

IOP NEWSLETTER 70

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and do not necessarily reflect the policy of IOP.

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Recent IOP Newsletters are posted at:
<http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~rothwell/IOP-Newsletters/index.htm>

President: Else Marie Friis (Sweden)
Vice Presidents: Muriel Fairon-Demaret (Belgium), Zlatko Kavzek (Czech Republic),
Sun Ge (China)
Secretary: Gar Rothwell (USA)

IOPC-VII: CHOOSING THE LOCATION

As you probably already know, delegates at the 2000 IOP General Council Meeting in Qiunhuangdao, China were unable to decide on the location for the next IOPC. The IOP Executive was directed to call for an additional round of invitations that provided more detailed information about the proposed meeting dates, locations, facilities, etc. The IOP Executive has spent several months reviewing and discussing the relative merits of the invitations. Other factors, such as our coordination of activities with IPC (International Palynological Conference) also weighed heavily in the decision making process (see “COORDINATING WITH IPC” section, below). This has been a particularly difficult decision, as there were two extremely attractive invitations. In the end, the Executive voted to accept one of the proposals, and is both delighted and confident that IOPC-VII will continue in the tradition of our previous outstanding conferences.

INVITATION TO ATTEND IOPC-VII

The Organizing Committee of the IOPC-VII is pleased to announce that the location of the 2004 meeting will be in Argentina. We are particularly proud to bring the IOPC to Latin America for the first time. Our colleagues throughout South America are more than excited about the opportunity to entertain paleobotanists from all over the world, and to demonstrate the advantages of this beautiful region. Therefore, we extend a formal invitation to all.

We have selected the city of Bariloche as a first option to host the conference in Argentina. This city is located on the Andean Mountains of

Patagonia and offers a full range of modern services for travelers, visitors and tourists. We are planning series of tours and excursions to provide an opportunity for all participants to discover the many spectacular sights of the southern rain forests and to enjoy the majestic landscapes of this region.

We anticipate that the first circular for IOPC-VII will be completed and distributed before the end of the year. For additional information or to have your name added to the mailing list, contact Dr. N. Ruben Cuneo at <rcuneo@mef.org.ar> Be ready to participate in an unforgettable IOPC !!

N.R. Cuneo

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Regional Representatives play a vital role in the operation of IOP. Much of our most important business is handled by Regional Representatives, who keep membership records, collect dues, serve as an information conduit between members, and provide vital information to the central organization.

Over the years these dedicated people have given generously of their time, and have kept IOP an active and progressive force in paleontology. We are pleased to have several continuing active Regional Representatives, and also to announce new representatives for some regions. Additional active representatives and new representatives will be announced in the next IOP Newsletter.

We sincerely thank retiring Regional Representatives for their dedicated service to IOP. Retiring representatives include **Mike Boulter** (Northern Europe), **Jack Douglas**

(Austral Asia), and **Kazuhiko Uemura** (Japan).

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COORDINATING WITH IPC

IOPC and IPC (International Palynological Conference) traditionally have been organized to coincide with one another, reflecting the close association of our two organizations and the significant number of workers who are

active members of both. In the last few years, however, there has been less active coordination of the meetings. In some instances, one organization has decided upon a location and meeting time, the other being obliged to either follow or choose an independent time and location. In other instances, such as in 2000 when the meetings were separated by a month in time, the association was too loose to allow most people to participate in both conferences.

During the IOP General Council Meeting of 2000, several individuals expressed frustration with the date and location of the next IPC having been chosen without input from IOP. Although the two organizations will hold meetings at different places and separate dates in 2004, the IOP Executive and many members wish to re-assert active coordination for future meetings. As a first step we will contact the IFPS Council (International Federation of Palynological Societies) to open a discussion on how this can best be done and also how we can promote scientific exchange between members of the two organizations. We would also appreciate comments on the IOPC-IPC link from all concerned IOP members. Perhaps it time for us to begin thinking about the two meetings in 2008. Comments may be addressed to the IOP Secretary at <rothwell@ohio.edu>

RESEARCH NEWS (NEW FEATURE)

As an important information source for IOP members, we are delighted to introduce (or perhaps reintroduce) the practice of including news of new and significant paleobotanical finds in the IOP Newsletter. This section is designed to publicize exciting discoveries before they

appear in print, and is not intended to substitute for publication of the information.

Newsworthy items may be up to 300 words long (no longer items, please), and should emphasize the broad significance of the discovery. Do not include detailed descriptions or references. Although we would like to be able to include an illustration or figure, the current format and production of the Newsletter do not allow for these. Hopefully, we can begin to include a figure at a later date. News items may be submitted directly to the Secretary. The preferred method of submission will be as an e-mail attachment to <rothwell@ohio.edu> However, you can mail your file on a standard computer disk, if you wish. Please indicate the word processing program that you use. Because of a lack of secretarial help and the possibility of errors being introduced during transcription, we prefer that you do not submit items as hard copy.

REPRINTS AVAILABLE

National Museum of Scotland is making available, at no cost, reprints of several papers published in the Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh by the late Albert Long on Carboniferous plants from Britain. A list of these may be obtained from Jason Hilton upon request <J.hilton@nms.ac.uk>. The Museum will pay postage, so inquire early as quantities are limited.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

North American Paleontological Convention "Paleontology in the New Millennium" will be held at the University of California, Berkeley, from June 26 to July 1, 2001. Information

about NAPC can be found at:
<http://www.ucmp.berkeley.edu/napc/>

Botanical Society of America Meetings

"Botany 2001" will be held at the Albuquerque Convention Center August 12 - 16. The Paleobotanical Section of the BSA has a strong program of scientific papers and posters, and will conduct two field trips. Detailed information about this meeting and abstracts of paleobotanical papers is available at:
<http://www.botany2001.org>

Midcontinent Paleobotanical Colloquium

The 19th MPC will be held at the University of Florida in the late winter or early spring. Come to Gainesville for good companionship and the hot news in paleobotany. Please contact either Dave Dilcher (dilcher@flmnh.ufl.edu) or Steve Manchester (steven@flmnh.ufl.edu) for more information about MPC-IXX.

International Palynological Congress

The 11th IPC is scheduled for 4-9 July 2004 in Granada, Spain. Detailed information about this conference already has been developed, and can be accessed on the web at:
<http://www.ugr.es/~bioveg/>

REPORTS OF MEETINGS

The Midcontinent Paleobotanical Colloquium for 2001 was held at George Washington University June 1-3, 2001. The organizing committee of Pat Herenden, Judy Skog, Scott Wing and Bill DiMichele brought this year's meeting to Washington DC for the first time. Pat, as the principal organizer, made available the facilities of GWU, and hosted a reception in

this Laboratory for the 35 participants. Several people provided demonstrations of newly discovered and recently published fossils, and Pat demonstrated the new digital SEM with specimens of fossil flowers and fruits. The program is posted on the MPC web site at:
<http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~rothwelol/MPC-2000/index.htm>

The Saturday program included 16 oral presentations, and an after dinner presentation on biological and archaeological approaches to documenting plant domestication by Bruce Smith. The participants voted to hold the next MPC at the University of Florida in Gainesville. Dave Dilcher and Steve Manchester are considering holding next year's MPC much earlier (perhaps as early as February) to give those from further north an opportunity to thaw out before the end of winter.

DEATH NOTICE AND OBITUARY

D. D. Pant, India

Dear Friends,

I am sorry to inform you about the sad demise of Prof. D. D. Pant of Allahabad University on early hours of 8th May. Indian Palaeobotany has suffered a great loss in his death. I thought it proper to inform you.

Shaila Chandra
Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany

Elisabeth E McIver, Canada (1941 - 2001)

It is with great sorrow that I inform you that Dr. Elisabeth (Beth) E. McIver passed away Sunday, April 1st. in her home after losing the

battle against cancer. Dr. McIver was an authority in the areas of Paleofloristics and the origin and evolution of the Cupressaceae. She was responsible of the discovery and description of a number of extinct Cupressaceae and her synthesis of fossil and extant data provided her with important insights into the evolutionary and geographic history of the family. During her career, Beth conducted extensive research on the interpretation of paleoenvironments through correlation of climate and plant morphology and diversity. She used fossil plants as a primary source of information on habitat and climate to reconstruct local paleoenvironments and understand extinction events. Her most recent manuscript on the paleoenvironment of *Tyrannosaurus rex* was submitted for publication only two weeks before her death.

We all have lost a wonderful friend and colleague too soon. Her passion for nature, endless energy, enthusiasm and profound commitment to scientific research on paleobotany, particularly the paleoflora of North America will be deeply missed. Our most sincere sympathy is extended to Jim Basinger, her husband and colleague in paleobotanical research.

J. Hugo Cota-Sanchez
University of Saskatchewan