

IOP NEWSLETTER 79

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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)
Secretary: Gar Rothwell (USA)
Conference/Congress Member: Hans Kerp (Germany)

INTERNATIONAL BOTANICAL CONGRESS, VIENNA

The XVII International Botanical Congress in Vienna, Austria is rapidly approaching. The Nomenclatural Section will meet July 12-16, and the main scientific sessions will be held July 17-23. There also are numerous excursions, workshops, and other events that have been scheduled. The Congress web site can be found at <http://www.abc2005.ac.at>. This site also includes the Second Circular and the complete program. IOP activities at the IBC are announced below. We hope to see you in Vienna this July.

IOP ACTIVITIES AT THE IBC

General Council Meeting

There will be a General Council Meeting of the International Organisation of Palaeobotany at the International Botanical Congress in Vienna. The meeting will be held Wednesday, July 20, 2005, 16.30 to 18.30h in lecture hall K. There will be discussions of current and future IOP activities. The main item of business will be to vote on acceptance of the proposed revisions of the IOP Statutes and By-Laws. The proposed revisions of the Statutes and By-Laws were circulated with IOP Newsletter 78 in December, 2004. The current Statutes and By-Laws, as well as the proposed revised Statutes and By-Laws also have been posted at [http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~rothwell/IOP-Newsletters/circulated in IOP Newsletter](http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~rothwell/IOP-Newsletters/circulated_in_IOP_Newsletter). If you are attending the IBC, please plan to attend the General Council Meeting to vote on this important issue. IOP members who will not be in Vienna are invited to send their comments regarding the proposed revisions to Gar Rothwell at rothwell@ohio.edu.

IOP Reception, Mixer, and Membership Drive

IOP will host a reception and mixer in conjunction with the International Botanical Congress on Tuesday, July 19, 18:00 to 20:00h. The exact location of this event is still being arranged, but announcements about the location will be sent out before the IBC. An open bar and buffet snacks will be provided free of charge to all current IOP members. New members and membership renewals will be accepted by payment of 2005 dues (10 Euros)

at the door. Guests who wish to attend can do so by donating 15 Euros to the IOP at the door. After all, this is a membership drive!

VOTE ON NEW IOP STATUTES AND BY-LAWS

If you are attending the International Botanical Congress in Vienna, Austria this July, please vote on the proposed revisions to the IOP Statutes and By-Laws. See the preceding item in this Newsletter for details.

POSITION AVAILABLE

POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCHER. The University of Kansas, in Lawrence, is seeking a post-doctoral researcher in paleobotany or paleomycology. The study involves the study of fossil plants/or fungi from several sites in Antarctica. The project will involve the analysis of both structural preserved, and impression/compression fossils, and focuses on the description and reconstruction of the Permian and Triassic biota, and characterization of interactions and paleoenvironment within this high latitude ecosystem.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Scientific Research. The selected post-doctoral candidate will collaborate with project investigators in the study of fossil plants and/or fungi from Antarctica; prepare materials, make microscopic slides, take digital pictures of fossil specimens; select research topics in consultation with project investigators; and collaborate with project investigators in preparing presentations, analyzing data and preparing manuscripts.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Ph.D. in Paleobotany, Botany, Plant Biology, Plant Sciences, Mycology or closely related area.
2. Excellent organizational and communication skills
3. Demonstrated research experience in analyzing anatomical and morphological features of plants and fungi
4. Proficiency in digital photography

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Research experience in paleobotany as evidenced by previous publications.
2. Strong work ethic

SALARY: \$35,000 annual salary

FRINGE BENEFITS: Unclassified staff benefits determined by the State of Kansas

APPLICATION PROCEDURES: Online application to: <https://jobs.ku.edu> including cover letter, CV, and send three letters of recommendation to: Dorothy Johanning, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Kansas, 1200 Sunnyside Ave., Rm. 2041, Lawrence, KS 66045-7534. Inquiries to tantaylor@ku.edu or etaylor@ku.edu. Review of applications will begin 15 May 2005 and will continue until the position is filled.

The University of Kansas is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. The University encourages applications from underrepresented group members. Federal and state legislation prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, disability, and veteran status. In addition, University policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, marital status, and parental status.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS

Midcontinent Paleobotanical Colloquium

The 22nd MPC was held April 8-10 at Georgia College & State University in Milledgeville (GC&SU). GC&SU has five faculty members with research interests in Cenozoic paleobiology and has been designated by the National Park System as a repository for fossil collections. During the mixer, held in the newly opened Natural History Museum, participants had an opportunity to tour the fossil preparation facilities and collections.

Twelve papers and one poster were contributed to the program. David Frankel (Ohio University) presented on his research on sporangia and spores of the Mississippian plant *Chlidanophyton dublinensis*. Most of the papers focused on Cretaceous and Tertiary paleobotany. Steve Manchester (University of Florida) discussed his work on re-evaluating the floral and fruiting structures of *Ranunculaecarpus* (Lower Cretaceous of Northwestern Siberia) and Shusheng Hu (University of Florida) described Mid-Cretaceous aged eusporangiate sporangia and associated spores from the Courtland Clay pit, Minnesota. Witt Taylor's (Arizona State) and Alex Kittle's (GC&SU) talks discussed

recent evaluation of seeds and fruits from the Late Paleocene of North Dakota. Judy Chen (University of Florida) presented an overview of seeds of the Vitaceae from the Eocene of Peru and Elizabeth O'Leary (University of Florida) presented a survey of winged fruits in the Middle Eocene of Oregon and Utah. James Mickle's (North Carolina State) poster illustrated a Pleistocene flora from southeastern Carolina.

Afternoon talks included Paula Mejia and David Dilcher's recently initiated investigations of angiosperm diversification in the tropics and Mandela Lyon (University of Pennsylvania) current work on establishing quantitative morphospace for dicot leaves. Heather Sanders (Ohio University) presented on recent efforts in Gar Rothwell's laboratory to use the fossil record to test hypotheses of the evolution of developmental pathways.

Government agencies were also represented at the Colloquium. Judith Skog (NSF) discussed funding opportunities for paleobotany through NSF and informed participants of new programs as well as changes to existing ones. Bill Wall (GC&SU) presented the results of a paleontological survey of Grand Teton National Park and mentioned the potential for paleobotanists to conduct research through the National Park Service.

David Dilcher was the banquet speaker and enlightened the audience with his talk entitled "On paleobotany now and then". The attendees were treated of an account of how Dilcher got involved with investigating fossil angiosperms and a historical account of the development of paleobotany in North America.

Melanie DeVore
Georgia College & State University

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

International Paleobotanical Conference

An International Palaeobotanical Conference focusing on modern problems of Palaeofloristics, Palaeophytogeography and Phytostratigraphy will be held at the Geological Institute, Russian Academy of Sciences, in Moscow, Russia, May 17 - 18, 2005.

The Conference is dedicated to the 50th Jubilee of the Laboratory of Palaeofloristics. The scientific

program of the Conference will consist of oral presentations and poster display session. The following topics are eligible for inclusion:

- *Palaeobotany and phyt stratigraphy*
- *Origin and early evolution of angiosperms*
- *Flora during main Phanerozoic biosphere reorganisations*
- *Fossil plants and climate*
- *Modern problems of palaeophytogeography*

For more information, please contact E.I.Kostina, Laboratory of Palaeofloristics, Geological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, 7 Pyzhevskii Pereulok, 119017 Moscow, Russia

e-mail: kostina@ginras.ru

Let us Meet Across the P/T Boundary:

A workshop on Permian and Triassic paleobotany and palynology, will be hosted by the South Tyrol Museum of Natural Sciences, Bozen/Bolzano, Italy June 16-18, 2005. The aim of the workshop is to provide a forum for all researchers interested in the studies of paleobotany and palynology of the Permian and Triassic time interval. The main topics include comparisons between micro- and macrofloras of similar age as well as the extinction event at the P/T boundary and its biotic recovery. Also, more general relevant questions, such as if and how sporomorphs of fossil plants provide information about climate changes during time, may be discussed.

For additional information, please contact Evelyn Kustantscher - Natural Science Museum Souty Tyrol Bindergasswe 1, I-39100 Bolzano/Bozen. Evelyn.Kustantscher@naturmuseum.it
FAX 0039 0471 412979

Taphonomy meeting in Pilsen (Czech Republic)

I would like to invite everyone to the 16th International Taphonomy Meeting organised by the [West Bohemian Museum in Pilsen](#) and the [Charles University in Prague](#), which will convene in September 16 - 18, 2005 in [Pilsen](#), Czech Republic. See <http://www.zcm.cz/meeting/> for detailed information and the registration form.

Kind regards,

Josef Psenicka <psenda.paleobot@iol.cz>

Advances in Paleobotany--

Recognizing the Contributions of David L. Dilcher and Jack A. Wolfe on the occasion of their 70th Birthday

Two paleobotanists, born in the United States on the same day in 1936, have greatly influenced Cretaceous and Cenozoic paleobotany through the introduction of new methods and approaches for investigation of floristic and climatic change and the evolution of various groups of pteridophytes, gymnosperms and angiosperms. A three-day program of symposia, contributed papers and posters and social events, celebrating the achievements of Jack A. Wolfe and David L. Dilcher, will be held in Gainesville, Florida, USA, March 12-15, 2006. The program will include symposia on "Mesozoic and Cenozoic floristic, vegetational and climatic change," and "Angiosperm paleobotany: recognizing phytogeographic and evolutionary patterns," along with contributed lectures and posters on a wide variety of paleobotanical topics. Sessions will be held at the conference facilities of the Paramount Plaza Hotel in Gainesville, Florida. March is a pleasant time of year in Gainesville, typically warm and dry with only rare hurricanes; Alligators and a variety of shorebirds are readily visible in the lake adjacent to the hotel. Co-organizers, David Jarzen, Steven Manchester, Robert Spicer, Bruce Tiffney, and Hongshan Wang invite your participation. For information and preregistration, please see <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/paleobotany/>

Midcontinent Paleobotanical Colloquium

The 23rd Midcontinent Paleobotanical Colloquium will be held March 10 & 11, 2006, in coordination with (and immediately preceding) the **Advances in Paleobotany** symposium at the University of Florida in Gainesville, FL. As in the past, there will be a Friday reception and student presentations. For more information, see the web site for **Advances in Paleobotany** <http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/paleobotany/>

SPECIAL DEDICATION VOLUME

A special issue of the *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences* (Volume 42, Number 2, February 2005) now in print features Eocene floras and faunas of British Columbia (Canada) and Washington State (USA). The issue was co-guest edited by S. Bruce Archibald (Harvard University) and David Greenwood (Brandon University). The issue is titled, "The Okanagan Highlands: Eocene biota, environments, and geological setting" and is dedicated to the memory of Wes Wehr.

The following papers are in the issue:

The Okanagan Highlands: Eocene biota, environments, and geological setting, southern British Columbia, Canada and northeastern Washington, USA

S. Bruce Archibald and David R. Greenwood. Pages 111-114.

Wes Wehr dedication

S. Bruce Archibald, Kathleen B. Pigg, David R. Greenwood, Steven R. Manchester, Lisa Barksdale, Kirk R. Johnson, Michael Sternberg, Ruth A. Stockey, Melanie L. DeVore, and Gar W. Rothwell. Pages 115-117.

New Dinopanorpidae (Insecta: Mecoptera) from the Eocene Okanagan Highlands (British Columbia, Canada and Washington State, USA)

S. Bruce Archibald. Pages 119-136.

Taphonomic variations in Eocene fish-bearing varves at Horsefly, British Columbia, reveal 10 000 years of environmental change

Douglas G. Barton and Mark V.H. Wilson. Pages 137-149.

The McAbee flora of British Columbia and its relation to the Early-Middle Eocene Okanagan Highlands flora of the Pacific Northwest

Richard M. Dillhoff, Estella B. Leopold, and Steven R. Manchester. Pages 151-166.

Fossil biotas from the Okanagan Highlands, southern British Columbia and northeastern Washington State: climates and ecosystems across an Eocene landscape

David R. Greenwood, S. Bruce Archibald, Rolf W. Mathewes, and Patrick T. Moss. Pages 167-185.

Regional and local vegetation community dynamics of the Eocene Okanagan Highlands (British Columbia – Washington State) from palynology

Patrick T. Moss, David R. Greenwood, and S. Bruce Archibald. Pages 187-204.

Systematics and phytogeography of selected Eocene Okanagan Highlands plants

Melanie L. DeVore, Kathleen B. Pigg, and Wesley C. Wehr. Pages 205-214.

Eocene paleo-physiography and drainage directions, southern Interior Plateau, British Columbia

Selina Tribe. Pages 215-230.

Diatomaceous origin of siliceous shale in Eocene lake beds of central British Columbia

George E. Mustoe. Pages 231-241.

Taxonomy, phylogeny, and paleoecology of *Eoseira wilsonii* gen. et sp. nov., a Middle Eocene diatom (Bacillariophyceae: Aulacoseiraceae) from lake sediments at Horsefly, British Columbia, Canada

Alexander P. Wolfe and Mark B. Edlund. Pages 243-257.

Abstracts are available from the publisher's web site:

http://pubs.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cgi-bin/rp/rp2_tocs_e?cjes_cjes2-05_42

David R. Greenwood

Brandon University

WEB LINKS IN PALEOBOTANY

Our abilities to communicate and share information quickly over great distances have improved greatly since the days that this newsletter was established. Although information relevant to our science abounds, finding the specific information that meets your own interests and needs can still be a challenge. In paleobotany, I think we owe our gratitude and compliments to **Klaus-Peter Kelber**, of the Mineralogisches Institut, Universität Würzburg, for maintaining the most comprehensive and continually updated website of Paleobotany-related links:

<http://www.uni-wuerzburg.de/mineralogie/palbot1.html> This web site is a great place to start in exploring for information on colleague's websites, address information, techniques, software, image sources, etc. for paleobotany and related disciplines.

Steven Manchester

Florida Museum of Natural History

DATA BASES AND FREE BOOKS

Databases of Japanese paleontology are available from the Paleontological Society of Japan. For overseas orders of the data bases, please consult Dr.

Tomoki Kase, National Science Museum, Tokyo by e-mail or fax (kase@kahaku.go.jp or +81-3-3364-7115). You may also refer to the JPS web site for further details: <http://ammo.kueps.kyoto-u.ac.jp/palaeont/english/index-e.html> Payment may be made by VISA card.

1. The data base of Japanese Fossil Type Specimens Described during the 20th Century (Parts 1 – 4). This series of Japanese fossil data bases, published by the Palaeontological Society of Japan (JPS) as special papers, cover a wide range of taxa. Plant megafossils and palynomorphs are included in Part 2 (special paper No. 40). The entire set (No. 39-42) is offered at the discount price of 11,500 yen (not including shipping).

Individual numbers and prices are as follows:

- No. 39, Ikeya, N., Hirano, H. and Ogasawara K., eds. (2001): The database of Japanese fossil type specimens described during the 20th Century (part 1). 500pp, with CD ROM, 3,500 yen.
- No. 40, Ikeya, N., Hirano, H. and Ogasawara K., eds. (2001): The database of Japanese fossil type specimens described during the 20th Century (part 2). 569pp, with CD ROM, 5,000 yen.
- No. 41, Ikeya, N., Hirano, H. and Ogasawara K., eds. (2001): The database of Japanese fossil type specimens described during the 20th Century (part 3). 353pp, with CD ROM, 4,300 yen.
- No. 42, Ikeya, N., Hirano, H. and Ogasawara K., eds. (2004): The database of Japanese fossil type specimens described during the 20th Century (part 4). 72pp, with CD ROM, 1,500 yen.

2. Contributions to Botany in the Andes. I & II. Academia Scientific Books, Tokyo. 1984 & 1987, edited by the late Dr. Makoto Nishida, and are now available free of charge. Please contact Harufumi Nishida, Chuo University, Tokyo, by e-mail or fax (helecho@kc.chuo-u.ac.jp or +81-3-3817-1880). The books will be shipped by surface mail. Contents of these books are as follows:

Vol. 1. 141 pp., 102 plates; Harufumi Nishida. Anatomical studies of the frond axis of the Cyatheaceae, s.l., with a revision of permineralized frond axes from the Cretaceous of Japan; Makoto Nishida. The anatomy and affinities of the petrified plants from the Tertiary of Chile I; Makoto Nishida. The anatomy and affinities of the petrified plants from the Tertiary of Chile II. *Araucarioxylon* from Quiriquina Island, near Concepción; Makoto Nishida. The wood

remains from the glacial moraines near Puerto Montt, Llanquihue; Makoto Nishida. The anatomy and affinities of the petrified plants from the Tertiary of Chile III. Petrified woods from Mocha Island, Central Chile; Makoto Nishida. The anatomy and affinities of the petrified plants from the Tertiary of Chile IV. Dicotyledonous woods from Quiriquina Island, near Concepción.

Vol. 2. 158 pp., 66 plates; Makoto Nishida & Harufumi Nishida. Petrified woods from the Upper Cretaceous of the Quiriquina Island; Nobuhiko Ohga. The plant ecology of the cloud forests of the eastern and western slopes of the Andes 1. Microclimatic conditions of the forests of Bolivia and Chile; Nobuhiko Ohga. The plant ecology of the cloud forests of the eastern and western slopes of the Andes 2. Community structure of *Nothofagus* dominated forests in south-central Chile; Siro Kurita. Chromosome studies on South American Pteridophytes 1. Miguel Rancusi H., Makoto Nishida & Harufumi Nishida. Xylotomy of the important Chilean woods.

NEWS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

Joint Calcutta/Beijing Studies

Department of Botany, University of Calcutta, India and Institute of Palaeobotany, Beijing, China have undertaken joint investigation of Quaternary Climate through the Indian National Science Academy and the Chinese Academy of Science. Collaborators are Prof. Manju Banerjee and Dr. Subir Bera, Department of Botany, University of Calcutta and Prof. Cheng-Sen Li and Prof. Yu-Fei Wang, Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing. Dr. Subir Bera, Reader, Department of Botany, University of Calcutta visited Beijing under the Exchange Program in November, 2004. Professor Cheng-Sen Li and Prof. Yu-Fei Wang visited Calcutta in December, 2004 for collection of samples.

News from Montpellier

Jean Galtier retired in December 2004 but was back to work on 3 January 2005 as he got the status of "Directeur de recherche émérite" for the next 5 years. Jean's address remains unchanged.

Presidential Address at IAAT Meeting

On December 29, 2004, Prof. Dr. Manju Banerjee delivered the Fourteenth Presidential address of the Indian Association of Angiosperm Taxonomy (IAAT)

at Tiruvananthapuram, Kerala, South India on "Concept of Antiquity, Phylogeny of angiosperms in the early twenty first century and earliest appearance, radiation of the group in the Indian Sub Continent." The focal theme of the National Seminar was "New Frontiers in Plant Taxonomy and Biodiversity Conservation." A large number of young participants including several award winners participated in the conference. In addition, several senior taxonomists of the country joined the conference.

Prof. (Dr.) K. S. Manilal, Vice-President and founder of IAAT, announced at the General Body meeting that the International Association for Plant Taxonomy (IAPT) has recognized the IAAT as its affiliate.

News from Amravati University

Dr. Shya Chitale was felicitated with a Silver Plate at the Silver Jubilee Conference of the International Society of Aerobiology held at the Institute of Science, Nagpur India, during January-February 2005. Dr. Chitale was one of the Pioneer Workers in this discipline with a few publications on collecting spores and pollen at high altitudes by flying in an aeroplane (my student's husband was a pilot!!), and studying them for varied types of allergy.

Dr. Chitale was also felicitated with a plaque, for her achievements in Paleobotanical research at the International Conference on "Modern Trends in Plant Sciences with special reference to the role of Biodiversity in Conservation", held at the University of Amravati, India, during the last week of February 2005.

The Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany has a New Director

Dr. Naresh Chandra Mehrotra, Ph.D. in Geology from Lucknow University, joined the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany as Director on March 1, 2005. Dr. Mehrotra was the Head of the Palynology Laboratory, KDMIPE, Oil and Natural Gas Commission, Dehra Dun until February 2005. Before joining ONGC Dr. Mehrotra served at the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, and the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun. Dr. Mehrotra has thirty-three years of professional experience in exploration palynology including systematics and morphology of dinoflagellate cysts, spores and pollen. He also has conducted palynostratigraphic, palaeoenvironmental and source rock evaluation research related to hydrocarbon exploration. Dr. Mehrotra has published 50 papers in National, and International Journals, and has received

several Merit awards for his outstanding works on Palynophytoplankton.

News from Humboldt State University

Mihai Tomescu has accepted a position in the Department of Biological Sciences at Humboldt State University. Mihai will be teaching vascular plant morphology and plant anatomy.

News from Brandon University

David Greenwood has moved from Melbourne (Australia) to Brandon University in Manitoba, Canada. He has been funded by NSERC to set up a paleobotany laboratory at BU and also for his research on Paleogene climates and vegetation of western Canada. He is seeking a potential Masters or PhD student to work on an aspect of the paleobotany of western Canadian Paleocene or Eocene macrofloras or the palynology of associated sediments. Interested persons are referred to his website:
<http://www.brandonu.ca/academic/environmental/greenwood.htm>

Joint Patel College/Xiangshan Studies

Dr. D.K. Kapgate, Head of the Botany Department of J.M. Patel College, Bhandara (M.S.), India, has undertaken a collaborative project on "Early Tertiary floras of India & China" with Prof. Cheng Sen-Li and Prof. Wang Yu-Fei, Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Xiangshan, China

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

David R. Greenwood

Co-ordinator, Environmental Science Program
Brandon University
Brodie Science Bldg. Rm. 4-14
270 18th Street
Brandon, MB R7A 6A9
CANADA
Ph: (204) 571-8543
Fax: (204) 728-7346
E-mail: greenwoodd@brandonu.ca

Juan Leandro Garcia Massini

Southern Methodist University
Environmental Science Program
P.O. Box 750395
Dallas, TX 75275-0395
jgarciam@smu.edu

Hallie Sims

Dept. of Geoscience
University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA 52242
hallie-sims@uiowa.edu

Aude Soria

Botanischen Garten
Universität Freiburg

Schänzlestr. 1
79104 Freiburg i. Br.
pietzschia@gmx.de

Alexandru Mihail Florin Tomescu

Department of Biological Sciences
Humboldt State University
Arcata, CA 95521-8299
mitomescu@hotmail.com