

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION OF PALAEOBOTANY



IOP NEWSLETTER 117

October 2018

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Letter from the president

Hi everyone,

Firstly, I hope you have had an eventful summer with participation in interesting meetings and successful field work. Many of us look back on the inspiring EPPC in Dublin, excellently organized and conducted by Jenny McElwain and her organization team. Here we issue, yet again, the third and last newsletter for 2018. If in the remaining month important and urgent information arises, we will notify members by means of a circular.

We thank Kathryn Edwina Hill, our webmaster, for her expertise and dedication to improve our IOP website. The classic site, palaeobotany.org, remains available as of this writing, but will be replaced with the newly designed pages in the near future. If you wish a sneak peek at the new website, go to palaeobotany.org/wordpress. We welcome your suggestions. Links to our social media pages in facebook, twitter* and Instagram are prominently featured, as well as links to member-suggested websites and links. Thank you to those of you who are helping to keep our social media pages active. When the new website site is fully operational, it will be migrated to our primary palaeobotany.org address. [*personally, I refuse to use this one as they continue to permit distasteful comments by Donald Trump].

There was an open meeting of the IOP executive committee in Dublin, the minutes of which you will receive along with this newsletter. According to common rules of privacy policy and the financial content it is not available to the public at our homepage. Some highlights were the recognition of Zlatko Kvaček and Gar Rothwell as Honorary Members of IOP, as elaborated in this newsletter, and a vote to provide 10,000 USD in support of students (master / PhD) attending the IOPC-IPC in Prague 2020, with the details and application procedures to be provided in 2019.

Last month, after the EPPC, we issued an IOP circular providing some information on privacy policy in IOP, e.g. handling and storing of personal data of our members. Thanks to all of you there were no responses that would reduce the scale of our organizational operations. Many thanks for your confidence!

We were saddened to learn of the loss of considerable parts of palaeobotanical collections due to fire at the Brazilian National Museum, and the impact that this has had on our colleagues. Thankfully no persons lost their lives in this catastrophe, but the loss of cultural and natural history collections is difficult to imagine.

With best regards, Steve

Steve Manchester (Gainesville, FL, USA), IOP President

Obituary: Robert H. Wagner

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Robert H. Wagner died on February 7, 2018 at the age of 90 years. With him we lose an outstanding researcher of the Euramerican Carboniferous floras and their stratigraphic applications, a paleobotanical museum founder, a highly honored academic teacher, a belligerent congressman and a cooperative, humorous and linguistic colleague.

Robert H. Wagner was born in Surabaya, Java, in 1927 and had to experience the Pacific War as a young student in a Japanese camp. Back in the Netherlands, he enjoyed education and geology studies in Leiden until 1953. He became a pupil and co-worker of W. Georges Jongmans, the great paleo-botanist and co-founder of the International Carboniferous Congresses. His further professional career led him to a career path through the Geological Survey in Turkey, working as a palynologist at Dutch-Shell and as a university lecturer at the University of Sheffield (1960). From 1983 to 1992 he was Chief Geologist of the State Mining Society ENCASUR in southern Spain. Afterwards, he dedicated himself to the construction of a palaeobotanical department in the Royal Botanical Garden of Cordoba, which he crowned in 2005 with the opening of the Museo de Paleobotánica de Córdoba, stylishly located in a former Roman watermill in the Guadalquivir and bearing his name. Since 1985 he was an honorary doctor of the University of Cordoba.

The scientific field of work of R. H. Wagner was, above all, the Upper Carboniferous of the Iberian Peninsula. Here he researched hard coal basins, their sedimentology, stratigraphy, structures and deposits, often together with other authors and with his students. His many richly illustrated floras of the individual basins are indispensable for comparisons with Central European Variscan floras. In 2010, together with his pupil Carmen Alvarez-Vasquez, he gave us a valuable overview of all Spanish and Portuguese Carboniferous floras.

He also examined individual taxa, such as *Alethopteris* species (1968), monographically, expanding the study area to include all Euramerica. Ecologically-sociologically oriented representations, such as the *Omphalophloios* bogs with reconstructions of plants in the basin of Puertolleano (2015), prove his methodological versatility. He was the author of many new taxa. Some genera, such as *Lobatopteris* Wagner, originally conceived by the author only based on leaf venation, were later confirmed as real taxa with fertile organs from our Variscan inland basins.

A special field of work of R. H. Wagner was the International Carboniferous Congresses and Conferences of the Subcommittee on Stratigraphy since 1963, during which he fought, often as secretary, vice-president or president, for the recognition of his new biostratigraphic zonation of the Upper Carboniferous; recognizing and defining the Barruelian and the Cantabrian are mainly his achievements. Probably R. H. Wagner was the last palaeobotanist who was at the same time a regional coal geologist and biostratigrapher in the global context.

R. H. Wagner was also a very good connoisseur of our Central European collections and the work of their specialist colleagues, whose results he promptly included in his literature comparisons. In the 1970s and 1980s, usually following the major congresses, he helped to ensure that their 'Compte Rendu' quickly reached the libraries of those who could not attend then. The Charles University in Prague thanked him in 1998 with its gold medal for the manifold support of the Czech colleagues and their meetings. Back in Berlin, Dresden and Chemnitz, we were only able to support his collection studies and were grateful listeners to the great, multi-lingual speaker Wagner.



With walking stick and youthful momentum we experienced "Bob" Wagner once again in March 2014 as a speaker in Berlin.

Those who had the luck to visit Bob Wagner in his own collection in Cordoba, or in the summer house in the beloved Cantabrian Mountains, were fortunate to experience some of his other qualities: his outstanding love of collecting and order in the construction of his own precious library, in which even inconspicuous and unequal sized special prints were bound in fine uniform leather. Only a single bookbinder in distant Leon city could do that satisfactorily for him. If necessary, he asked the authors for more copies. What a beautiful sight of this library!

In the evening you could experience, in his hospitable house, what a scientist is gastronomically capable of in his kitchen, if he has haggled long enough with the butcher of his confidence for the best meat from the best young bull. That too was Bob Wagner.

His last letter to me on January 7 ended with the words: **If the people of our generation are no longer there (soon), then it will go on happily (do not you believe?). Continue quietly - and have fun with it.**

Manfred Barthel, c/o Museum of Natural History Berlin, Germany
Translation by Margaret E. Collinson, RHUL, Egham, UK

In memoriam Geoffrey Creber

Margaret Collinson (RHUL, Egham, UK) recently received this sad news from Geoff's daughter Jenny Nichols:

"My father, Geoffrey Creber, PhD, passed away peacefully on Thursday 13th September at the age of 95. He had for the past 5 years been in the St David's Residential Home in Priory Road, Ascot. He maintained his interest in science throughout his life"

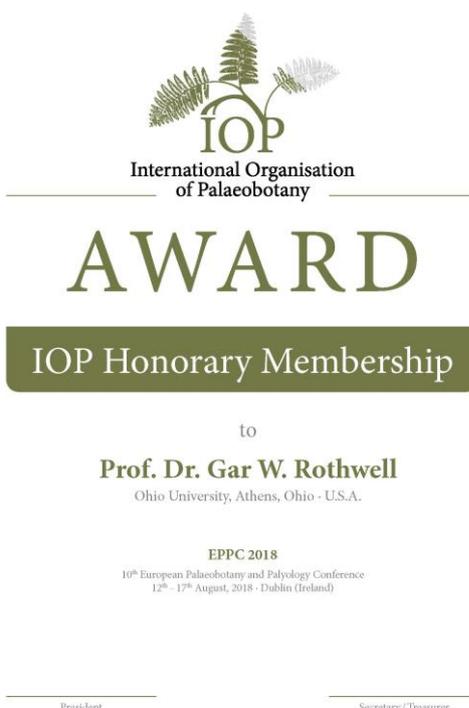
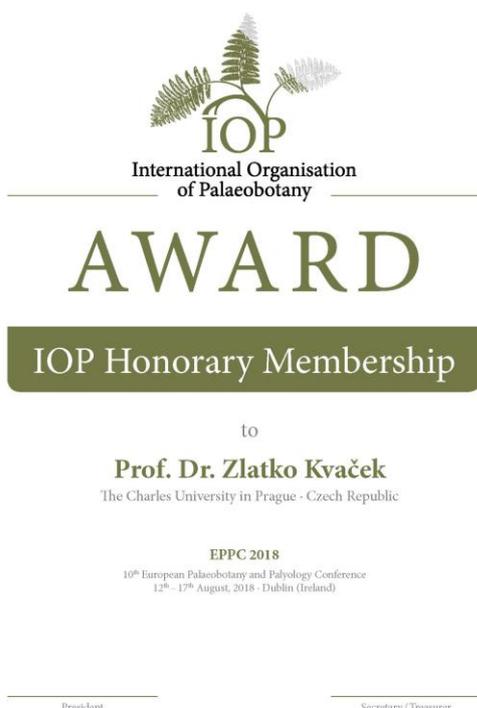
Margaret started compiling a palaeobotanically oriented obituary with the help of colleagues who knew Geoff very well. This obituary could be part of an obituary to which the family would like to provide basic biography details. The obituary will be likely put on IOP website and published in the IOP newsletters as soon as available.

IOP Honorary Memberships

Following a paragraph in our statutes IOP Executive Committee received two nominations for this award:

- for Zlatko Kvaček (Prague) by Lilla Hably (Budapest) and Johanna Eder (Stuttgart)
- for Gar Rothwell (Athens, OH) by Alexandru Tomescu (Arcata, CA) and Ignacio Escapa (Chubut)

On the business meeting during the EPPC in Dublin the Executive Committee and IOP members voted unanimously for these motions and both nominees received Honorary Memberships documented by certificates which were handed over during social dinner and EPPC closing ceremony.



Certificates designed by blattwerk | dd (Dresden, Germany)

Motion 1: Zlatko Kvaček, Charles University Prague (Czechia)

Zlatko Kvaček is the most well-known palaeobotanist in Europe but his name is familiar to palaeobotanists all over the world. He had studied first of all Tertiary and Upper Cretaceous floras of the Czech Republic, but later has been engaged in the investigation of localities from all over Europe and even from North America and Asia. His scientific interest covers a wide range of topics and methods. One of his main focus, the revision of older collections applying cuticle analysis, resulted in international collaborations especially in the description of Tertiary floras. He is now cooperating with more than 30 palaeobotanists from Europe and America.

His research projects resulted in the publication of important monographs on Palaeogene Fagaceae, Theaceae and Ericaceae from Central Europe, including the investigation of gross-morphology and cuticular analysis of fossil and living taxa.

Zlatko's research projects have also been focused on taphonomical and palaeoecological aspects of fossil sites, with a particular aim to reconstruct Tertiary vegetation and environment. In addition, Zlatko took part in other international projects like the IUBS Plant Fossil Record and the "Database of European Neogene Floras" .

More than 200 scientific papers and six monographs give evidence of Zlatko's research activities. Moreover, Zlatko has also been active in scientific life as the organiser or co-organiser of several international symposia and conferences.

Furthermore, Zlatko engaged very much to capacity building and thus has educated young scientists now active in the Czech Republic. Moreover, Zlatko was not only teaching for many years at the Charles University Prague but trained students and young scientists from other countries (e.g. Hungary, Austria) already prior to his University career.

It is our pleasure to recommend Prof. Kvaček for the IOP Honorary Membership.

Prof. Lilla Hably (Budapest, Hungary) and Prof. Johanna Eder (Stuttgart, Germany)



Zlatko and some of his admirers during the celebrational symposium in occasion of his 80th birthday in Prague, September 2017 (photograph: anonymous)

Motion 2: Gar Rothwell, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio (USA)

I am writing to nominate Dr. Gar W. Rothwell for honorary membership in the International Organisation of Palaeobotany. My co-nominator is Dr. Ignacio H. Escapa (CONICET & Museo Paleontologico Egidio Feruglio, Trelew, Argentina). Throughout a long and distinguished career, Gar Rothwell has made exceptional contributions to paleobotany and has given exceptional service to the International Organisation of Palaeobotany. For these reasons, we consider him well worthy of such recognition as comes with honorary membership in the International Organisation of Palaeobotany. Below, we provide the justification for this nomination.



Gar Rothwell addresses words of thanks during the EPPC Social Dinner in the Guinness Brewery (photo by Alexander Schmidt, Göttingen, Germany)

Over the last few decades, no scientist has been more influential in demonstrating and expanding the potential of paleobotany as integral contributor to evolutionary plant biology, than Gar Rothwell. His work emphasized and continues to emphasize specimen-based studies using sustained field collecting in several areas of the world (North America, Antarctica, South America, Japan), as well as collections research. Epistemically, Rothwell has regarded fossils as only one part of the bigger story and has always looked beyond morphology and classification, to explore the deeper implications of fossils for evolution and phylogeny. He was also the most outspoken proponent of the study of fossils as a major source of information for making sense of the living world of plants, and one of the foremost practitioners of paleobotany as a synthesis between the

dead and the living. Because of this, the impact of Rothwell's scientific contributions is reaching far beyond the field of paleobotany, with important implications for wide areas of plant biology: anatomy and morphology, development, systematics and phylogeny, evolution. He was one of the principal contributors to the revival of paleobotany from a largely descriptive discipline to a vibrant field of investigation at the forefront of modern evolutionary sciences that contributes crucial data equal in importance to those provided by genetics and molecular biology.

In more specific terms, Rothwell's studies have changed the way we regard the role of fossils in understanding plant evolution, with transformative impacts in three major areas: (1) diversity, (2) phylogeny, and (3) evolutionary developmental biology (evo-devo).

(1) In the quest to document biodiversity, the fossil record, thought to comprise upwards of 90% of all biodiversity that ever lived on earth, produces a steady output of new taxa. Aside from calibration points for clade-dating studies, these fossils provide unique insights on plant evolution in deep time, including numerous extinct lineages that cannot be studied by any other means. Throughout a career spanning almost half a century, Rothwell has documented a plethora of new plant fossils that improve our understanding of past biodiversity. His studies span broad swaths in both time and taxonomic diversity, from early vascular plants and pre-tracheophyte floras (also including prokaryotes, fungi, lichens, bryophytes) to flowering plants, and from as far back as the Silurian to Tertiary and living plants.

(2) In terms of phylogeny, extinct species exhibiting novel combinations of characters refashion our understanding of relationships and are key to studies of deep phylogeny. Rothwell's work has been at the forefront of the integration of fossils in studies of systematics and phylogeny. He was one of the few paleobotanists to empirically address the influence of fossils on resolution of phylogenetic relationships. His contributions underscore the crucial role of fossils in the resolution of deep phylogenetic nodes and in illuminating the evolution of development, two major outcomes of paleobotanical studies that Rothwell has been advocating tirelessly throughout his career. Gar's work has provided the baseline for the way we understand phylogenetic relationships, when fossil diversity is taken into account, in many plant groups, including ferns, equisetophytes, early seed plants, gymnosperms and conifers, and euphyllophytes as a whole.

(3) In the evo-devo realm, morpho-anatomical information contained in fossils includes fingerprints for specific regulatory mechanisms. Such structural fingerprints allow for tracing the history of those mechanisms in phylogenetic space and time, refining our understanding of morphological evolution. Rothwell was the first paleobotanist to explore such structural fingerprints and the first to explicitly articulate and consistently pursue the integration of plant fossils in the evo-devo paradigm. His studies that integrate data from the fossil record to address the evolution of lycophyte body plans, leaves, polar auxin transport, gravitropism, and secondary growth, are now classic landmarks for integrative studies of the evolution of plant morphology.

In addition to the more than 250 journal articles and book chapters he published, Rothwell coauthored *Paleobotany and the Evolution of Plants* (second edition), which is still one of the major reference works in paleobotany and a landmark textbook in evolutionary plant biology.

A charismatic teacher and mentor, Rothwell has created a school of thought in paleobotany. The paleobotany program he created at Ohio University, where he worked for most of his career, has involved numerous undergraduate and graduate students and has produced several paleobotanists that went on to establish their own paleobotany programs at universities throughout the US.

Rothwell has been heavily involved in the botanical and paleobotanical communities at the national level – in the Botanical Society of America –, and international level – in the International Organisation of Palaeobotany. Specifically, he has been a member of the International Organisation of Palaeobotany for many years and has served this organization for 12 years: 2000-2008 as Secretary/Treasurer and 2008-2012 as President. Additionally, Rothwell was one of the initiators of a national paleobotany meeting – the Midcontinent Paleobotanical Colloquium – that has been held yearly in the US for more than 30 years; he serves as organizational advisor for this meeting, to this day. At a more general level, Rothwell’s research has had a strong influence on the international dimension of paleobotany, from visits to labs and field work abroad, and hosting or collaborating with international scientists (from Europe, South America, and Asia), to fostering collaborations between fellow scientists. Through these activities, Rothwell has been a key contributor to the assembly of an international paleobotanical community and to the rise of paleobotany as a global network of collaborations.

The breadth and depth of Rothwell’s lifelong research work, his impressive scholarly productivity, far-reaching achievements and outstanding contributions to the field of paleobotany and plant biology, as well as his long involvement in and service to the International Organisation of Palaeobotany, unequivocally single him out as highly deserving of the kind of recognition associated with honorary membership in the International Organisation of Palaeobotany.

Alexandru M.F. Tomescu, Humboldt State University, California (USA)

Jongmans Medal

J.H.A. van Konijnenburg-van Cittert – Recipient of the Jongmans Medal

The “Jongmanspenning” first awarded in 1994 at the EPPC in Heerlen, the Netherlands is named after the eminent Dutch palaeobotanist Prof. Willem J. Jongmans (1878-1957). This medal is intended as a lifetime achievement award for a European palaeobotanist and/or palynologist. The medal is awarded every four years at the EPPC, alternating between a paleobotanist and palynologist. A special committee, installed by the Dutch Palynological Society, reviews nominees and selects a medalist. This year we award the *Jongmanspenning* to **Prof. Dr. J.H.A. van Konijnenburg - van Cittert**.

This year’s Jongmans Medal winner is Prof. Johanna Hermine Aleida van Konijnenburg-van Cittert, better known as Han. She was born on April 4th 1943 in Utrecht. Her parents were both well-known physicists and science historians. Han grew up in Utrecht where she went to school and started studying biology in 1961. In 1967 she graduated with palaeobotany as one of her two main research subjects. She worked on the Jurassic flora of Yorkshire and made several fieldtrips with the late Prof. Tom M. Harris. On January 1st 1968 she started her PhD research on *In situ gymnosperm pollen from the Middle Jurassic of Yorkshire* under the supervision of Prof. Frits P. Jonker. With her thesis, which she successfully defended on December 2nd 1970, she bridged the gap between palaeobotany and palynology. In 1968 she married Dr. Jan van Konijnenburg. After her PhD she initially worked as schoolteacher, took care for her family and raised two children. However, she never gave up palaeobotany and palynology. For more than 30 years she remained very active without having a position. She mainly worked at home but at

least once a week she travelled, initially from Tiel and later from Castricum, to Utrecht. The Netherlands are a small country but nonetheless it is always at least a one-hour drive. In Utrecht she did macerations that required the use of HF, something she could not do in her kitchen at home, she consulted the library, made photographs and discussed with colleagues. She is honorary research fellow at the Laboratory of Palaeobotany and Palynology in Utrecht, where she is still teaches today. In 1988 the Jongmans collection, one of the World's largest collections of Carboniferous plant fossils, was moved from the former Geological Bureau in Heerlen to the Naturalis Biodiversity Centre in Leiden. Han then started working in Leiden too, also without having a position, spending one day per week in Utrecht and one in Leiden. Fifteen years later in 2003 she was finally appointed as extraordinary professor for Prequaternary Palaeobotany at the University of Leiden.



Hans Kerp hands over the Jongmans Medal to Johanna "Han" van Konijnenburg – van Cittert during the EPPC Social Dinner in the Guinness Brewery (photo by Alexander Schmidt, Göttingen, Germany)

In her dissertation on in situ pollen of Jurassic gymnosperms from Yorkshire Han included a statement that says “sterke specialisatie leidt tot ondergang” which freely translates as strong specialisation leads to downfall. Obviously keeping this in mind, she soon expanded her research activities, stratigraphically, taxonomically as well as geographically. Meanwhile, the Permian and Triassic have become time intervals that also have her special interest. She published papers on floras from the Upper Carboniferous to the Paleogene, on a wide variety of taxa such as lycopsids, sphenophytes, ferns, pteridosperms, cycads, bennettitales, ginkgophytes and conifers, and addressing topics from spore wall ultrastructure to fossil plant community structure. She collaborated with colleagues from all over the world. Especially her co-operations with colleagues from Eastern European countries like Hungary, Poland, Rumania and Russia should be mentioned, because these were already firmly established years before the political situation changed in the late 1980s and early 1990s when communication and traveling became much easier. She served on PhD committees in the Netherlands and abroad and she supervised several foreign and Dutch PhD students. Apart from more than 150 papers, many of which are now standard references, she published a guidebook on the Jurassic Flora of Yorkshire with Helen Morgans in 1999. Several of her papers were published together with “amateur” palaeontologists. Every year she visits her friends and fossil collectors in Germany and Italy. Han serves on several editorial boards. As a former editor I contacted her regularly, maybe more often than I should have done. She was always busy, even after she retired from Leiden in 2013. She continued doing research and still teaches in Utrecht. Nevertheless, she was always willing to review a manuscript and her reviews were insightful, critical but always very constructive and fair.

I have known Han since the late 1970s when I started as an undergraduate in palaeobotany. For a while we even shared an office in Utrecht. I really learnt a lot from her. We have been in regular contact ever since I left Utrecht in early 1989. When my wife and I moved to the US and transatlantic communication was still restricted to what is now called snail mail, she was one of the few who wrote very regularly. Han is not only a passionate palaeobotanist and palynologist but she also loves gardening and many foreign colleagues and friends enjoyed the warm hospitality in her home in Castricum. She is also very active in other fields, e.g., in her church and in her choir. For her great scientific achievements and her extraordinary societal engagement Han was decorated by Royal decree as Officer in the Order of Orange-Nassau on April 25th 2014.

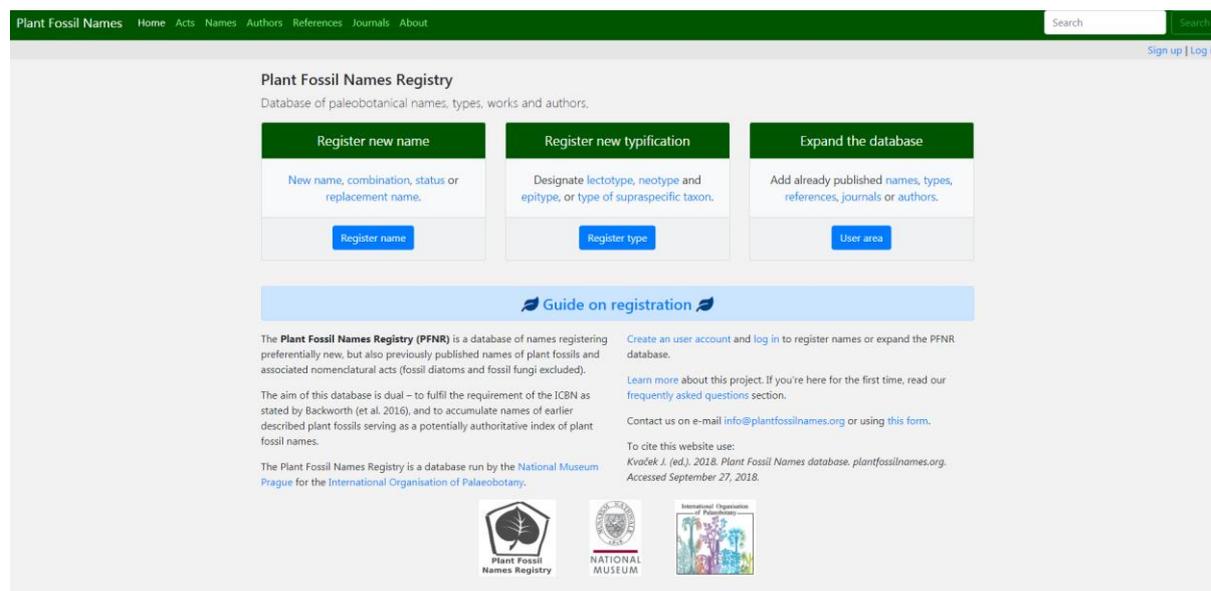
Being very active at a continuously high level during 50 years of which more than 30 years without holding a formal position is very impressive and Han is without any doubt one of the best ambassadors for our discipline. In recognition of her achievements the committee unanimously decided to award her the *Jongmanspenning* 2018 to join the ranks of the previous awards winners: Winfried Remy (1994), Maurice Streef (1998), Harald Walther (2002), David Batten (2006), Jean Galtier (2010) and Bas van Geel (2014).

Hans Kerp, Münster, August 2018

Registration of Plant Fossil Names 2

The XIX International Botanical Congress in Shenzhen prepared ground for registration of plant names as being part of valid publication, including other nomenclatural acts. The process was initiated far earlier, in 1987, at the XIV International Botanical Congress in Berlin by W. Greuter and colleagues, but was not accepted then. A new initiative was set up at the XVIII IBC in Melbourne, 2011, when a Special Committee on Registration of Algal and Plant Names (including fossils) was established. Its task focused on registering plant names, using a procedure analogous to that for fungal names, agreed upon in Melbourne, and included as Art. 42 in the International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants (Turland & al., 2018). Basic information about this initiative was published in a Report of the Special Committee on Registration of Algal and Plant Names (Barkworth et al., 2016). The XIX International Botanical Congress in Shenzhen gave a green light, but did not agree on its mandatory usage. This process should be completed in time for the next International Botanical Congress.

Since the process of registering of plant names appears to be becoming inevitable, I encourage the palaeobotanical community to start with the registration procedure, although it is presently voluntary. Its link is now placed in the new IOP website <https://palaeobotany.org/>. Registration is possible via two portals: PFNR based in Prague and IFPNI based in Moscow. They are currently available at URLs PFNR (<https://www.plantfossilnames.org/>) and IFPNI (<http://fossilplants.info/>). These institutions agreed to cooperate in data exchange and backup.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Plant Fossil Names Registry (PFNR). The page has a green header with navigation links: Plant Fossil Names, Home, Acts, Names, Authors, References, Journals, About. There is a search bar and 'Sign up | Log in' links in the top right. The main content area is titled 'Plant Fossil Names Registry' and includes the subtitle 'Database of paleobotanical names, types, works and authors.' Below this are three main action buttons: 'Register new name' (with subtext 'New name, combination, status or replacement name.' and a 'Register name' button), 'Register new typification' (with subtext 'Designate lectotype, neotype and epitype, or type of supraspecific taxon.' and a 'Register type' button), and 'Expand the database' (with subtext 'Add already published names, types, references, journals or authors.' and a 'User area' button). A blue banner below these buttons says 'Guide on registration'. The footer contains text about the PFNR's purpose, contact information, and a citation: 'Kvaček J. (ed.), 2018. Plant Fossil Names database. plantfossilnames.org. Accessed September 27, 2018.' Logos for the Plant Fossil Names Registry, National Museum, and International Organisation of Palaeobotany are also present.

Screen shot of the introductory page of the PFNR portal (<https://www.plantfossilnames.org/>)

The Plant Fossil Names Registry was developed, which is based in and maintained by the National Museum Prague. Since 2014, it operates under the auspices of the International Organisation of Palaeobotany (IOP). An initial version of the site was made available to members of the Nomenclature Committee on Fossils in December 2014. The present modified version has been in operation since June 2018 (Kvaček ed. 2018). Although it is not yet a requirement for valid publication, some of our colleagues have found this database in its current form to be useful in

searches of current and recently published names and as a means of providing easy access to names that are dispersed among many different journals and book chapters.

For those who are uncertain about the procedure for using the registry, here is some brief information.

Before sending a manuscript to the editorial office, one should think about all nomenclatural acts done in the manuscript. These are not only new names (or other nomenclatural novelties, as new combinations etc.), but also typification and others (see ICN).

For successful registration, it is necessary to be registered and to have an account. When signed in, one can start with registration of nomenclatural acts (e.g. a new plant name).

There are three major acts one can do:

- 1) Registration of new (i.e. not yet published) name, combination, name at new rank or replacement name (i.e. nomenclatural novelties).
- 2) Registration of new (i.e. not yet published) typifications.
- 3) Expansion of the database (for those who would like to register earlier published nomenclatural acts). Here it is also possible to register earlier published publications and authorities.

The screenshot shows the 'Plant Fossil Names' website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: Home, Acts, Names, Authors, References, Journals, About. A search bar is on the right. Below the navigation bar, the page title is 'Guide on registration of names and typification'. The main content area contains instructions for registration, including sections for 'ID fields' and 'Authors'. The 'ID fields' section shows a form with a 'Reference' field containing 'Ficus' and a 'Browse through lists of records' button. The 'Authors' section shows a form with a 'Generate authorship from reference' checkbox, an 'Author' field containing 'Kaspar Maria Graf von Sternberg (Sternb.) *1761 - †1838', and a 'Display as' field. There are several green arrows pointing to specific features in the forms, such as 'Red asterisk marks required field', 'Start typing to use autocomplete feature', 'Create record in new window and select it', 'Copy all authors from reference instead of entering them manually', 'Use different name in author citation than that in standard form of authors profile', and 'Delete author'.

Guidelines for registry on PFNR portal (<https://www.plantfossilnames.org/>)

The registration takes place in two steps.

First step is registration of the new (yet unpublished) nomenclature to get a registration number, in the form PFN0000000000. This PFNR number should be added to the manuscript. This part is not public, and all data can be changed during MS processing if necessary. These data are available only to the account owner who made this registration, and to the editors of the database.

The second step comes when the paper is published. At that point, the missing data in the registration sheet should be added and completed. After that, only editors can perform any changes in this record. Editors check if there are no apparent mistakes (e.g. publication in non-existing journal), and confirm this record for publication. After that, this record is published on the database website and is visible to everyone.

The website is equipped with FAQ, a guide and a short text “How to validly publish a new nomenclatural act”.

The screenshot shows the website 'Plant Fossil Names' with a navigation menu (Home, Acts, Names, Authors, References, Journals, About) and a search bar. The main content is a guide titled 'How to validly publish a new nomenclatural act – a quick guide'. The guide explains that fossil-taxa (sensu ICN [1-2]) are such taxa which are covered by ICN and their type is fossil specimen (diatoms excluded). Fossil fungi are registered in separate electronic repositories appointed by the Nomenclatural Committee for Fungi [F.5.3].

New species name (sp. nov.)

- the diagnosis or description must be in English or Latin [43.1]
- type must be designated [40.1] (for fossil-taxon type must be specimen [8.5]) and word (holotypus or its equivalent must be used [40.6])
- repository (collection where type specimen is conserved) must be specified [40.7]
- validating figures (i.e. illustration or figure showing the essential characters) must be accompanied (or reference to them given) [43.2]
- one of the validating illustrations must be identified as representing the type specimen [43.3]

New combination with species epithet (comb. nov.)

- full and direct reference must be given to basionym's author and place of valid publication, with page or plate reference and date [41.5]
- basionym must be cited [41.5]

Recommended form of statement:
Eretmophyllum obtusum (Velenovskii) comb. nov.
 Basionym: *Podzámilites obtusus* Velenovskii, 1885, Die Gymnospermen der böhmischen Kreideformation, p. 9, pl. 1, figs 8-9.

New replacement name (nom. nov.)

- full and direct reference must be given to replaced synonym's author and place of valid publication, with page or plate reference and date [41.5]
- replaced synonym (replaced synonym is an original name, however it cannot be called basionym because it does not provide the final epithet) must be cited [41.5]

Recommended form of statement:
Elitocladius velenovskii nom. nov.
 Replaced synonym: *Sequozia heterophyllis* Velenovskii, 1885, Die Gymnospermen der böhmischen Kreideformation, p. 22, pl. 12, fig. 12, pl. 13, figs 2-4, 6-9.

Lectotype designation [9.3]

- typification statement must include the phrase "designated here" (hic designatus) or an equivalent [7.11]
- lectotype is a single specimen [8.1][8.5] selected from the original material [9.3][9.4] (syntypes always have precedence over the other original material [9.3]).

Guide “How to validly publish a new nomenclatural act” on PFNR portal
[\(https://www.plantfossilnames.org/\)](https://www.plantfossilnames.org/)

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Jiří Kvaček, National Museum Prague, Czechia

Upcoming meetings

27th International Workshop on Plant Taphonomy, Darmstadt, Germany, Dec. 7-9, 2018



Hessisches Landesmuseum (Hessian State Museum) Darmstadt: main building

Dear colleagues,

we are happy to invite you to the Hessisches Landesmuseum (Hessian State Museum) in Darmstadt, Germany for the forthcoming Plant Taphonomy Workshop which will be held on December 7-9, 2018. Beside oral and poster presentations as well as discussions in our museum we offer a one-day field trip to the Eocene Messel pit (UNESCO World Nature Heritage Site) for which we hope to have fairly reasonable weather. Presentations and discussions may focus on interdisciplinary taphonomic research but any other topic on plant taphonomy is welcome. We would especially encourage our young scientists to attend the workshop and present their research topics in open discussions.



Modern art and Earth's Life exhibitions of the museum

Preliminary program

Friday 7th: arrival and icebreaker
Saturday 8th: talks, posters, discussions; guided tour in the museum; workshop dinner
(restaurant, own expenses)
Sunday 9th: field trip to the Messel pit

Registration fee: 10 €, to be paid onsite (will cover Abstract book, Icebreaker, Messel Pit entrance fee).



Field work in the Messel pit.

Registration is open! Please send an e-mail to Torsten Wappler (torsten.wappler@hlmd.de) until November 23rd, 2018. Please indicate if you will

- present a talk or poster
- organize a round-table discussion
- attend the field trip
- attend the icebreaker
- attend the workshop dinner

See you in Darmstadt!

Torsten Wappler, on behalf of the organizing team

19th International Congress on Carboniferous and Permian, Cologne, Germany, July 29 – August 2, 2019



Dear Colleagues and friends,

the website is online and the first circular is available! Please have a look at:

<http://iccp2019-Cologne.uni-koeln.de/> and find the circular for download.

Contact: ICCP-2019@uni-koeln.de

I would be happy, if you would spread the announcement across your community, resp. your colleagues to reach as many people as possible. You also might add the photograph of the invitation below, as well as email and website of the ICCP to your email signatures to attract people. We are confident that we will have a splendid meeting with as many Carboniferous-Permian people as possible from all over the world – actually, few days ago I wandered around in Cologne looking for photographs for the website and (as many times before) thought, it's a great place to meet! We will update the website regularly to keep everybody informed on ongoing preparations.

Besides spreading information, I ask you to propose more specialized sessions below the main topics of the congress. We should discuss/choice/group the most awarding proposals afterwards to be announced in the second circular, and finally gather potential contributors.

All the best!

Hans-Georg Herbig

University Cologne, Germany, Institute of Geology and Mineralogy
Chair of palaeontology and historical geology

Disclaimer:

Newsletter edited by Lutz Kunzmann & Steven Manchester.

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

Please send us your contributions for the next edition of our newsletter (118) until end of January 2019.

Contributions should be sent to [Lutz.Kunzmann\(at\)senckenberg.de](mailto:Lutz.Kunzmann(at)senckenberg.de).



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