International Organisation of Palaeobotany
(Homepage: www.palaeobotany.org)

IOP NEWSLETTER 90

October 2009

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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 (January 2010) the latest by January 18th, 2010.

IOP Logo: The evolution of plant architecture (© by A. R. Hemsley)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

27th annual Midcontinent Paleobotanical Colloquium (MPC)

(Frostburg State University (FSU), Frostburg, western Maryland, USA; weekend May 28-30, 2010)

Please see for details Newsletter 89, July 2009.
http://www.frostburg.edu/27thMPC/

Third International Palaeontological Congress IPC 3 2010

(Imperial College and Natural History Museum, London, UK, June 28 - July 3, 2010)

Please see for details Newsletter 88, Feb 2009.
http://palass.org

8th European Palaeobotany – Palynology Conference (EPPC)

(Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary, July 6-10, 2010)

We would like to draw attention to the deadline for submission of symposium proposals; it has been extended to December 13th 2009. Details on symposium proposals may be found at http://www.eppc2010.org. Symposium proposers are requested to contact Boglarka Erdei (paleobot@bot.nhmus.hu).

We were able to keep the registration fees as low as possible: payment before April 1st 2010: Professionals – 290 Euro, Students – 220 Euro.

A first circular has already been sent and registration is open. Additional information on abstract submission and deadlines, fieldtrips and accommodation will be published on the website in November 2009.

We look forward to seeing you in Budapest next summer!

The EPPC2010 Organizing Committee

Please see also Newsletter 89, July 2009.

2010 3rd International Metasequoia Symposium

(Osaka Museum of Natural History, Japan August 3-8, 2010)

The organizing committee is pleased to invite you to participate in the 3rd International Metasequoia Symposium. The organizing committee has selected Japan as the location to hold the 3rd International Metasequoia Symposium because it has a history rich in the study of fossil plants and one of its most notable scientists is Professor Shigeru Miki who was the first person to describe Metasequoia fossils. The symposium is taking place at the Osaka Museum of Natural History (OMNH) where Professor Miki's collection resides, and symposium participants will have an opportunity to observe Miki's collection.

Preliminary program

August 3 (Tuesday) - Registration Welcome Dinner

August 4 (Wednesday) - Opening, Session I, and Dinner

August 5 (Thursday) - Session II and Closing

August 6 (Friday) - 8 (Sunday) – Field Trip: Metasequoia fossil localities in the vicinity of Osaka, Nara, Kyoto, Shiga, and Nagoya as well as opportunities for sightseeing (e.g., Visit to sake factory, public bath house, hot spa).

Venue: Osaka Museum of Natural History (OMNH)
http://www.mus-nh.city.osaka.jp/english/index.html

Excursion (Tentative schedule):

Aug. 6: OMNH - Lake Biwa Museum (Lake Biwa is the largest freshwater lake in Japan) - Yoshinaga Fossil Forest of the Late Pliocene Kobiwako Group - Yunoyama Onsen Hot Spa (overnight here or in Nagoya City)

Aug. 7: Yunoyama Onsen (or Nagoya City) - Seto Tajimi (early Late Miocene Porcelain mud) – Fossil forest at Kago (Early Miocene) - Mizunami Fossil Museum – Kiso-Fukushima (overnight at Japanese-style Inn (Ryokan) with Hot Spa)

Aug. 8: Kiso-Fukushima - natural forest (conifer or mixed temperate) at Akasawa - Nagiso Village

(historical sites, traditional use of wood and timber, Sake factory) - return to Osaka

Transportation: Private bus and Bullet Train.

Registration: For planning purposes, we request all interested colleagues to send back this registration form to ben.lepage@exeloncorp.com or chris.williams@fandm.edu by December 31st 2009:

1. Name, address, phone, and email;
2. I intend to participate in the 3rd International Conference;
3. I intend to participate to the field trip;
4. I intend to present a lecture (tentative title);
5. I intend to present a poster (tentative title).
6. Interested area (choose one, details see below): A, B, C, and/or D

Topics: In an effort to expand the breadth of Metasequoia research the organizing committee is expanding the focus of this symposium to include Metasequoia and allied genera and we are requesting oral and poster presentations from the following programmatic areas:

A. Evolution and physiology of the redwoods

1) The origin, expansion, and decline of the redwoods.

i. Paleoecology of redwoods with a focus on the European and Asian Neogene.
ii. Wood taxonomy of taxodiaceous fossil wood from Europe, North America, and Asia.
iii. Paleobiogeography of the redwoods.
iv. Quaternary history of the Taxodiaceae.
v. Habitat partitioning of the landscape.
vi. Past/present ecological similarities and differences.

2) Redwood physiology and genetics

i. Genetics of Metasequoia.
ii. Secondary metabolites and extractives.
iii. Plant scale carbon allocation or balance.
iv. Decay resistance or decomposition of the redwood tissue.
v. Water balance in redwoods.
vi. Climate plant compound relationships (paleoclimate proxies).
vii. Ecophysiology.

B. Community, ecosystem, and biome-scale topics

i. Impact of global warming on the distribution and abundance of the redwoods in relict stands.
ii. Biomass and productivity of redwoods.
iii. Carbon balance of tropical and temperate forested peatlands as analogs for the paleoecosystems?
iv. Conservation.
v. Land use-land cover change in redwood habitats.

C. Forestry systems

i. Forestry and wood science of Metasequoia and allied genera.
ii. Horticulture.

D. Historical and cultural aspects of the Taxodiaceae

i. Work of S. Miki.
ii. Work of John Kuser.
iii. Conservation of rare species in herbaria and botanical gardens.

Mitsuo Suzuki (Secretary General)
Director, Botanical Gardens, Tohoku University
Kawauchi 12-2, Aoba, Sendai 980-0862, JAPAN

Ben LePage (Program)
Academy of Natural Sciences and PECO Energy Company

Carpathian Balkan Geological Association (CBGA) XIX International Congress 2010

(HELEXPO "Nikolaos Germanos" International Congress Centre, Thessaloniki, Northern Greece, September 23-26, 2010)

Please see for details Newsletter 88, Feb 2009.
www.cbga2010.org

Invitation to the IPC/IOPC 2012 in Tokyo

Please see for details Newsletter 87, Oct 2008.
http://wwwsoc.nii.ac.jp/psj3/ipc13japan/IPC-IOPC/index.html

REPORTS FROM PAST MEETINGS

World Summit on Ancient Microscopic Fossils August 2008 - proceedings

In August 2008, UCLA's Center for the Study of Evolution and the Origin of Life convened the week-long inaugural World Summit on Ancient Microscopic Fossils that was attended by 28 leading scientists from 12 countries (Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, England, France, Germany, India, Japan, Russia, Sweden, USA). The proceedings volume of this meeting (edited by J.W. Schopf and D.J. Bottjer) -- that presents data from the use of many techniques only recently introduced to paleobiology and includes 20 papers by 60 authors from 11 countries -- was published in September, 2009: *Precambrian Research* 173 (Nos. 1-4), 222 pp.

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79th Annual Meeting of the Paläontologische Gesellschaft (Bonn, Germany, 4-9 October 2009)

Following the success of the IOPC-VIII/IPC-XII at the University of Bonn in 2008, the German-speaking *Paläontologische Gesellschaft* decided to hold their annual meeting in Bonn this year. The conference was organized by Thomas Martin and Sandra Kaiser (Steinmann-Institut für Geologie, Mineralogie und Paläontologie) and was attended by more than 260 palaeontologists. One of the highlights was the evening plenary lecture given by Mike Benton (University of Bristol), who spoke on "Investigating Evolutionary Radiations". Another exciting event was the election of the fossil of the year for 2010. Of five candidates, which included *Brachiosaurus*, the Neanderthal, a Miocene elephant, and a Pleistocene water buffalo, the fossil that got the most votes was a permineralized plant – the giant Permian *Arthropitys* (the "world biggest calamite") that was proposed by Ronny Rössler in Chemnitz.

For about a decade, the Paläontologische Gesellschaft has also embraced the *Arbeitskreis für Paläobotanik und Palynologie* (APP). Thus, about 40 members of the APP came to participate in the paleobotanical sessions, which consisted of two sessions with contributed papers –one on Palaeozoic and Mesozoic plants, and the second dedicated to Cenozoic palaeobotany and palynology –and a special symposium. This special symposium on Palaeobotany and Molecular Revolution was organized by Carole Gee and featured a keynote lecture by David W. Taylor (Indiana University Southeast) who spoke on "Paleobotany and Molecular Analysis: More Than Just The Bases". The paleobotanical program consisted of 23 talks and eight posters, reflecting the large number of fossil plant scientists at this meeting and the active palaeobotanical community in the German-speaking countries. The members of the APP also came together for its annual business meeting, which was conducted by Lutz Kunzmann (Senckenberg Natural History Collections in Dresden), as well as for an informal lunch at the Goldfuss Museum in

the Steinmann Institute's Division of Palaeontology (formerly known as the Institute of Palaeontology).

Another highlight of the meeting was the keynote lecture held by Else Marie Friis (Swedish Natural History Museum in Stockholm) on "Darwin's Abominable Mystery" (evolution and diversification of the early angiosperms) in the special Charles Darwin Symposium on evolution. Else Marie was presented with the honor of a Corresponding Membership in the Paläontologische Gesellschaft at this year's meeting. Hans Kerp (University of Münster) gave the laudation and underlined Else Marie's valuable and manifold contributions to the understanding of angiosperm evolution.

A post-conference field trip was led by Georg Heumann, Carole Gee, Rolf Großmann, and Bertram Wutzler (RWE-Power AG) to the paleobotanically fossil-rich Hambach open-cast mine. There were altogether 10 stops, starting from the bottom of the pit and ending at the very top of the mine, which allowed the field trip participants to collect leaves (e.g. *Glyptostrobus*, *Sciadopitys*, *Taxodium*, *Liquidambar*), cones (e.g. *Pinus*, *Picea*, *Glyptostrobus*), and seeds (e.g. *Aesculus*, *Magnolia*, *Fagus* and *Juglans*) of Miocene to Pliocene age.

Many thanks should go to Carole Gee and Lutz Kunzmann for the organisation of the palaeo-botanical program, as well as to Georg Heumann for hosting such a wonderful meeting.

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16th OFP INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS, Present and future of Palaeobotany in Southwest Europe (in honour of Robert H. Wagner) Aguilar de Campoo, Spain, Sept. 9-11, 2009.

The 16th OFP International congress was held at the Monastery of Santa María la Real in Aguilar de Campoo (Palencia Province, northwestern Spain). Forty-five specialists gathered from Europe (Italy, Belgique, France, Great Britain, Spain, Portugal), America (Mexico) and Asia (Japan).

The theme of the Conference was announced as "Present and future of Palaeobotany in Southwest Europe (in honour of Robert H. Wagner)". Its scientific programme was successfully realized due to the active work in planning plenary meetings and the high scientific level of the presented reports.

It was an international congress focussing on a wide spectrum of palaeobotanical and palynological topics, conducted by palaeobotanists of the Southwest European region, with collaboration and support of the OFP (Organisation of French-speaking Palaeobotanists). The occasion marked the celebration of the research career of Dr. Robert H. Wagner who has contributed a lifetime research to the Upper Carboniferous of the north of Spain. The symposium included two fieldtrips and numerous social events such as the exposition of the palaeobotanical Carboniferous fossils from Luis Sardina's collection, the guided visits to the Santa María la Real Monastery Museum, the Minning Interpretation Center of Barruelo de Santullán and the Aguilar de Campoo village.

Welcome remarks were made by José Bienvenido Diez, Chair of the congress. Jean Broutin from the Natural History Museum of Paris and University of Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris 6) gave an opening speech about the Permian mixed floras of the southern Tethyan margin and its palaeogeographic and palaeoclimatic significance.

The opening was supported by a great number of the institutional representatives from the Diputación de Palencia, Patrimonio Natural de Castilla y León Foundation, University of Valladolid, Aguilar de

Campoo and Barruelo de Santullán Council Halls and the "Fundación para el estudio de los dinosaurios de Castilla y León".

Thirty-one communications were presented and discussed. They concerned a number of topics, ranging from Palaeozoic to Quaternary, including biostratigraphy, palaeogeography, palaeoecology, palaeclimatology and the use of new computational techniques in palaeobotany. Significant interest was aroused by the report of the corresponding member of Cordoba Botanic Garden, R. H. Wagner on the history of the Carboniferous palaeobotany in Spain.

Two keynotes were provided during the congress. The first one given by Jean Galtier focused on the morphology and ecology of the Palaeozoic Tedelean ferns and the second one by Luis Miguel Sender centred on the freshwater aquatic plants from the upper Albian-lower Cenomanian of Teruel province in the northwestern Spain.

The final keynote presentation was made by Professor Christopher Cleal, as a laudatio to Professor Robert H. Wagner. He provided a biography of Wagner's career and focused on the historical review of the research of the Carboniferous flora.

The pre-congress fieldtrip was a geological tour to the northern province of Palencia guided by Robert H. Wagner, explaining the main geological structures and the stratigraphic succession of the Palaeozoic age of the area.

The second fieldtrip was organized by Robert H. Wagner and José Bienvenido Diez to the Carboniferous palaeoforest of Verdeña and the Barruelian stratotype of Barruelo.

The meeting recognised the importance of creating a discussion forum in order to raise the appreciation for research teams from south-western Europe and to show the incredible research advances during the last decade, especially by many Spanish specialists and the huge palaeobotanical heritage of the Palentian Basin. Moreover, this congress yielded important conclusions and has contributed to the exchange of ideas and perspectives of the participants for the future developmental planning.

NOTE: More information about the congress can be found at: http://www.paleoserver.com/ofp/

The abstract volume is also available on the following website:

http://www.paleoserver.com/ofp/congresofp/Abstracts.html

Participants of the fieldtrip to the Barruelian stratotype:

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Webmaster and technical organisation

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uxuevil@unizar.es
Co-organiser, convenor

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Paleobotany graduate student position

I am seeking a new Masters (M.Sc.) or Doctoral (Ph.D.) student to join my research team reconstructing climates and forest communities of the early Paleogene of Canada. This project is funded by the Natural Sciences & Engineering Research Council of Canada. Any successful applicant will be registered for their graduate degree at the University of Saskatchewan (Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada) in the Department of Geological Sciences. Separate application will be necessary for admission to the University of Saskatchewan. A stipend is available, potentially supplemented by a graduate teaching assistantship; however qualified candidates will be encouraged to apply to NSERC for a graduate scholarship. Projects available to a student can involve any one of or a combination of:

(1) A taxonomic survey of an individual macroflora from the Okanagan Highlands Early Eocene series, British Columbia;
(2) Reconstructing climate (temperature and precipitation) and atmospheric carbon dioxide levels using leaf physiognomy based on Paleogene macrofloras from western and Arctic Canada;
(3) Fine-scale reconstruction of vegetation history of the Falkland, Driftwood Canyon or McAbee Early Eocene localities using palynology;
(4) Reconstructing patterns of community structure, particularly diversity, across the Paleocene to Eocene of western and Arctic Canada; and
(5) Comparing paleontological climate proxies with Eocene climate models.

There is also some scope for a M.Sc. project based on a Pliocene flora on Ellesmere Island in the Canadian Arctic, in collaboration with Dr. Rybczynski at the Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa.

This opportunity would best suit an applicant with a geology or environmental science background, but suitable candidates with a botanical background will also be considered. Due to the level of funding available and NSERC rules on graduate scholarship applications, first preference will be given to Canadian-based applicants.

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Brandon, Manitoba, Canada
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http://www2.brandonu.ca/academic/environmental/greenwood.htm

For information about graduate entry to the University of Saskatchewan, please contact:

Dr. Kevin Ansdell, Dept. Head,
Department of Geological Sciences,
University of Saskatchewan,
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.
kevin.ansdell@usask.ca
http://artsandscience.usask.ca/geology/forgraduates/

Graduate Student Assistantship

Our laboratory is seeking graduate students interested in paleoecological and paleobotanical research projects. Opportunities are available for project locations in the United States and Madagascar.

Our department (http://www.unomaha.edu/biology/) includes multiple disciplines within biology with supporting lab and field research facilities and coursework. Teaching and research assistantships are available for qualified students:

http://www.unomaha.edu/biology/grad.php

Please email your letter of interest with background information to:

Dr. Lisa Boucher, Associate Professor
Department of Biology,
University of Nebraska-Omaha, 6001 Dodge Street,
Omaha, NE 68182, USA;
boucher@unomaha.edu

Student Award

Patty Ryberg, University of Kansas, has received the Isabel Cookson award for the best student paper presented to the Paleobotanical Section at the annual meetings of the Botanical Society of America in Snowbird, Utah, July 2009. Patty's paper entitled "A reassessment of permineralized glossopterid ovulate structures from the Central Transantarctic Mountains, Antarctica" is coauthored by Edith L. Taylor.

Digital Reissue of Paleobotany and the Evolution of Plants

The Paleobotany textbook "Stewart, W.N. and G.W. Rothwell. 1993. Paleobotany and the Evolution of Plants, 2nd Ed., Cambridge University Press, Cambridge" is being reissued as a digital paperback at a price of £28.99 /U.S. $53.00. Copies are expected to be available by December, 2009 on Amazon.com, through Cambridge University Press (CUPS) bookshops, and through the CUPS web site.

News from the Membership

Dr. Ruth Stockey, University of Alberta is spending the 2009-2010 academic year as a Visiting Scientist at Ohio University. She is working on seed plant systematics as part of the Gymnosperms Assembling the Tree of Life Project http://www.huh.harvard.edu/research/mathews-lab/atolHtmlSite/, and finishing up projects with fossil monocots and Mesozoic pteridophytes.

John Anderson, SANBI – Collection transfer

Dr John Anderson has officially retired from SANBI (South African National Biodiversity Institute) in Pretoria, but is still working as hard as ever on his various projects. Unfortunately SANBI does not see the importance of the fossil plant collection housed there that Heidi and John made and will not appoint another curator. They have agreed to transfer the collection to the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, on permanent loan to the Bernard Price Institute. Renovations and extensions have begun on the BPI vertebrate and plant stores so the mainly Triassic plants will be transferred sometime in 2010. Once that has been accomplished, palaeobotanists can contact Marion Bamford or Bernhard Zipfel for questions about or access to the combined BPI and SANBI collection.

Marion.bamford@wits.ac.za

Bernhard.zipfel@wits.ac.za

The Paleobotany Project

The Paleobotany Project is now viewable without a password. This website contains over 1000 images of fossil plants spanning the late Cretaceous through early Eocene from the Western Interior of North America from the collection of the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. New images are added on a regular basis. The leaves are organized into categories (called bins) based on combinations of leaf characteristics that represent the full spectrum of leaf morphology. Searches can be performed using multiple methods including browsing the bins, selecting user defined combinations of character states, geographic area or taxonomy (when known). The character states that define the dicot bins are described more completely in the recently published Manual of Leaf Architecture (Ellis et al., 2009).

www.PaleobotanyProject.org

Beth Ellis,
Research Scientist
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News from India

- Professor G K Srivastava is now the Managing Editor of the Proc. National Academy of Sciences, India, Section B - Biological Science.

- National Conference on "Climatic changes during the Quaternary: Special reference to Polar regions and Southern ocean." Jointly

organized by the National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research, Goa and Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany; it was held on October 22-23, 2009 at Goa, India.

- Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow announces to organize a CONCLAVE on the theme Evolution-Life's continuum on 15 November 2009, in continuation of Founders' Day celebrations on 14 November 2009 commemorating the Bicentennial birth anniversary of Sir Charles Darwin and sesquicentennial year of the publication of his book 'On the Origin of Species' (1859).

- Award of CAS-TWAS Visiting Scholarship Award 2009, to Dr. Ashalata D'Rozario, Associate Professor, Department of Botany. Narasinha Dutt College at Palaeobotany Laboratory, Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, under Prof. Cheng-Sen Li.

- Manju Banerjee and Sudha Gupta joined the International Symposium on Palaeontology in Chayang, China, organized by Prof. Sun Ge during September 12-13, 2009, and visited the National Bird fossil Geopark, Palaeotology Museum, Chayang, fossil sites and museum in Sihetun of Beipiao, China. The collection display of the museum's animal and plant fossils is wonderful.

- Manju Banerjee and Prasanta Kr. Sen participated in the IGCP 475 Conference on Delta Map held at Shanghai Qingdao, China during October 26 to November 02, 2008.

Publication: Fossil Woods of China

Published by:
China Forestry Publishing House, 2008
Editors Zhang Wu and Zheng Shaolin.
Email: syzwu@yahoocom.cn
Sheyang Institute of Geology and Mineral Resources, Sheyang City, China.

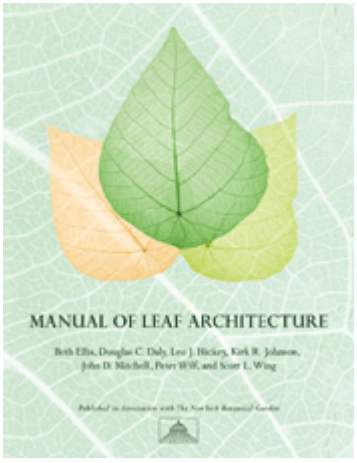
BOOK REVIEW

The manual of Leaf Architecture

Ellis, B., Daly. D., Hickey, L. J., Johnson, K., Mitchell, J., Wilf, P., Wing, S., (2009)

Cornell University Press, Published in association with the New York Botanical Gardens, 190 p.

The Manual of Leaf Architecture is a pictorial reference for describing, measuring and classifying the foliage of flowering plants. In contrast to systems focusing on reproductive characters for identification, the emphasis is on macroscopic features of the leaf blade including leaf characters, venation, and tooth characters. The advantage of this system is that it allows for the classification of plants independently of their flowers, which is especially useful for fossil leaves (usually found in isolation) and tropical plants (whose flowering cycles are brief and irregular, and whose fruits and flowers may be difficult to access). An illustrated terminology including detailed definitions and annotated illustrations is the focus of the classification system, the aim of which is to provide a framework with comparative examples to allow both modern and fossil leaves to be described and classified consistently.



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Fossil Dicot Wood Names – An Annotated List with Full Bibliography

by M. Gregory, I. Pool, and E.A. Wheeler, 2009
IAWA Journal, Supplement 6, 220 pp.

This book marks a great achievement by the authors, who have assembled a comprehensive catalogue of worldwide references on fossil dicotyledonous woods (more than 1200, in numerous different languages). The records are sorted and cross-referenced according to plant families, geographic region, and geologic age. To my knowledge, no such comprehensive compilation is available for the fossil record of other plant parts such as leaves, fruits or palynomorphs.

Introducing this compendium, the authors note that "The lack of a complete catalogue of fossil wood names has led to much confusion over the years. Different authors have erected the same genus or species name because they were unaware of other researcher's work." This handy reference, which aims to "list all generic and specific names erected to describe fossil dicot woods, together with the authorities, synonyms, geological ages and geographic sources...that appeared in print prior to the end of 2007," should reduce the occurrence of such errors in the future. In their annotations, the authors indicate whether new genera are established, whether they were validly published according to the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, and cross-reference any published synonyms. Excerpts from these notes include such revealing comments as: "gen. nov. but no gen. diag.", "Boureau doubted age of Kräusel's material," and even, "Bennettite, not dicot."

The authors usually do not critique the published botanical identifications, but they note when successive authors have disagreed over the systematic placement of certain fossils. In a few instances, the published generic assignment is challenged; for example, the note for one of the listed *Fraxinus* entries reads "not a *Fraxinus* acc. E.A. Wheeler, pers. comm." Nevertheless, there remains a danger that students might accept each entry as a proven representative of the indicated family from that geologic interval. Because of the problem of convergence toward similar anatomical syndromes in woods of unrelated families, it would have been advisable to give a disclaimer to the effect that it is the responsibility of those studying particular families to verify whether the described woods show convincingly unique sets of characters to confirm the systematic assignments.

This book is an essential reference for paleoxylotomists who identify and describe dicotyledonous woods, and will be important to the broader community of paleobotanists, paleoecologists and systematists interested in tracking the angiosperm composition of forests in different parts of the world from Cretaceous through Pleistocene time.

Steven R. Manchester*
(Note: this article includes, with permission, excerpts from the review published separately in the IAWA Journal).

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OBITUARIES

In memoriam Reinhard Weber Göbel

With deep sadness we announce the passing of our esteem colleague and friend Reinhard Weber Göbel. He passed away in Mexico City on August 13th, 2009 at midnight. Reinhard had severe health problems that got worse over the past two weeks. He is survived by his ex-wife Celina Diaz and sons Herman and Henning Weber Diaz.

Dr. Weber, as everyone knew him in Mexico, had a long history of palaeobotanical research ranging from Precambrian to Cenozoic, particularly Upper Triassic and Upper Cretaceous plants. He was a pillar in the creation and development of palaeobotany in Mexico. He was responsible for the upbringing of most palaeobotanists and some

palynologists in our country. He was an influential professor to many botanists in Mexico through his teaching at the Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM).

Sincerely yours,

Alicia Silva Pineda
Laura Calvillo Canadell
Genaro R. Hernandez Castillo
Sergio R. S. Cevallos Ferriz

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Dr. Patricia Ryberg has completed her doctoral studies at the University of Kansas and has joined the Paleobotany Group at Ohio University as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow. Patty is working on the morphological matrix for the Gymnosperms Assembling the Tree of Life Project http://www.huh.harvard.edu/research/mathews-lab/atolHtmlSite/.

Her new contact information is as follows:

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IOP Logo: The evolution of plant architecture (by A. R. Hemsley).