

IAS

NEWSLETTER

N°153 December 1997

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IAS-Homepage:

<http://www.blackwell-science.com/uk/society/ias>

18TH IAS REGIONAL EUROPEAN MEETING OF SEDIMENTOLOGY, HEIDELBERG

This meeting was held from September 2 to 4, 1997, in the beautiful historic city of Heidelberg. 577 participants from 47 countries met in the halls of the Ruprecht-Karls-University to listen and to talk and to exchange ideas about the state-of-the-art of Sedimentology. There were so many oral presentations that 7 parallel sessions had to be run, which often led to some frustration: what should I do if two highly interesting subjects are treated simultaneously in two different lecture halls? The plenary lectures, however, made people gather in one place and gave good overviews on brine migration, modern carbonates, fluvial sedimentation, carbonate platforms, and Phanerozoic seawater. The public lecture on coral reefs by Bob Ginsburg was given in the Alte Aula in downtown Heidelberg.

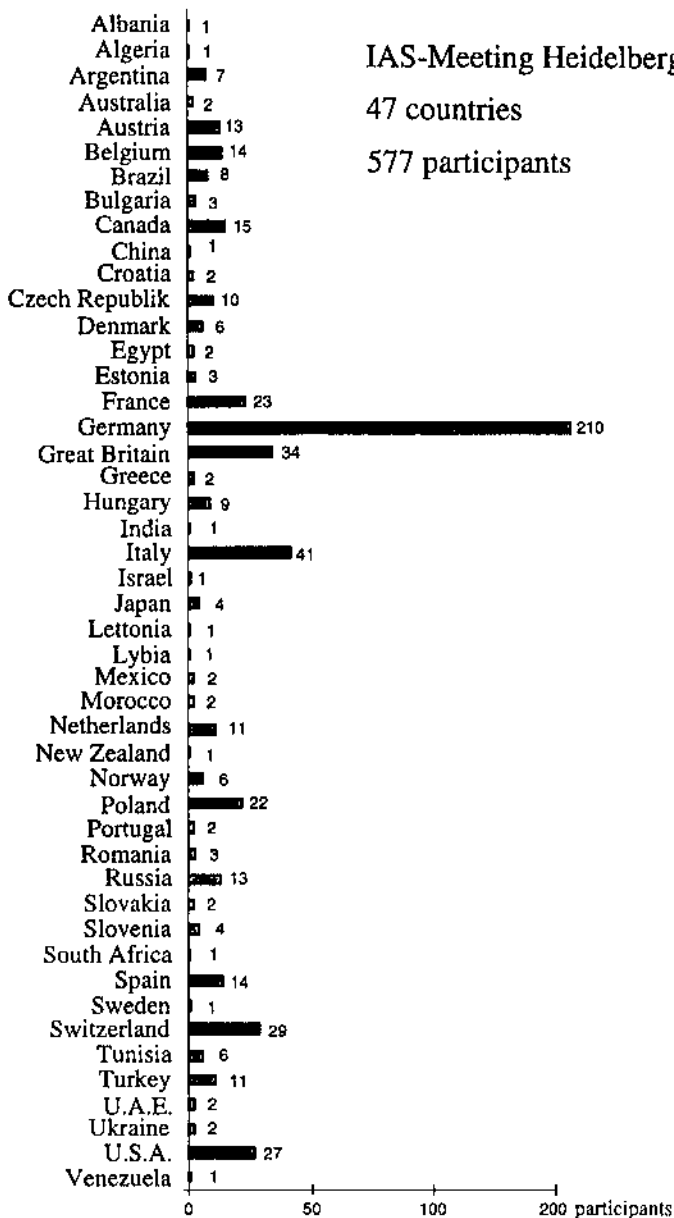
A very positive point of this meeting was that ample time was accorded to the poster sessions. The constant milling around the posters, the hot debates and the hot coffee

created a very stimulating intellectual environment.

Five excursions were run before the Meeting, 8 after. They mostly showed localities in Germany, but also included outcrops in France, Austria, and Switzerland. The topics were academic demonstrating all kinds of sedimentological features and their interpretations and contexts, but one excursion also dealt with applied sedimentology. In addition, 5 short courses were organized before the Meeting.

In the name of the IAS Bureau I would like to thank the organizers, the convenors of the symposia, the leaders of excursions and workshops, and all the participants to have made this a highly stimulating, top-level Meeting. I particularly thank Thilo Bechstädt for all the time and energy he invested: the success of the Meeting tells more than words.

André Strasser
General Secretary



MICROBIAL MEDIATION IN CARBONATE DIAGENESIS, CHICHILIANNE, FRANCE

From the 22nd to the 24th of September 1997, a multidisciplinary international workshop on "Microbial mediation in carbonate diagenesis" was organized by G.F. Camoin and A. Arnaud-Vanneau in Chichilianne (France) and sponsored by the International Association of Sedimentologists (IAS), the Association des Sédimentologues Français (ASF), and the IGCP 380 "Microbialites: processes and products". During three days, we lived in seclusion in the Château de Passières which provides the required intimate atmosphere and peace for scientific exchanges.

This meeting brought together researchers and students from over 11 countries with different specialities (sedimentology, microbiology, geochemistry, biogeochemistry) and research interests (from Precambrian to modern microbial carbonates, and from natural environments to laboratory experimentation). Oral and poster presentations and open discussions concerned four thematic sessions: Processes in microbial diagenesis, Mud mounds, Continental microbial carbonates,

and Stromatolites. The questions included, among many, the nannobacterial mediation in carbonate diagenesis, the cold-seep carbonates, the bacterial magnesites, the hot-spring deposits, the lacustrine dolomites, the Holocene cryptic reef microbialites, the travertines, the calcretes, the beachrocks, etc.

The participants expressed great satisfaction with the workshop which fully accomplished its objectives and promoted fruitful contacts between workers. The nice weather in the Vercors region and the exquisite cuisine of the Château de Passières' owners, Mr. & Mrs. Perli, were greatly appreciated by all participants.

A Special Issue of *Sedimentary Geology* based on selected papers issuing from this workshop will be edited in 1998.

G.F. Camoin, Aix-en-Provence,
(IAS French National
Correspondent),
A. Arnaud-Vanneau, Grenoble.

GILL HARWOOD MEMORIAL FUND

We are still seeking contributions to The Gill Harwood Memorial Fund. The aim is to reach 10,000 pounds so that a regular award can be made towards assisting female graduate students of any age and young female sedimentologists (under the age of 30), of any nationality, to participate in international sedimentology meetings or undertake sedimentological field work. If you have not yet con-

tributed, and would like to, please send a cheque payable to "The Gill Harwood Fund" to Dr Jan Alexander (BSRG Chairperson), The School of Environmental Sciences, The University of East Anglia, Norwich, NR4 7TJ, UK.

*Jan Alexander,
Norwich, U.K.*

CONFERENCE ON ABRUPT CLIMATE CHANGE

The Department of Quaternary Research, Stockholm University, in cooperation with the Wenner-Gren Research Center and the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences will host an International Conference on Recognition of Abrupt Climate Change in Clastic Sedimentary Environments: Methods, Limitations and Potential.

The conference will take place in Stockholm, June 8-10, 1998. Stockholm will be the Cultural Capital City of Europe in 1998. This international meeting will bring together and facilitate dialogue among professionals in clastic sedi-

mentology and provide a unique forum for exchange of ideas on methods and techniques and their applications for addressing the critical issue of abrupt climate change now facing scientific and governmental communities all over the world. You can get further information on the web for the conference through <http://www.geo.su.se>, then click on International Sedimentological Conference.

*Bertil Ringberg,
Amir Mokhtari Fard,
Stockholm, Sweden.*

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SEDIMENTOLOGISTS (IAS)

NEW MEMBERS

The International Association of Sedimentologists (IAS) was founded in 1952, with the goal to promote the study of sedimentology. It counts about 2000 members coming from some 100 countries. The journal *Sedimentology* has six issues per year, comprising about 1200 pages. Special Publications appear at irregular intervals. Every year, a Regional Meeting is held in Europe or North Africa, and an International Sedimentological Congress takes place every four years.

Special Lecturer tours are organized, allowing sedimentology groups to invite a well-known teacher to give talks and short courses in their country. The Friendship Scheme gives free membership to students in less-developed countries. IAS also maintains a network of National Correspondents, which report on the activities in their countries.

Fees amount to 200 FF (40 US \$) a year for full members, and 100 FF (20 US \$) for student members. This includes receipt of the journal *Sedimentology* and the Newsletter, reduced prices for the Special Publications, and reduced registration fees for the Congresses and Meetings.

To apply for IAS membership, please fill out the form below and mail it to:

IAS / Office of the Treasurer
Ecole des Mines de Paris
CGES-Sédimentologie
35, rue St. Honoré
77305 Fontainebleau cédex
France

Fax +33 1 64 69 49 35
E-Mail cojan@cges.ensmp.fr

Last name _____

First name(s) _____

Institution _____

Street _____

City _____

Zip-code _____

Country _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

CALENDAR

GLACIAL DEBRIS TRANSPORT AND DEPOSITION: PROCESSES AND PRODUCTS

Joint IGS British Branch, QRA, BGRG and BSRG Meeting

January 9-11, 1998

U.K. (Leeds)

Contact: Dr Tavi Murray, School of Geography, University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT.

Email: tavi@geog.leeds.ac.uk

Web: <http://www.geog.leeds.ac.uk/conferences/glacial98/glacial.htm>

6TH MEETING OF SWISS SEDIMENTOLOGISTS

January 31, 1998

SWITZERLAND (Fribourg)

Contact: André Strasser, Institut de Géologie, Pérolles, 1700 Fribourg, Switzerland.

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E-mail: andreas.strasser@unifr.ch

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COAL SEAM GAS AND OIL

March 24-26, 1998

AUSTRALIA (Brisbane)

Contact: The International Conference on Coal Seam Gas and Oil, Intermedia Convention and Event Management, PO Box 1280, Milton QLD 4064, Australia.
Tel: +617 3369 0477
Fax: +617 3369 1512
E-mail: csgo98@im.com.au

SECOND INTERNATIONAL BIOEROSION WORKSHOP

March 30 - April 3, 1998.

U.S.A. (Fort Pierce, Florida)

Contact: Dr. Debra Krumm, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Museum, 5600 U.S. 1 North, Fort Pierce, FL 34946, U.S.A.

Tel: +1 561 465 2400, Ext: 428

Fax: +1 561 465 5743

E-mail: krumm@hboi.edu

15TH INTERNATIONAL SEDIMENTOLOGICAL CONGRESS

April 13-17, 1998

SPAIN (Alicante)

Contact: 15th ISC, Dep. de Ciencias de la Tierra y Medio Ambiente, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad de Alicante, Ap. 99, 03080 Alicante, Spain.

Tel: +34 65 90 35 52

Fax: +34 65 90 35 52 / 3727

E-mail: ctierra@vm.cpd.ua.es

PRE-VARISCAN TERRANE ANALYSIS OF GONDWANAN EUROPE

April 29 - May 4, 1998

GERMANY (Dresden)

Contact: Bernd D. Erdtmann, TU Berlin, Institut für Angewandte Geologie II, Ernst-Reuther-Platz 1, Sekr. EB 10, D-10587 Berlin, Germany.

Tel: +49 30 314 23582

Fax: +49 30 314 21107

E-mail: erdt0936@mailszrz.zrz.tu-berlin.de or

Ulf Linnemann, Staatliches Museum für Mineralogie und Geologie Dresden, Augustusstr. 2, D-01067 Dresden, Germany.

Tel: +49 351 4952446

Fax: +49 351 4952468

E-mail nung@sik.de

**RECOGNITION OF ABRUPT
CLIMATE CHANGE IN CLASTIC
SEDIMENTARY ENVIRONMENTS:
METHODS, LIMITATIONS AND
POTENTIAL**

June 8-10, 1998

SWEDEN (Stockholm)

Contact: Bertil Ringberg or Amir Mokhtari
Fard

Tel: +46 8 164 886

Fax: +46 8 674 78 95

E-mail: amfard@geo.su.se

FLOODPLAINS '98

June 25-26, 1998

UNITED KINGDOM (Norwich)

Contact: Dr. Jan Alexander, School of
Environmental Sciences, The University of
East Anglia, Norwich, NR4 7TJ, U.K.
or Sue Marriott, School of Environmental
Management and Geography, University of
the West of England, Coldharbour Lane,
Bristol, BS16 1QY, U.K.

E-mail: j.alexander@uea.ac.uk

or s-marrio@uwe.ac.uk

**PALAEODIVERSIFICATIONS
LAND AND SEA COMPARED**

July 6-8, 1998

FRANCE (Lyon)

Contact: Mireille Gayet, UFR des Sciences
de la terre, Université Claude Bernard, Lyon
I, 27-43 bd du 11 novembre 1918, 69622
Villeurbanne cedex, France.

Tel: +33 4 72 44 83 98

Fax: +33 4 72 44 84 36

E-mail: gayet@univ-lyon1.fr

lysiane.thevenod@univ-lyon1.fr

GEOCONGRESS '98

Geological Society of South Africa

July 8-10, 1998

SOUTH AFRICA (Pretoria)

Contact: The Secretary: Sedimentology
Division, c/o M.J. Schweitzer, P.O. Box
91230, Auckland Park 2006, South Africa.
Tel: +27 11 358 0174

Fax: +27 11 482 1214

E-mail: jschweit@csr.co.za

**SEDIMENT TRANSPORT AND
DEPOSITION BY PARTICULATE
GRAVITY CURRENTS**

September 7-9, 1998

U.K. (Leeds)

Contact: Ben Kneller, Earth Sciences
Department, University of Leeds, Leeds
LS2 9JT, U.K.

Tel: +44 113 233 6625

Fax: +44 113 233 5259

E-mail: ben@earth.leeds.ac.uk.

Web: [http://earth.leeds.ac.uk/turbidites/
conference.htm](http://earth.leeds.ac.uk/turbidites/conference.htm)

**INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM
ON THE EPICONTINENTAL
TRIASSIC**

September 21-23, 1998

GERMANY (Halle / Saale)

Contact: G.H. Bachmann, G. Beutler, H.
Haubold, Inst. of Geosciences and Geiseltal
Museum, Martin Luther University,
Domstrasse 5, D - 06099 Halle / Saale,
Germany.

Tel: +49 345 55 26070 / 71

Fax: +49 345 55 27178

**COASTAL AND ESTUARINE
ENVIRONMENTS:
SEDIMENTOLOGY,
GEOMORPHOLOGY AND
GEOARCHAEOLOGY**
November 9-10, 1998
U.K. (London)
Contact: Prof. K. Pye and Prof. J.R.L.
Allen, University of Reading,
P.O. Box 227, Whiteknights,
Reading RG6 6AB.
Tel: +44 (0)118 93 18 499
Fax: +44 (0)118 93 10 279
E-mail: k.pye@reading.ac.uk

THE BATHURST MEETING
July 12-15, 1999
UNITED KINGDOM (Cambridge)
Contact: Dr. J.A.D. Dickson, Dept. of Earth
Sciences, University of Cambridge,
Downing St., Cambridge, CB2 3EQ, U.K.
Tel: +44 (0)1223 333400
Fax: +44 (0)1223 333450
E-mail: jadd1@esc.cam.ac.uk

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