a few days after leaving our Laboratory, where we were carrying on research work on Cretaceous materials, in the context of the research project “Determination of the biodiversity of Cretaceous floras in the Andean Range and the Southern Edge of the Guadarrama Sierra (Madrid)”, funded by the Science and Education Ministry of Spain, within the framework of the Programme of Scientific Cooperation with Latin-America, in which he was taking part as a specialist in palynology, although the exact date and circumstances of his death were not known to us till July 2004.

Dr. Kedves published 474 papers on several fields including ultrastructure, current botany, paleobotany and palynology. His scientific career was wide and varied, including several fields and spreading out to many countries. He received his Master in Biology-Chemistry in 1955 and his PhD, with the mark of “*summa cum laude*”, in 1958 from the University of Szeged, appointed Assistant Professor of Biology in 1963 and member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in 1974. I met Prof. Miklos Kedves for the first time in 1986, with occasion of the IV Symposium on Palynology, held at Salamanca, to which I had submitted a paper on the finding of *Classopollis classoides* (Pflug) Pocock and Jansonius in Upper Cretaceous levels of the Madrid province. The presence of microcones containing pollen forms was of great interest to him, and through talks held during the Symposium, we agreed on the forms and aspects that we believed should be followed to reach reliable results in Paleobotany.

Since 1989 we exchanged our publications without interruption, and we invited him several times to visit the beds of the Southern Edge of the Guadarrama Sierra. Reciprocally, we received several invitations from the Josef Attila University.

In 1989 Prof. Kedves took part in the II European Conference on Paleobotany organised by the Paleontology Department of the Complutense University at Madrid. Dr. Kedves opened the conference with the lecture “New trends in Micropaleontological researches”. During his frequent visits at Madrid he delivered several lectures.

His research papers were published in many countries, his collaborations with scientists of Spain, France and Portugal being very strong. The Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Spanish Upper Council for Scientific Research funded joint research projects and stays within the framework of the Bilateral Agreements between Spain and Hungary. As a consequence of our collaboration a total of 8 papers were published in Spanish and Hungarian journals and some results of our

joint research were submitted to several Symposia of the APLE (Spanish Speaking Palynologists Association).

From 1991, until his death, Dr. Kedves was the editor of the journal “Plant Cell Biology and Development”, of which 16 volumes were published. Several papers have been published there from members of the Paleobotany and Palynology research Unit of the Geology Faculty at Madrid (G. Almendros, C. Alvarez Ramis, T. Fernández Marrón, P. Clemente, P. Gómez Porter and N. Lamarti), and many of them counted with the collaboration of Dr. Kedves. Some joint research works on Cretaceous materials of the Southern Edge of the Guadarrama Sierra were stopped with his death, being unable of recovering some data and materials.

The close friendly relationship which joined us and his scientific generosity make his loss to be irreparable, although his memory remains indelible with us.

Concepción Alvarez Ramis and
Teresa Fernández Marrón,
University at Madrid

Mabel Winifred Kendall (1920-2004)

The eldest of three children, Miss M.W. "Pete" Kendall was born on the 9th of June 1920 at Brighton, Sussex, on the south coast of England. When her family lived at Catterick in North Yorkshire Pete collected her first fossil, a Carboniferous brachiopod that she recognised from having read Hugh Miller's “The testimony of the rocks”. It was from that same riding, some twenty years later, that she went on to discover and describe certain Jurassic plants.

At the Dover County School for Girls, Pete gained not only the matriculation to go to university, but also she encountered for the first time people who earned their living from fossil plants. She entered the University of Reading in 1938, where her ability and enthusiasm for fossil plants attracted the attention of Prof. Tom Harris. Thus, it was around the time of her registration for the Diploma in Education at Reading that Pete began her work on megaspores from the Middle Jurassic of Yorkshire. Her first paper on some of them was published in 1942. Harris went on to use some of Pete's drawings, and named *Triletes kendallii* in her honour, calling them “one of the most easily determined and useful zone fossils of the Deltaic Series” (Harris 1961,fig.19).

Pete secured her first job as a science teacher in a secondary school at Warrington, Lancashire in 1942, and

was also tempted back to Reading by an invitation from Prof. Harris to join him as a research student. Her research focused on British Jurassic conifers, especially compressions of leafy shoots and cones from the Middle Jurassic of Yorkshire. Pete's publications show that she examined specimens from museums in London, Oxford, York, Leeds, Glasgow and Stockholm, but she followed Prof. Harris's advice in basing much of her work on material she had unearthed herself. In addition to such well-known Yorkshire localities as Roseberry Topping and Hasty Bank, Pete also did field work in Dorset, Oxfordshire and Wiltshire, mostly on her own, but sometimes accompanied by Prof. Harris. In 1948, Pete was awarded the Reading M.Sc. for her thesis entitled "A study of certain species of fossil Araucariaceae from the Jurassic of England. This dealt mainly with cuticular observations for the taxonomy of *Brachyphyllum* and *Pagiophyllum*, but also included considerations of how such leafy shoots changed shape during compression. In addition, she described some pollen cones, isolated cone-scales and seedlings that bear comparison with extant Araucariaceae.

Pete conducted research on conifers from the Lias of Scotland and Stonesfield Slate of Oxfordshire, and in 1949, was invited to teach biology at St. Paul's Girls School in Hammersmith, London. She continued her work on Jurassic conifers, both in the field in Yorkshire and in the laboratory at Reading, publishing a total of seven papers in paleobotany.

Following field work in Yorkshire at Easter 1952, Pete developed the severe headache that signaled her contracting poliomyelitis, from which she spent some months in an Oxford hospital, including time in an iron lung and surgery to her hands, and was forced to spend the rest of her life confined to a wheelchair. Although, her decade as a publishing researcher had come to an abrupt end, she assisted Rudolf Florin in preparing two of his major papers on conifers and taxads for publication in *Acta Horti Bergiani* in 1958 and 1963. Florin established the Jurassic conifer name *Elatocladus kendalliae* in her honor, and Alan Wesley (1956) commemorated Pete's work by naming an Italian Liassic conifer *Brachyphyllum kendallianum*. Prof. Harris published similar Kendall epithets for species of *Dicksonia*, *Caytonia*, *Nilssonsonia* and *Hirmerella*, plus the Triletes species mentioned above, in his "The Yorkshire Jurassic Flora" (1961-79)

Pete died suddenly at her Rustington home on the 4th of February 2004. Her published papers remain just one of the important contributions made during her life as a talented and brave woman.

Chris Cleal

Cardiff

(with help from Pete's contemporaries at Reading, Prof. W.G. Chaloner, Dr. Audrey Hogarth, and Mrs. Anita Morey)

**PROPOSED REVISION OF IOP STATUTES AND BY-LAWS, TO BE
PRESENTED FOR RATIFICATION AT THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING
TO BE HELD AT THE INTERNATIONAL BOTANICAL CONGRESS IN
VIENNA, AUSTRIA IN JULY OF 2005**

IOP STATUTES

This ~~December 1987~~ (Date of ratification to be placed here) version supersedes all previous versions.

Article 1. NAME

The name of the organisation is INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION OF PALAEOBOTANY (IOP).

Article 2. AFFILIATION

The IOP shall be affiliated to the International Union of the Biological Sciences.

Article 3. AIM

The aim of IOP is to promote international co-operation in the study of palaeobotany including palaeo-palynology. This includes:

- 3.1 Publication of an informative newsletter that will announce all palaeobotanical meetings, report on their proceedings, describe regional bibliographies and how to obtain them, as well as other pertinent information of wide interest. Some articles of topical interest will also be included from time to time. These will not be refereed and will not have any formal status, either nomenclaturally or as a formal publication.
- 3.2 Collaboration with officers responsible for programmes of International Botanical Congresses to ensure the inclusion therein of items of palaeobotanical interest. To organise and sponsor other conferences from time to time at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- 3.3 The encouragement of the work of regional groups of palaeobotanists and of groups of specialists within the broader field of palaeobotany.
- 3.4 Co-operation with other international organisations having interests allied to palaeobotany, such as the International Palaeontological Association, the International Association for Plant Taxonomy, the Commission International de Microflora du Paleozoique and the International Federation of Palynological Societies.
- 3.5 Any other activities considered appropriate by the Executive Committee or warranted by interest shown by the membership. When financial support is available, publications such as a world bibliography of palaeobotany and palaeopalynology should be encouraged.

Article 4. OFFICERS

The officers of IOP form the Executive Committee

- 4.1 The officer of IOP shall be: President; three Vice-Presidents; Secretary/**Treasurer**; three

- Members at Large; Conference/Congress Member.
- 4.2.1 The President shall chair meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Assembly.
 - 4.2.2 If the Office of President becomes vacant, one of the Vice-Presidents shall be elected by the Executive Committee to succeed to the office for the remainder of the term.
 - 4.3.1 The Secretary/**Treasurer** is the driving force behind the Organisation. He/she shall transmit suggestions from the membership to the President and Executive Committee, **maintain an IOP web site on the internet**, maintain contact with regional and local groups of palaeobotanists, maintain contact with IUBS by the assistance of one of the Vice Presidents, control the income and expenditure of IOP **and maintain a central treasury**, transmit decisions of the Executive Committee and President to the membership. The newsletter shall be the secretary's chief medium of communication.
 - 4.3.2 The Secretary may be re-elected.
 - 4.4 The Conference/Congress Member is chosen by the Executive Committee. He/she shall be responsible for the co-ordinating with the appropriate authorities concerning the palaeobotanical program at the next IOP conference or International Botanical Congress. He/she normally will be a resident of the country in which that conference or congress is to be held.
 - 4.5 **Vice presidents shall not serve more than one consecutive term of office.** One of the three Vice Presidents is selected by the Executive Committee to take special responsibility for the Committee with IUBS affairs. He/she will instigate creative projects, in consultation with the Executive Committee, which will be part of the activities of IUBS relevant to the aims of the IOP.
 - 4.6 The three Members at Large must be from different countries: they may not serve more than two consecutive terms of office.
 - 4.7 One term of office is from the end of one **International Botanical Congress International Organisation of Palaeobotany Conference** (or its equivalent as defined by the Executive Committee) to the end of the next.
 - 4.8 If any office other than that of President becomes vacant, the Executive Committee is empowered to select a replacement.

Article 5. REGIONS, ~~INDEPENDENT REGIONS~~ AND REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

- 5.1 To help produce the newsletter, the Secretary is empowered to select, invite, and appoint as many and as diverse Regional Representatives and Correspondents as are required to ensure effective coverage of world palaeobotany. The Correspondents may include the persons who are responsible for each regional or topical newsletters or bibliographies as currently exist or that are initiated in the future. Regional Representatives and Correspondents will serve at the pleasure of the Secretary, and their appointment is open to review on a regular basis.
- 5.2 The role of each Regional Representative is to:
 - 5.2.1 Maintain a full list of names and addresses of members in that region, and to transmit these to the Secretary each year.
 - 5.2.2 Collect membership dues from each member, and after deduction of ~~postal and duplication~~ **operational** expenses, to transfer the surplus to the **Secretary/Treasurer Secretary (except for Representatives of Independent Regions—see Article 5.3 below)**.
 - 5.2.3 Stimulate contributions to the newsletter from members in the region. Contributions should include announcements and reports of national meetings, news of individuals and

their projects, obituaries, and articles of general interest. Books for review should be solicited from publishers in the region and their reviews appointed in consultation with the Secretary.

- 5.2.4 Receive one master copy (or several copies, if the regional membership is small or if difficult) of each IOP newsletter from the Secretary, and arrange for duplication and distribution to members in the region. **Communications and distributions will be via electronic media (e.g., e-mail and posting on the IOP Web Site, etc.), except for those members without electronic communications capabilities. For the latter members, hard copies will be provided to the members by post.**
- ~~5.3 Some regions have difficulties in exchanging currency internationally. For the purposes of this constitution, such regions are called "Independent Regions". These are determined by the Executive Committee and named in the By-Laws. Their Regional Representatives are not required to send surplus funds to the Secretary.~~

Article 6. MEMBERSHIP

- 6.1.1 Any palaeobotanist who subscribes to the aims of IOP is eligible for membership.
- 6.2 The Secretary/**Treasurer** shall maintain a roll of members' names and institutional addresses. This will comprise information received from all Regional Representatives, ~~including those of Independent Regions~~. It will be revised at least once a year. It will serve as an electoral roll for the election of officers to the Executive Committee, as well as a useful world list of palaeobotanists.
- 6.3 Membership takes effect immediately upon receipt of membership dues by the appropriate Regional Representative, ~~except for Independent Regions where membership takes effect upon registration of the names and addresses by the Regional Representative with the Secretary.~~
- 6.4 Membership gives voting rights, the privilege of holding office, ~~and one copy of each~~ **access to the most recent issues of the** newsletter, **reduced registration fee for the International Organisation of Palaeobotany Conferences (IOPC), financial assistance and reduced IOPC costs for student members, as funds are available, and other benefits that are made available from time-to-time.**
- 6.5 Institutions such as libraries and publishers may receive the newsletter by paying the annual dues set out in the By-Laws. They may not vote at elections or nominate candidates for election to office, and shall not be regarded as members.
- 6.6 The amount to be paid for annual dues shall be laid down from time to time by the Executive Committee and incorporated by the By-Laws. ~~The amount of dues so specified shall not apply to members in Independent Regions whose Representative may determine the level of annual dues, if any, to be collected.~~
- 6.7 Membership may be terminated for non-payment of dues extending over two years. ~~In Independent Regions continuity of membership is maintained by annual registration of the members names with the Secretary by the Regional Representative.~~

Article 7. ELECTIONS

The election of officers should take place at each General Assembly during ~~the International Botanical Congress~~ **the International Organisation of Palaeobotany Conference, (or its equivalent as determined by the Executive Committee).**

- 7.1 The Executive Committee shall seek nominations for eight of the places (see Article 4) by advertising in the newsletter.
- 7.2 Nominations may be made in writing, by any member of IOP. ~~These must be received~~

The call for nominations must be made by the Secretary/**Treasurer in the IOP Newsletter** no later than six months before the Congress **or Conference** at which the election shall take place.

- 7.3 All candidates must be current members of IOP, defined by their inclusion on the membership election roll (see Article 6.2 above).
- 7.4 The Executive Committee shall determine the status of the nominees, ascertain that they are prepared to stand for election, and shall publish a list, in the form of a ballot in the newsletter at least one month before the start of the **Congress Conference (or equivalent as determined by the Executive Committee)**.
- 7.5 Each member whose name appears on the electoral roll (Article 6.2 and 6.3) may vote. Member voting must have paid their membership dues to their Regional Representative for the year of the election. ~~Voters from Independent Regions must have been validated as active IOP Members for the year of the election by the appropriate Regional Representative. Thus, all voting members must be individually registered on the Electoral Roll with the Secretary.~~
- 7.6 Any member who wishes to vote ~~by mail~~ may send their ballot to the Secretary, to be received before the time of the ~~vote tabulation meeting of the General Assembly at the Congress~~. **Ballots will be accepted by the Secretary either by e-mail or by post. E-mail ballots can either be sent as attachments or in the body of the e-mail (with authenticity established by the member's registered e-mail address)**. Each ballot paper should be enclosed in a sealed envelope with the voter's name clearly written on the reverse side of the envelope **to establish authenticity**. Members who plan to attend the ~~Congress~~ **the meeting at which the vote will be concluded** may prefer to vote in person at the General Assembly.
- 7.7 Election of the President and of the Secretary shall be declared for the respective candidate who receives a simple majority of the votes cast.
- 7.8 Election of the three Vice-Presidents and of the three Members at Large of the Executive Committee shall be awarded to the candidates in each category who receive the largest number of votes.

Article 8. ADMINISTRATION

- 8.1.1 The General Assembly consists of all individual members, meetings of the General Assembly shall be held at each meeting of the International Botanical Congress and at such other International conferences as may be designated, with adequate prior notice, by the Executive Committee.
- 8.1.2 Meetings will be conducted in accordance with the customary Rules of Order (Encyclopedia Britannica 19:721, 1970).
- 8.1.3 The agenda of a General Assembly shall be determined by the Secretary and the Executive Committee and published in a newsletter in advance of the meeting.
- 8.2.1 The Executive Committee undertakes such business as may be delegated to it by the Constitution and By-Laws or by decisions of the General Assembly, or by requests of the President or Secretary.
- 8.2.2 The Executive Committee should meet at least once at each International Botanical Congress, prior to the meeting of the General Assembly. Otherwise, much of its business will be conducted by **either e-mail or by** mail.

Article 9. FINANCES

Membership dues shall be determined by the Executive Committee and laid down in the By-Laws. Dues are payable to the appropriate Regional Representative on January 1st each year. Any surplus money, after payment of postal and duplication costs should be forwarded to the Secretary/**Treasurer** by the Regional Representatives. ~~(See 5.2.2 and 6.6 for special provisions for members in Independent Regions.)~~

Article 10. AMENDMENTS

- 10.1 These statues of the IOP may be amended only at a meeting of the General Assembly.
- 10.2 Amendments may be proposed by the Executive Committee or may be submitted to that committee by any member.
- 10.3 The Secretary/**Treasurer** will cause the proposed amendments to be published in the newsletter at least six months before the next General Assembly together with any comments the Executive Committee offers.
- 10.4 Amendments shall be effective if ratified by a two-thirds majority of members present at a General Assembly.

Article 11. LANGUAGE

The Official Languages of IOP will be those of IUBS. The use of English is advocated.

BY-LAWS

1. Membership dues - Dues for Individual and Corporate members are US \$10.00, 10 Euros, or UK £5.00 per year. For some of the old "Independent Regions" the dues for individual members for that region will be as agreed by the Secretary/**Treasurer** and Regional Representative for that region until such a time as economic conditions allow for the regular dues to be assessed.
2. Dues are payable to the appropriate Regional Representative and thence to the Secretary/**Treasurer**, who will use them in the production of the newsletter, **to maintain the IOP web site**, and for the business of the organisation.
3. A computer print-out of members' names and addresses is available to members from the Secretary, upon payment of a fee to cover costs determined by the Secretary/**Treasurer**.
4. A series of informal leaflets, named IOP Circulars, may be produced from time to time, with the authority of the Executive Committee. Production costs shall be paid by the author from whom members may obtain free copies, though postal charges are discretionary.
- ~~————The Executive Committee has agreed that from 1988 the following regions have the status of "Independent Regions" for the purposes of Article 5.3: India, Russia, China.~~
5. These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the Executive Committee provided that the proposed amendments have been circulated to the Committee at least three months before a vote is taken.