

IOP NEWSLETTER 84

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NOMINATION ISSUE

(with job update)

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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)
Members at Large: Andrew Drinnan (Australia), Steve Manchester (USA), Harufumi Nishida (Japan)
Secretary/Treasurer: Gar Rothwell (USA)
Conference/Congress Member: Hans Kerp (Germany)

SECOND CALL FOR NOMINATION OF THE NEW IOP EXECUTIVE

A new IOP Executive for the period of 2008 – 2012 will take office at the end of IOPC – VIII in Bonn next September. The election process began with the first call for nominations in IOP Newsletter 83. This is the second call for nominations. Descriptions of the offices, eligibility requirements, and duties of the officers are presented in the IOP Statutes at <http://www.palaeobotany.org/modules.php?name=iop&sec=about&page=5>

All current members are eligible to stand for office, to nominate people for office, and to vote. Offices for which nominations are being accepted include President, three Vice Presidents, three Members at large, and Secretary/Treasurer. If you are not sure if you have paid your 2006 and 2007 dues, please consult the IOP web site <http://www.palaeobotany.org/>, or contact your regional representative to confirm membership status.

Please e-mail the names, affiliations, and e-mail addresses of people you wish to nominate for positions on the new executive to the Secretary/Treasurer <rothwell@ohio.edu> as soon as possible. Remember, all nominators and nominees must be current members of IOP.

Upon receipt of nominations the Secretary/Treasurer will confirm that both the nominator and nominee are current members, and then contact the nominee to inquire if he/she is willing to serve. Please contact the Secretary/Treasurer if you have any questions about the election process.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP, NOMINATE, AND VOTE

It is time to renew your membership in IOP for 2007. You can do that on line at <http://www.palaeobotany.org/modules.php?name=members> by entering your user name (your e-mail address) and password. If you have forgotten your password, you can click on the “forgotten your password?” button, and a new password will be supplied.

Remember, only current IOP members are eligible to stand for office, nominate people for office, and vote.

GET ONTO THE WEB SITE

Thanks to the extraordinary efforts of our web masters, **Jason Hilton** and **Mihai Popa**, the IOP web site <http://www.palaeobotany.org/> has been completely redeveloped, and is rapidly becoming the central source of information for the organization. One of the advantages of membership is placement of your contact information on the “members only” part of the web site, and access to that information by all current members. If you have not yet uploaded your information to that site, you may do so at any time by going to <http://www.palaeobotany.org/modules.php?name=members> putting in your user name and password, and uploading your information. If you do not remember your username and password, click on the link to lost names and passwords, and that information will be sent to you.

IOPC UPDATE

Preparations are going well for the 8th International Organisation of Palaeobotany Conference (IOPC-VIII) that will be held in Bonn, Germany in conjunction with the 12th International Palynological Congress (IPC-XII), August 30 through September 5, 2008. An exciting fully-integrated program is shaping up, symposia, plenary lectures, pre-, mid-, and post-conference field trips, contributed paper sessions, and cultural events. You can find specific information, plan registration and housing, and keep up on organizational progress by visiting the conference web site at <http://www.paleontology.uni-bonn.de/congress08/index.htm>. A printed version of the most recent Conference/Congress circular can be downloaded from http://www.paleontology.uni-bonn.de/congress08/IPC_IOPC_Bonn%202008.pdfH.

Highlights of the conference are as follows:

- **Opening, mid-conference, & closing events**

The opening ceremony will be held on the afternoon of Saturday August 30, and will be followed by two keynote presentations and the icebreaker party.

The congress dinner will be held in the evening of Wednesday, September 3 as a boat tour on the Rhine River.

The closing ceremony will be held on the afternoon of Friday September 5.

- **Symposia**

The joint IOPC/IPC has accepted 41 integrated symposia that cover a vast array of topics in paleobotany and palynology. A listing of the symposia is presented at the conference web site.

- **Contributed papers**

There will be a complete program of contributed papers covering a wide range of topics. The call for abstracts has gone out with a submission deadline of April 30, 2008. Please submit your abstract as soon as possible, as late submissions will not be accepted.

- **Field trips and excursions**

A total of 16 pre-, mid-, and post-conference field trips and cultural excursions are planned in conjunction with the conference. A complete listing of the events, locations, dates and costs is posted under "Field Trips" at the conference web site.

- **Registration**

On-line registration will begin later this month, and will continue until April 30, 2008. Consult the conference web site for information regarding registration.

- **Housing**

Housing and public transportation passes are available through the Conference web site. Participants are encouraged to register as soon as possible to assure the most cost effective and convenient housing.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP? A PROPOSAL FROM THE PRESIDENT

The President of IOP, Margaret Collinson, has proposed that we introduce an honorary members category for IOP. Honorary members would have free membership of IOP for life and enjoy all the benefits of a fully paid member.

The intent of this proposal is that Honorary Membership be reserved for those who have made exceptional contributions to palaeobotany (especially through a career long effort) and are now retired, or have given exceptional service to the IOP, or to regional palaeobotanical organisations but are now retired from that role.

The process of establishing honorary members shall include nominations, to be accompanied by the names of two proposers, a brief statement of justification, and an active e-mail address for the nominee or the name of a Regional rep willing to forward hard copy information. Nominations shall be approved by the Executive and/or by the membership.

This proposal will be formally offered at the IOP General Assembly the IOPC-VIII, in Bonn (2008). Please send comments regarding the proposal to The President and the Secretary/Treasurer.

OTHER MEETINGS

Midcontinent Paleobotanical Colloquium

Planning for the 25th Midcontinent Paleobotanical Colloquium is in the final stages. This meeting focuses on students, and participation by both graduate students and undergraduates is encouraged. Registration is now open at <http://www.usouthal.edu/mpc25>, and will continue through February 15. This year's meeting will be held at the University of South Alabama, Mobile, Alabama on March 14 – 18, 2008. In addition to a day of contributed papers there will be an opening reception, mixer, conference banquet, and Sunday field trip. Brian Axsmith baxsmith@jaguar1.usouthal.edu has put together a great program, and looks forward to seeing you all in Mobile this spring.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Three tenure-track Professorships: Courant Research Center Geobiology, Georg-August-Universität Göttingen

The newly founded Courant Research Centre “Geobiology Development of Early Life and Organic Matter Controlled by Rock and Mineral Forming Processes” at the Georg-August-University of Göttingen invites applications for three tenure-track Professorships to build up Independent Research Groups.

The positions are available immediately will be at the W1 salary scale (junior-professorships), come with a reduced teaching responsibility, six years of funding to build up an independent research group and a tenure option (W2 or W3) depending on successful review after 3 and 6 years.

This research centre will integrate contributions from different fields of Geobiology: deep biosphere geomicrobiology, evolution of early metazoans, and evolution of early land plants for a better understanding of the origin and evolution of the biosphere and the consequences for System Earth.

We are seeking outstanding young postdoctoral researchers with an internationally acknowledged track record who will complement and strengthen our existing research programs focusing on (1) microbial ecology and biogeochemistry of subterranean environments, (2) molecular (paleo-) biology and phylogeny of fossil and recent metazoans, and (3) molecular (paleo-) biology and phylogeny of fossil and early recent land plants.

Candidates for up to three group leader positions will be considered.

The applicant's research statement should explicitly outline how interdisciplinary integration will be achieved among the junior research groups as well as in cooperation with existing groups in Geobiology, e.g. with the DFG Research Unit FOR 751 “Geobiology of Organo- and Biofilms”, “Deep Metazoan Phylogeny”, and “Plant Systematics”. We expect that the successful candidates will closely interact with the other members of the Courant centre.

For further information see <<http://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/sh/58829.html>>

The Georg-August-University is substantially fostering the career opportunities for female researchers and scholars and therefore strongly encourages qualified women to apply for a position as Research Group leader. As part of its gender equality concept the University provides special support to ease the compatibility of career and family. Together with the City of Göttingen and the non-university research institutions the university offers a Dual Career

Service. We explicitly welcome applications from abroad. Disabled persons with corresponding aptitude for the position will be favoured.

The selection procedure will include a symposium to be held in December 2007 or January 2008. Further Information for applicants and information about the selection procedure are available from the speaker (see below).

Applications including a CV, information on external funding and honours, a list of publications, the three most significant articles, a brief research statement fitting into the topics of the selected Courant Research Centre as well as name and address of two References are requested by December 3rd, 2007 and should be sent to the speaker of the Courant Research Centre:

Prof. Dr. Joachim Reitner
Department of Geobiology
Goldschmidtstr. 3
37077 Göttingen, Germany
phone: +49 551 39 7950;
email: jreitne@gwdg.de;
<http://www.geobiologie.uni-goettingen.de>

Faculty Position in Plant Paleobiology and Evolution

The Department of Integrative Biology at the University of California, Berkeley, is soliciting applications for a tenure-track position (Assistant Professor) in Plant Paleobiology and Evolution (Position ID #714). We seek a colleague to join a department with a strong interdisciplinary emphasis and who will develop a vigorous, independent research and teaching program in the area of plant paleobiology. Applicants should have a Ph.D. or equivalent advanced degree and an exceptional research record in: the evolution and ecology of past plant communities or ecosystems, the evolution of

vascular plant lineages in deep time, and/or long-term plant response to environmental change using paleontological and neontological data. The position entails teaching both lower and upper level courses in plant evolution/paleobotany, with an emphasis on structure and function, phylogeny, paleoecology, and/or historical biogeography. An academic curatorship in the UC Museum of Paleontology is associated with this appointment; the successful candidate will be encouraged to promote the use of the museums' extensive holdings, supervise student research, work with museum staff to pursue opportunities for collection improvement and growth, and participate in UCMP and the Berkeley Natural History Museums activities and events. For more information, see: <http://ib.berkeley.edu>.

Application packages should include a CV with a bibliography of published work, a description of research accomplishments and objectives, a statement of teaching interests, and selected reprints. Three letters of reference should be sent separately by the recommender.

Both applications and letters of reference should be submitted electronically via: <http://ib.berkeley.edu/admin/jobs/paleobiojob.php>. or via email to: PlantPaleobiology@gmail.com. If electronic submission is not possible, materials may be sent by regular mail to:

Plant-Paleobiology Search Committee
Department of Integrative Biology
3060 Valley Life Sciences Building
University of California
Berkeley, CA 94720-3140 USA

Applications and supporting letters must be received electronically or postmarked by February 29, 2008. Review of application will begin March 10, 2008. Applicants should refer their reviewers to the UC Berkeley Statement of Confidentiality at <http://apo.chance.berkeley.edu/evalltr.html>. The University of California is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.

NEWS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP

Jean Broutin, Denise Pons, Catherine Gill, Monique and Jean Duperon recently moved from the Université Pierre et Marie Curie building located 12 rue Cuvier in Paris to a new building in the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle.

Their new mail address is:

Laboratoire de Paléobotanique et Paléoécologie, UMR 5143
Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle
Case Postale 48 (Batiment de Géologie)
57 rue Cuvier
75 231 Paris cedex 05
France

For those who wish to visit them, the lab address is slightly different:

Batiment de Géologie
43 rue Buffon
75005 Paris