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Report

26th IAS Meeting of Sedimentology, Bochum, Germany

1 - 3 September 2008

The 26th Regional Meeting of the International Association of Sedimentologists was held at the Conference Center of the Ruhr-University, Bochum, Germany, on 1 – 3 September 2008. The meeting took place jointly with the annual SEDIMENT meeting of the SEPM-CES in order to avoid an unnecessary duplication of sedimentological meetings in

Germany. In 1980, Bochum (coordinated by Prof. Füchtbauer) hosted the First European Regional Meeting and nearly thirty years later, IAS returned to Bochum.

The Meeting has been organized by J. ten Veen (website coordinator), S. Sitter and S. Hahn (secretarial support), U. Schulte (social



Figure 1. The conference centre of the Ruhr-University Bochum



programme and computers), N. Rameil (abstract and excursion volumes editor and fieldtrip coordinator), U. Heimhofer, D. Buhl, B. Gehnen and B. Raczek (technical support) as well as A. Immenhauser (chairperson). The organizers also greatly acknowledge the important role of our 12 reliable student helpers.



Figure 2. Members of the organization committee at the opening ceremony

In total 334 registrations were counted representing not less than 36 countries (see Table below). The delegates communicated their scientific work in 146 oral and 143 poster presentations. The presentations were distributed amongst the following main sessions: (1) From erosion to deposition - siliciclastic systems; (2) Advances in shallow water carbonate research; (3) The glacial sedimentary record; (4) Lacustrine Sedimentary archives; (5) Computer modelling of fluvial sediments; (6) Cave archives; (7)

Sedimentology of tsunami, storm and hurricane deposits; (8) Cretaceous epicontinental marine deposition and paleoceanography & Response mechanisms of the biosphere to Mesozoic/Palaeozoic carbon cycle; (9) Precambrian sediments: archives of Earth System Evolution; (10) Sequence and Cyclo-Stratigraphy; (11) High resolution inorganic and organic geochemistry in sedimentary research; (12) Anthropogenic Materials in Soils: Modern Archives of Environmental History.

Algeria	1	Denmark	6	Iran	3	Poland	12
Argentina	3	Egypt	3	Italy	15	Portugal	2
Australia	2	Finland	3	Jamaica	1	Spain	16
Austria	4	France	11	Jordan	1	Switzerland	18
Bangladesh	1	Germany	148	Korea	1	The Netherlands	18
Belgium	3	Greece	7	Mexico	1	Czech	2
Brazil	6	Hungary	2	Morocco	3	Turkey	9
China	2	India	1	New Zealand	1	UK	13
Croatia	4	Iraq	2	Nigeria	1	USA	8

Number of participants per country in alphabetic order

Oral presentations were organized in three parallel halls. Despite the 120 seats in two of the lecture theatres, few places remained empty during the main sessions, a fact that underlined the high level of interest and the lively interaction between speakers and audience. The posters were presented during the entire meeting and acknowledged during specific «posters and beers» sessions. The keynote lectures were presented during the afternoon of the 2nd September. Three senior scientists presented a review of sedimentology in the last three decades (F. Surlyk: Clastic sedimentology - from facies models over sequence stratigraphy to seismic geomorphology; M. Tucker: Limestones in my time sedimentology, sequence stratigraphy, Earth system sciences; T. Aigner: Applied sedimentology: rocks, water, oil and 3-D modelling). After a short break, four younger keynote speakers presented their view of sedimentology in the years to come (M. Strasser: Towards quantifying processes and impacts of tectonic hazards though modern ocean drilling: The key role of sedimentology; C. Dupraz: The microbially-mediated carbon cycle: Processes of carbonate precipitation in microbial mats; D. Hippler: The potential and pitfalls of highresolution analytical techniques in biogenic carbonate research; T. Stevens: Understanding rapid climate change: clues from the sedimentary record.

Fieldtrips took place prior and after the conference and focussed on a wide range of fossil and modern depositional settings. Regionally, fieldtrips covered Germany, the Netherlands and Belgium. All fieldtrip leaders are thanked for their efforts.



Figure 3. Post-conference excursion 5. Inspecting the «Grenzgelbkalk» (lithostratigraphic marker for the Upper Buntsandstein/Lower Muschelkalk boundary) in Grossenlüder quarry

The social programme involved a guide tour through the Ruhr-Valley and visits of museums in the Bochum region. On Tuesday evening, the conference party took place commencing with a guided tour through the old steelworks of the «Heinrich's Hütte» followed by dinner and life dance music (those of you that have been there will remember! For the others, it's difficult to describe, but it clearly was a «lively» evening).

The meeting was supported IAS, the German Science Foundation (DFG), the Ruhr-University, the German Geological Society (DGG), SEPM-CES, as well as ExxonMobil Germany. We greatly acknowledge the support by these organizations. A series of international hydrocarbon companies and consultants were





Figure 4. Sedimentologists at work (conference party)

present at the meeting with their recruiting officers, a unique opportunity for conference participants to directly assess job perspectives. Last but not least, Wiley-Blackwell offered a wide selection of recent publications.

In hindsight, the meeting was from the perspective of the organizers - a great success and we all appreciated the opportunity and the honour to host delegates from so many countries worldwide in Bochum. We attempted to widen the topical range of IAS conferences by adding sessions on non-IASmainstream topics such as speleothem archives or anthropogenic materials in soils. It has been noted that these sessions attracted a comparably limited audience. This is regretful as geosciences undergo rapid changes

and an ever-increasing diversification. From this it seems, that the IAS community, whilst maintaining a very solid fundament in «classical» fields of sedimentology, might wish to widen its scientific curiosity.

The organization committee of the 26th regional meeting of IAS would like to conclude this short report by thanking the IAS office for its continuous support and the conference participants for their enthusiasm and lively communication of all aspects of sedimentary geology. We will place a number of digital images on the conference website for your convenience.

For the organizing committee, Adrian Immenhauser

Report

XIII Latinamerican Congress of Geology & XIV Peruvian Congress of Geology

The XIII Latinamerican Congress of Geology has been held at the Pontificial Universidad Católica del Perú, in the city of Lima, on 29 September – 3 October, 2008. The conference has been organised jointly with the XIV Peruvian Congress of Geology and has received more than 1,600 participants coming mostly from Latin-American countries but with a significant attendance of North-American and European geo-

scientists. Such a huge number of participants witness the great success of the event.

The XIII Latinamerican Congress of Geology held in Lima follows previous meetings in Brazil, Argentina, Ecuador and other South American venues. The Latinamerican Congresses of Geology are organised every three years by the Association of Geological and Mining Surveys of Iberoamerica (ASGMI). Next



Figure 1. A plenary session during the XIII Latinamerican Congress of Geology & XIV Peruvian Congress of Geology



conference will be held in Cartagena de Indias, Colombia.

The Congress has been chaired by Dr. José Arce, from the Catholic University of Peru. A large number of geo-scientific associations, namely Geological Society of Peru, Peruvian Geological Survey (INGEMMET). Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD), Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits, Society of Economic Geologists, Society of Exploration Geophysics (SEG) have sponsored the meeting and collaborated in the technical programme. Likewise, the International Association of Sedimentologists provided scientific sponsorship for the congress. Considerable financial and technical support has been vielded by many oil and mining companies that were actively present in the conference

and contributed to an interesting exhibition programme.

The Technical Programme has been structured in oral and poster contributions, keynote talks, special symposia and round-tables. More than 350 contributions were presented. Oral presentations were organised in four parallel halls. Theme sessions dealing with the origin, geological features, exploration and prospecting techniques and evaluation of mineral deposits constituted a main forum for scientific discussion during the four days of the conference. This is indicative of the relevance of mining activities in Latin American countries. Some courses were also devoted to the topic: SGA Workshop Unconventional Zinc Deposits, SGA Workshop on Application of radiogenic isotopes in metallogeny



Figure 2. Partial view of the Exhibition area organised during the celebration of the XIII Latinamerican Congress of Geology

of the Andes, SEG Workshop
Geology of Pb-Zn Ore Deposits, SEG
Workshop Practical Geochemistry
Applied to Mineral Exploration,
Geochemical Processes in Magmatic
Systems, Gold in 2008-Deposit
Types, Geological Characteristics and
Exploration Criteria. Moreover,
other courses on Sequence
Stratigraphy: Principles and
Applications, Structural Styles in
Petroleum Exploration, have been
also programmed this being
indicative of the interest for oil
prospects in the region.

Theme sessions related to Sedimentology have attracted the attention of many participants in the congress. Sedimentological studies based on regional field perspectives have accompanied by more general and conceptual contributions dealing with sediment provenance analysis, use of geochemical tools in sedimentary geology, hydrocarbon deposits and environmental sedimentology. I must place emphasis on the two keynote talks given by Dr. Maurice E. Tucker, President of IAS from 2000 to 2004. The talks were entitled «Carbonate Stratigraphy - beds, parasequences and sequences: climate and orbital-facing rules» and «Carbonate porosity evolution in a sequence stratigraphic context». Both talks were followed by a large, interested in audience. In addition I was honoured to present a communication on the organisation, activities and role played by the International Association of Sedimentologists in expanding Sedimentology all around the World. I am sure that this contribution and, above all, those by Maurice E.



Figure 3. Picture taken during the session in which one of the keynote talks by Dr. Maurice E. Tucker was presented



Tucker will help to increase the presence of our Association in some Latin American countries where the relevance of the sedimentological community can be improved. Activities of IAS in the XIII Latinamerican Congress were supplemented by a meeting with Jose Daudt, who has resigned as IAS National Correspondent from Peru because of his change from Lima to the office of Petrobras in Houston. His job as IAS National Correspondent in Peru has been substituted by Alejandro Chalco, a sedimentologist working in the petroleum industry (CIEPSA). I am sure he will do a great job in expanding sedimentology in the country.

Other Theme sessions of major interest in the Congress were those

devoted to geohazards, geology outreach, hydrogeology and geotechnics. Geohazards are a main topic in Latin American countries; in particular, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, floods and landslides constitute highlight topics that in many cases can be soundly contributed by sedimentological. Moreover, the role of climate change scenarios and their consequences on sedimentary processes was widely developed during many of the theme sessions of the congress.

I detected a particular interest in all themes that could be related to the scientific and outreach programmes of the International Year of Planet Earth running in 2008. In fact, a special session devoted to the IYPE was



Figure 4. Jose Daudt (right), the former IAS National Correspondent from Peru, together with the IAS General Secretary and Alejandro Chalco (left), the current IAS Peruvian National Correspondent

programmed on the last day of the congress with four keynote lectures (Natural Disasters, Climate Change, Earth and Life, and Earth and Health) followed by a round table on the achievements of the IYPE in Peru.

The Fieldtrip Programme has included nine excursions that run in several parts of the country. Four fieldtrips were focussed on mineral deposits, in part connected to some of the workshops: SGA Workshop Fieldtrip dealing with massive sulphides and their relationships with volcanic rocks (Leaders: Fernando Tornos & Eugenio Ferrari), Mineral deposits of Tucari and Santa Rosa (Leaders: Tony Longo & Wolfgang Morche), Mineral deposits of Uchucchacua and Raura (Leaders: Staff of Minas Buenaventura and Raura Co.), SEG Workshop Fieldtrip Pb-Zn Deposits of the Cordillera Central (Leaders: Bill Chavez & Erich Petersen), Yanacocha, Cerro Corona and Tantahuatay (Leaders: Jaime Gomez, José Rosas & Alberto Cárdenas). Other fieldtrips showed regional geological interest:

Stratigraphy, structural styles and tectonic evolution of the Eastern Pisco Basin (Leaders: Antenor Aleman, Victor Benavides & Walther Leon), and/or specialised focus: Use of high-resolution Sequence Stratigraphy in outcrops (Leaders: Octavian Catuneau, Guilherme Raja Cabaglia & José Daudt), Physical Volcanology and Evolution of Andean Arc magma systems (Leaders: Jean-Claude Thouret & Gerhard Wörner).

I would like to congratulate the Organising Committee of the XIII Latinamerican Congress of Geology and the XIV Peruvian Congress of Geology for the great success of the event, which was favoured by the extreme friendly and warm atmosphere during the development of both technical and social programmes, the latter being enriched by abundant pisco-sour, an unforgettable and enjoyable drink.

Jose-Pedro Calvo IAS General Secretary



REPORT

14th Symposium on the Geology of the Bahamas and Other Carbonate Regions

The 14th Symposium on the Geology of the Bahamas and Other Carbonate Regions was held June 12-16, 2008 on San Salvador Island, Bahamas. Its purpose was to provide a forum for scientific presentations and discussions of geological research currently being conducted around the world, including the Bahamas. The symposium was based at the Gerace Research Centre on San Salvador Island and was organized by Dr. Thomas Rothfus, the Executive Director of the Centre.

Like the thirteen previous geology symposia held on San Salvador Island, this year's Symposium proved to be a well-balanced mix of technical presentations, informal discussions, and geological field excursions. Forty-two individuals attended the symposium Most were from from U.S. academic institutions but several other countries were also represented including the Bahamas, Switzerland, Canada, Australia, and the US territory of Guam. Nearly all attendees presented their most recent findings at the symposium. As such, discussions and debates

tended to be lively, well-informed and quite invigorating - all very much in keeping with the tenor and intellectual vitality that has characterized previous geology symposia on San Salvador.

For most of the participants, the Symposium began with an optional, one day field trip to Rum Cay, a small (78 km²) island located 30 km to the southwest of San Salvador Island in the eastern Bahamas. The field trip was much anticipated because the lack of commercial air flights to the island has prevented any systematic study of the island. Prior to publication of the field trip guide (Mylroie et al., 2008), only one other scholarly report had been published on the island (Mitchell, 1987). The trip was led by several geologists who earlier in the year had conducted a weeklong reconnaissance of the island. At several stops along the south and north coasts of the cay and within the island interior, field trip participants were able to examine Holocene beach sands. Pleistocene carbonate eolianites, karst features such as flank margin caves and tafoni caves. Pleistocene



Figure 1. Aerial view of Rum Cay

subtidal deposits rich in Ophiomorpha and Conichnus traces, Pleistocene reef facies and welldeveloped paleosol horizons. particular interest, is that surface water in the interior of the island is largely fresh to slightly salty, in contrast to San Salvador Island where all surface water is marine salinity to hypersaline. The surprising contrasts between Rum Cay and San Salvador Island provoked broadranging discussions among all participants. At the conclusion of the trip, many of the participants were treated to a low altitude flyover of Rum Cay, which provided numerous opportunities for photographs and further discussions.

The symposium formally began the following day with a keynote address by Robert «Luigi» Folk, professor emeritus at the University of Texas at Austin Dr. Folk informed and entertained the symposium participants with a stimulating talk entitled «Dwarf Workpersons in the Carbonate Factory.» The talk chronicled his pursuit of nannobacteria in carbonate rocks and clays and the possible role of nannoparticles on the genesis of sedimentary rocks and minerals. As expected, Luigi's talk was thought provoking and at times wonderfully controversial. Most in attendance gained much from his keynote address and benefited greatly from his insights and expertise throughout the duration of the symposium. Although it is not clear whether Luigi won over the nannobacteria skeptics in the audience, those that listened to his presentation were certainly presented with a significant number of compelling observations and arguments.





Figure 2. Rum Cay - eolianite

Following Luigi's keynote address, the symposium proper began in earnest. Twenty-one oral presentations and eleven poster presentations were delivered over the course of two and a half days. The oral presentation were grouped into five loosely-defined technical sessions: Little and Big Workers in the Carbonate Factory; Other Places (which was a session devoted to non-Bahamian carbonates); Hydrology and Diagenesis; Surface and Vadose Processes: and Storm and Climate Effects on Carbonate Platforms. Symposium participants were treated to a variety of excellent talks covering topics such as the effects of sea-level rise on the geomorphology of carbonate coastlines: the numerical modeling of atoll island hydrogeology; speleogenesis in Pleistocene eolianites; and the geologic and faunal record of large

storm events in Bahamian saline lakes. Each talk was given 30 minute time slot, and consequently the topics were developed in greater detail than most standard meeting presentation with ample time for questions at the conclusion of the presentations. This permitted a number of stimulating discussions that commonly spilled over to breaks

In addition to the formal technical sessions, each afternoon was filled with a variety of field trips to various sites around San Salvador Island. John Mylroie of Mississippi State University and Jim Carew of the College of Charleston (South Carolina), both seasoned veterans of Bahamian geology, led two field trips: one devoted to the stratigraphy and depositional history of San Salvador and another devoted to the karst geology and



Figure 3. Picture of «Luigi» Folk
hydrogeology of island. Those trips
provided participants with a first
hand opportunity to become familiar

with the rocks and features that form the foundation of the depositional and hydrogeologic models geologists use to interpret the Quaternary geology of the Bahamas and other carbonate regions. Al Curran of Smith College (Massachusetts) another seasoned veteran of Bahamian geology - led trips devoted to trace fossils and the development of reefs during the last interglacial highstand. Other field trips included opportunities to see iguanas on nearby Green Cay, snorkeling over patch reefs and a visit to a historic site commemorating the arrival of Christopher Columbus on the San Salvador in 1492.

The biennial Geology of the Bahamas Symposia have been a vital component of geological research in the Bahamas for ??-26_years. Past keynote speakers have included Gene



Figure 4. Group photo of the participants in the $14^{\rm th}$ Symposium on the Geology of the Bahamas and Other Carbonate Regions



Shinn, Bob Ginsburg, Stephen Jay Gould, and Noel James among others. Each symposium has generated technical papers which are compiled in Proceedings Volumes published by the Gerace Research Centre. In recent years, field trip guides for the pre-symposium field trip have also been published. Copies of those publications and many others are available from the Gerace Research Centre

(www.geraceresearchcentre.com). Planning for the 15th Symposium on the Geology of the Bahamas and Other Carbonate Regions - to be held in June 2010 - is already underway. Thomas Rothfus will once again organize the symposium with assistance from Dr. Pascal Kindler (University of Geneva) and Dr. Doug Gamble (University of North Carolina at Wilmington). Any persons with interests in carbonate

depositional environments are welcome to attend.

References Cited:

Mitchell, S.W., 1987, Surficial geology of Rum Cay, Bahama Islands, in Curran., H.A., Proceedings of the Third Symposium on the Geology of the Bahamas: Fort Lauderdale, Florida, CCFL, Bahamian Field Station, p. 231-241.

Mylroie, J.E., Carew, J.L, Curren, H.A, Martin, J.B, Rothfus, T. A., Sealey, N.E., and Siewers, F.D., 2008, Geology of Rum Cay, Bahamas: A Field Trip Guide. Gerace Research Centre, San Salvador, Bahamas. 58 p.

> Dr. Fredrick D. Siewers Western Kentucky University Co-chair, 14th Symposium on the Geology of the Bahamas

IAS Postgraduate Grant Scheme

has established a grant scheme designed to help PhD students with their studies. We are offering to support postgraduates in their fieldwork, data acquisition and analysis, visits to other institutes to use specialised facilities, or participation in field excursions directly related to the PhD research subject.

Up to 10 grants, each of about € 1000 are awarded twice a year.

These grants are available for IAS members only, and only for PhD students. Students enrolled in MSc programs are NOT eligible for grants. Research grants are NOT given for travel to attend a scientific conference, NOR for acquisition of equipment. Student travel grants for conferences can be usually obtained directly from organizers of the meeting.

The **Grant Scheme Guidelines** provide a summary of required information needed for successful a Grant Application. Applications are evaluated on the basis of the scientific merits of the problems, the capability of the researcher, and reasonableness of the budget.

Supervisor's Letter Guidelines list the information needed.

IAS Grant Scheme Guidelines

The application should be concise and informative and contains the following information (limit your application to 4 pages): Research proposal - 2 pages maximum Bibliography - ½ page Budget - ½ page Curriculum Vitae - 1 page

Recommendation letter (or e-mail) from the supervisor supporting the applicant is mandatory and the research proposal must be sent directly to the Treasurer of IAS by the application deadline

Guidelines for letter from supervisor

The letter from the supervisor should provide an evaluation of the capability of the student to carry out the proposed research, the significance and necessity of the research, and reasonableness of the budget request. The letter must be sent directly to the Treasurer of IAS by post or e-mail by the application deadline (Patric Jacobs, Department of Geology and Soil Science, Ghent University, Krijgslaan 281/S8, B-9000 Gent, BELGIUM. E-mail: patric.jacobs@ugent.be). An application form is on our website (http://www.iasnet.org).

Grant application

Research Proposal -

- Title
- Introduction: Introduce the topic and provide



relevant background information: summarise previous work by you or others. Provide the context for your proposed study in terms of geography, geology, and /or scientific discipline.

- Motivation: It should have a clearly written hypothesis or a wellexplained research problem of geologic significance. It should explain why it is important. Simply collecting data without an objective is not considered wise use of resources.
- Methods: Outline the research strategy (methods) that you plan to use to solve the problem in the field and/ or in the laboratory. Please include information on data collection, data analyses, and data interpretation.
- Facilities: Briefly list research and study facilities available to you,

- such as field and laboratory equipment, computers, library.
- Bibliography: provide a list of key (5-10) publications that are relevant to your proposed research. The list should show that you have done adequate background research on your project and are assured that your methodology is solid and that the project has not been done already.
- Budget: Provide a brief summary of the total cost of the research. Clearly indicate the amount (in euros) being requested. State specifically what the IAS grant funds will be used for.
- Curriculum Vitae: Name, postal address, email address, university education (degrees & dates), work experience, awards and scholarships, independent research projects, your abstracts and publications.

Application deadlines: 1st session:

March 31 2nd session: September 30

Recipient notification: 1st session:

before June 30

before December 31

CALENDAR

FROM RIVER TO ROCK RECORD: The preservation of Fluvial Sediments and their Subsequent Interpretation *

12-14 January, 2009 Aberdeen, Scotland, UK Stephanie Davidson, Sophie Leleu and Colin North
University of Aberdeen, UK
rivertorock@abdn.ac.uk
Website: www.abdn.ac.uk/geology/deptinfo/
river2rock/river2rock.php

17th MEETING OF SWISS SEDIMENTOLOGISTS

21 February, 2009 Fribourg, Switzerland André Strasser
Department of Geosciences
University of Fribourg
CH-1700 Fribourg
Switzerland
E-mail: andreas.strasser@unifr.ch.
Web-page: www.swisssed.ch

5™ LATIN AMERICAN SEDIMENTOLOGICAL CONGRESS *

15-20 March, 2009 Puerto La Cruz, Venezuela Dr. Rosa Aquino E-mail: aquino@pdvsa.com; rosaaquino@cantv.net



IAVCEI - IAS THIRD INTERNATIONAL MAAR CONFERENCE *

14-17 April, 2009 Malargue, Argentina Dr. Corina Risso Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina E-mail: corinarisso@fibertel.com.ar Website: www.3imc.org



27[™] IAS MEETING OF SEDIMENTOLOGY *

20-23 September, 2009 Alghero, Sardinia, Italy Dr. Vincenzo Pascucci and Dr. Stefano Andreucci Università di Sassari, Sardinia, Italy pascucci@unisi.it; sandreucci@uniss.it Website: www.ias2009.com

9TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FLUVIAL SEDIMENTOLOGY *

24-28 August, 2009 San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina Dr. Sergio M. Georgieff (UNT-CONICET)
Miguel Lillo 205, T4000JFE,
San Miguel de Tucumán, Tucumán, Argentina
E-mail: icfs9@csnat.unt.edu.ar
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Fax: +54 381 4321 165

Website: http://lillo.org.ar/content/view/551/153/



18TH INTERNATIONAL SEDIMENTOLOGICAL CONGRESS*

26 September, 1 October, 2010 Mendoza, Argentina Eduardo Piovano
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Dpto. Química, Facultad de Ciencias
Avda. Velez Sarsfield 1611
X501GCA, Córdoba, Argentina
E-mail: epiovano@efn.uncor.edu
Website: http://www.isc2010.com.ar

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