

# IOP NEWSLETTER 86

June 2008

## A Note to Remind You to Vote

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

President: Margaret Collinson (UK)  
Vice Presidents: Mikhail Akhmetiev (Russia), Zlatko Kvaček (Czech Republic), Volker Mosbrugger (Germany)  
Members at Large: Andrew Drinnan (Australia), Steve Manchester (USA), Harufumi Nishida (Japan)  
Secretary/Treasurer: Gar Rothwell (USA)  
Conference/Congress Member: Hans Kerp (Germany)

## FROM THE SECRETARY/TREASURER

The year 2008 brings us together for the eighth IOPC, and returns us to joint congresses with our palynological colleagues. There also are several important issues that will be considered at the General Assembly meeting in Bonn, so be sure to schedule that event. In addition to concluding the election of a new IOP Executive, we will be deliberating and voting on the venue for IOPC-IX in 2012. As IOP continues to grow and evolve with the rapidly changing world, we will be discussing the increasing role of the IOP web site, additional changes to the dues structure, and changing roles of our Regional Representatives. Other items for discussion will center on the establishment of IOP awards to members, and a formal system for providing travel grants to students.

If you have an item that you wish to have discussed at the General Assembly, please send it to the Secretary/Treasurer at [rothwell@ohio.edu](mailto:rothwell@ohio.edu). Hope to see you all in Bonn at the end of August.

Gar Rothwell  
Secretary/Treasurer

## VOTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXECUTIVE ELECTIONS

Elections are now open for the new IOP Executive. Balloting is taking place via the IOP Web Site. You can reach the web site at <http://www.palaeobotany.org/>. Once you reach the home page, use the "IOP Members Log In (lower left corner of page). Put in your e-mail address and password to reach the members-only part of the web site. If you have trouble logging on, follow the instructions at the bottom. If you still can't get in, please contact Jason Hilton <[j.m.hilton@bham.ac.uk](mailto:j.m.hilton@bham.ac.uk)> for assistance.

Once you have logged on you will be taken to the front page of the Members Area. (As long as you're there anyway, why don't you update your membership profile?) The balloting section is in the lower right hand corner of the page.

1. Click on "Go to Online Voting" and you will see the ballot. You will vote for each office individually.

2. Click on the office for which you wish to vote, and then click on the button to the right of the candidate (or candidates) for whom you wish to vote. For President and Secretary/Treasurer, you will vote for only one. For Vice Presidents and for Members-at-Large you may vote for up to three. If you do not wish to vote for any of the choices, click on the button to the right of "none". Once you have made your selection(s), click on the "cast vote" button. A window will open that informs you that you have voted, and that you will receive an e-mail confirmation.
3. Close the information window and select the next office for which you wish to vote. Repeat the voting process for each office.

Your votes will be anonymous, and will be automatically added to the voting tally, which is being kept electronically.

Voting will continue up to the day of the General Assembly meeting at the IOPC in Bonn. The elections will conclude at that meeting when the names of the new IOP officers will be announced.

Voting will be electronic and take place via the IOP web site, as detailed above. For **ONLY** the small number of members who have neither access to the internet nor an e-mail address, paper balloting will be permitted. For those few members, the following procedure must be followed:

Reproduce the ballot that was printed in IOP Newsletter 85. You may do this by hand on a plain sheet of paper, or you can type out a copy. Mark the ballot plainly by placing an "X" next to one name for President, One name for Secretary/Treasurer, up to three names for Vice President, and up to three names for Member-at-Large.

Seal that sheet of paper in an unmarked envelope, and place that envelope in a mailing envelope. Be sure to mark the mailing envelope with your name and full return address. Address the envelope as follows:

Dr. Margaret Collinson, President  
International Organisation of Palaeobotany  
Department of Geology  
Royal Holloway & Bedford New College

University of London  
Egham, Surrey  
TW20 0EX  
UNITED KINGDOM

Ballots must be received no later than August 15, 2008 to be included in the vote tally.

## **STUDENT TRAVEL SUPPORT FOR IOPC-VIII**

IOP travel support to help offset travel costs for up to 10 students who are giving oral presentations at IOPC-VIII are available on a competitive basis. Each award will be for \$500.00 US, and will be presented to the awardees at General Assembly meeting during the conference in Bonn. Applicants must be current students, and must be current members of IOP

Applications are to contain the following information in the order listed.

1. Name, mailing address, and e-mail address
2. Title, authors, and abstract of IOPC presentation.
3. Name of person presenting the work.
4. Budget of costs for attending IOPC.
5. Sources and amounts of funds that already have been secured to attend IOPC-VIII.

Applications are to be sent as an e-mail attachment (either in MS Word or as a PDF file) to the Secretary/Treasurer at [rothwell@ohio.edu](mailto:rothwell@ohio.edu)  
Award recipients will be notified of their award by August 1, 2008.

## **FORTHCOMING CONFERENCE**

### **Plant Life Through The Ages**

Jointly organized by The Palaeobotanical Society and Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, this international conference will be held November 16-17, 2008 at the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, 53 University Road, Lucknow-226007 INDIA.

### *Preamble*

Prof. A. C. Seward discussed the Geological and Botanical retrospect under a book "Plant Life Through The Ages" in the year 1931. Prof. Birbal Sahni, during the Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany (BSIP) in the year 1949, described "Palaeobotany as the common ground between Botany and Geology - it is in fact the botany of rocks." The Palaeobotanical Society and BSIP after completing sixty years of their existence, dwelt upon the crucial perspective of fundamental and functional aspects of Botany/Palaeobotany/Geology in resonance with the competitive world of science and decided to hold a Conference on age old title of Prof. Seward's book "Plant Life Through The Ages" in modern discernment.

### *Invitation*

The Conference Plant Life Through the Ages will be organized jointly by the Palaeobotanical Society and Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow. The Organizing Committee cordially invites all the scientists to participate and present their research findings at the Conference. Different scientific sessions of the Conference will discuss the origin, evolution, succession and development of the flora in geologic past, their continued existence in modern flora and their survival through modification, alteration and extinction. Since the geological phenomenon has played a major role in plant survival, the conference will deal at length the geological correlations vis a vis biological diversifications.

### *Themes of the Conference*

- ◆ Colonization, Development and Evolution of Early Life on Earth
- ◆ Floral Succession, Survival, Extinction and Rejuvenation in Geologic Past
- ◆ Morphology, Taxonomy and Biotechnological Advancement in Living Plants
- ◆ Palaeobotany: Systematics and Biodiversity
- ◆ Coal Forming Vegetation, Coal Types and Coal Seam Correlation
- ◆ Palaeopalynological Succession and Spatial Relationship
- ◆ Tertiary Flora and Evolution of Angiosperms
- ◆ Quaternary Vegetation and Forest History
- ◆ Micropalaeontology and its application in Hydrocarbon Exploration
- ◆ Biostratigraphy and Relative Sea Level Changes
- ◆ Phytogeography and Environmental Impact of Plants
- ◆ Microbial and insect interaction in plants
- ◆ Dendrochronology and Palaeoethnobotany

- ◆ Geological and Biological factors responsible for Ecosystem Dynamics
- ◆ Relevance of Palaeobotany in modern context

#### *Registration*

Registration Fee is Rs 2000/- (Rs 1000/- for Research Scholars and Students). Registration Fee is to be paid by Demand Draft favouring Secretary, Palaeobotanical Society payable at Lucknow before 30th September 2008. The registered delegates will be entitled to participate in the scientific programmes and will receive abstracts volume, tea/coffee, luncheons and dinners.

#### *Venue and Date*

The Conference will be organized at the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, 53 University Road, Lucknow from November 16th to 17th, 2008. PRESENTATION The Conference shall include both oral and poster presentations. The oral presentation will be restricted to 15 minutes. Each poster presentation will be restricted to 120 x 90 cm area.

#### *Abstract*

Abstract for both oral and poster presentations, highlighting salient points in not more than 500 words should be sent to the Organizing Secretary before 30th September, 2008 preferably by email to [confplta@hotmail.com](mailto:confplta@hotmail.com). The abstract should be typed in 12 point Times New Roman font in double space, mentioning the title, name(s), of the author(s) with their affiliation(s) and email ID.

#### *Publication*

The papers presented in the Conference will be published in the regular volume of Palaeobotanical Society's journal *Geophytology* after normal procedure of reviewing. Participants may submit their papers during the Conference.

#### *Accommodations*

The delegates will be provided accommodation on payment basis in Guest House/Hotels. The current tariff of various Guest Houses/Hotels in Lucknow ranges from Rs 500/ (non AC) to 2000/ (AC non-luxury). Delegates are advised to send their accommodation requests well in advance. The month of November being a mild winter season, the delegates are advised to bring light winter clothes.

For more information, please contact Dr. Ashwini K. Srivastava, Organizing Secretary, Birbal Sahni Institute

of Palaeobotany, 53 University Road, Lucknow-226007, INDIA. Email: [confplta@hotmail.com](mailto:confplta@hotmail.com)

Dr. N. C. Mehrotra  
President of the The Palaeobotanical Society  
Director, Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany

## **NEWS OF THE MEMBERSHIP**

### **Palaeobotanical Society International Medal Award at Lucknow, India**

On April 11, 2008 at Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeobotany, Lucknow, India the Palaeobotanical Society, Lucknow, India awarded "The Palaeobotanical Society International Medal" for the year 2007 to Prof. Robert A. Spicer of the Department of Earth Sciences, Centre of Earth, Planetary, Astronomical Research, The Open University, Milton Keynes, U.K. for his outstanding and internationally acclaimed contribution to the study of fossil plants.

The medal was presented by Dr. Naresh C. Mehrotra, President of The Palaeobotanical Society and the Citation was presented to him by the President and Secretary on behalf of the Society. Prof. Spicer gave a very thought provoking lecture on the topic *What plant fossils tell us about the environmental change*.

A.K. Srivastava, Secretary  
The Palaeobotanical Society  
Lucknow, India

## **REMEMBERING PAST PALEOBOTANISTS**

At each General Assembly meeting of IOP we take a moment to remember our colleagues who have passed away since the last time we met. We don't want to miss any of our past colleagues at this moment of remembrance. Therefore, please send me the names, affiliations, nationalities, and date of death for everyone that you know we have lost since we met in Baraloche in 2004.

Thank you,

Gar Rothwell  
[rothwell@ohio.edu](mailto:rothwell@ohio.edu)