

IAS

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SEDIMENTOLOGISTS



Newsletter

June 2009

<http://www.iasnet.org>

N° 222

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IAS Bureau and Council

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Link to **IAS National Correspondents**: <http://www.iasnet.org/about/correspondents.php>

ANNOUNCEMENT

New IAS Bureau and Council

According to the Articles of the International Association of Sedimentologists, the list of nominations for the new Bureau and Council has to be published in the Newsletter in the first part of the year preceding the International

Sedimentological Congress, where the Extraordinary General Assembly will be held. The next ISC will be held in Mendoza, Argentina, from 26th September to 1st October 2010, so the time for announcing the nominations is now.

The present Bureau proposes the following new composition:

President:	Poppe de Boer (The Netherlands)
Past-President:	Finn Surlyk (Denmark)
General Secretary:	Vincenzo Pascucci (Italy)
Treasurer:	Marc de Batist (Belgium)
Vice-Presidents:	Daniel Ariztegui (Switzerland) Hiroki Matsuda (Japan) Dilce Rossetti (Brazil)
Editors:	Stephen Rice (UK) Peter Swart (USA)
Special Publications Secretary:	Ian Jarvis (UK) Thomas Stevens (UK)
Council:	Ana M. Alonso-Zarza (Spain) Seung Soo Chun (South Korea) Sergio Matheos (Argentina) Isabel Montañez (USA) Igor Vlahovic (Croatia) Hildegard Westphal (Germany)

Members of the Association may propose alternative lists to the Bureau and Council up to one year before the scheduled International Sedimentological

Congress. Such an alternative list shall be signed by at least 50 members of the IAS and be approved in writing by the nominees mentioned therein.



Bio-inclusions (wasp and mosquito specimens) in amber - Lower Cretaceous, Vasque-Cantabrian Basin, northern Spain

REPORT

The seventeenth meeting of Swiss sedimentologists

On Saturday, the 21st of February, 2009, 75 sedimentologists met for the seventeenth time in Fribourg, in the center of Switzerland, on the French-German language border, for the traditional SwissSed Meeting. Most of them were young MSc students, PhD students, and post-docs, but also the older generation of established sedimentologists was well represented. Most came from Switzerland, but some made the trip from France and Germany.

Twelve talks and twenty posters were presented. There was an open session in the morning, covering topics from carbonate platforms to mud volcanoes, ranging in age from the Triassic to the Recent, and in location from the Peruvian Andes across the Bahamas, Morocco, Switzerland and Oman all the way to the South China Sea. Even if the study areas and the stratigraphic ages were totally different, in some cases

the sedimentological features were of striking similarity, which, of course, gave rise to animated discussion between the authors.

The afternoon was devoted to IODP and ICDP activities with Swiss involvement. The session was opened by David Hodell from Cambridge, who gave an excellent keynote lecture on Heinrich layers in the North Atlantic and their palaeoclimatic and palaeoceanographic significance. This keynote underlined the importance of ocean drilling to recover such sedimentary archives. Results from different IODP legs then were presented, documenting for example the effects of the closure of the Panama gateway in the Pliocene or the history of submarine landslides in the Nankai Trough. Concerning the continental drilling, first results of the ICDP Potrok Aike Maar Lake project in Argentina were shown, and a future



project for drilling Lake Van in Turkey was presented. In addition, results from several smaller drilling programmes were shown, including Swiss, Colombian, and Alaskan lakes as well as the Rhine Graben in France.

Thus, it was clearly demonstrated that Swiss sedimentology is kicking and alive, and that an enormous amount of added value can be gained through the involvement in IODP and ICDP. High-resolution proxy records can be distilled out of our sediments and help interpret the complex feed-back mechanisms that control past and future climate changes. On the other hand, also

classical field sedimentology with detailed logging of sections and facies analysis still has its place and furnishes important results for the better understanding of the functioning of our planet.

During coffee, lunch, and tea breaks, there was time for discussion among friends and the occasion to make new acquaintances. An apéritif with good Swiss wine from the sunny Valais region concluded the meeting. And everybody agreed: let's meet again in February 2010.

*André Strasser
Fribourg, Switzerland*

ANNOUNCEMENT

12th French Meeting of Sedimentology

Rennes, 27-29 October, 2009

Géosciences Rennes, a research unit of the University of Rennes and CNRS, is organising the 12th Meeting of the French Sedimentologists' Association (ASF, <http://www.sedimentologie.com/>) on October 27th – 29th in Rennes. There will be field trips before and after the meeting. The conference is sponsored by the French Federation of Geology (FFG, <http://www.e-geologie.org/ffg>), the ASF being a member of this federation.

The meeting will be dedicated to Bruno Savoye, who passed away last summer. Bruno, a research scientist in IFREMER, was a world-renowned specialist on marine gravity processes. Peter Homewood, formerly an expert at TOTAL and Professor at the University of

Fribourg (Switzerland) and Sultan Qaboos (Oman), will also be honoured during the event for his major contribution to the French scientific community in Sedimentology. In this context and for each session, we would like to invite international scientists to present state-of-the-art research developments.

We hope to attract 350-400 earth scientists, including students, academics, and company personnel, with a significant proportion of international colleagues. The meeting will be financed by registration fees and various institutional and industrial sponsors.

The Technical Program of the meeting includes the following sessions:

- S1 – Paleoenvironments and sequence stratigraphy
- S2 – Relations between deformation/sedimentation and basin dynamics
- S3 – «Source to sink»: dynamics of continental margins – Session of the program «INSU/ACTION MARGE»
- S4 – Geophysical imaging of sedimentary basins

- S5 – Continental shelf and incised paleo-valleys
- S6 – Geomorphology: continental transport and geodynamic signature
- S7 – Paleoclimatology: impact of paleogeography and oceanic paleocirculations
- S8 – Holocene climates and shelf/deep offshore sedimentary transfers
- S9 – Exo-sedimentology
- S10 – Major glaciations and associated sedimentary systems
- S11 – Paleo-alterations and superficial formations



Figure 1. La Palud Beach, Cap de la Chèvre, Crozon (top); upper storm graded layers, Middle Ordovician, Postolonec Fm (bottom)

- S12 – Continental sedimentary systems
- S13 – Lacustrine environments
- S14 – Littoral environments
- S15 – Carbonate platforms
- S16 – Microbiology and diagenesis
- S17 – Gravity driven sedimentation: processes, apparatus and stratigraphic signature
- S18 – Geo-archeology
- S19 – Sedimentation and environment: soils, organic matter and aquifers
- S20 – Industrial applications of sedimentology
- S21 – Education and diffusion of Earth Sciences



Figure 2. Vilaine estuary (top); Mine d'Or Beach, Penestin (bottom)

The Fieldtrip Program of the meeting includes both pre-, syn- and post-conference excursions:

Pre-meeting field trips

E1 – Storm deposits: from open to protected marine environments

(Leaders: F. Guillocheau

(Francois.Guillocheau@univ-rennes1.fr), M.P. Dabard (Marie-Pierre.Dabard@univ-rennes1.fr) and C. Robin.

E2 – The Mont-Saint-Michel Bay: facies, sequences and evolution

(Leaders: B. Tessier

(bernadette.tessier@unicaen.fr), I. Billeaud (isabelle.billeaud@unicaen.fr), Chantal Bonnot-Courtois and Bruno Caline.

Syn-meeting field trip

E3 – Geologic stroll in Rennes

(Leaders: J. Bouffette

(Jacques.Bouffette@univ-rennes1.fr), S. Bonnet (Stephane.Bonnet@univ-rennes1.fr).

Post-meeting field trip

E4 – Evolution of the Paleozoic Armorican platform from Ordovician to Devonian times

(Leaders: M.P. Dabard (Marie-Pierre.Dabard@univ-rennes1.fr), F. Guillocheau

(Francois.Guillocheau@univ-rennes1.fr), A. Loi, F. Paris and M. Ballèvre.

E5 – Incised valleys of Brittany: the Vilaine Estuary

(Leaders: J.N. Proust (Jean-Noel.Proust@univ-rennes1.fr), D. Menier (david.menier@univ-ubs.fr) and C. Traini.

Further information on organising



Figure 3. *Église St Etienne, downtown Rennes*

aspects of the 12th French Meeting of Sedimentology can be found at <http://www.asf2009.univ-rennes1.fr> or by contacting through asf2009@univ-rennes1.fr

Looking forward to meeting you in Rennes!

The Organising Committee of the 12th French Meeting of Sedimentology

British Sedimentological Research Group

What's Hot in British Sedimentology!

The British Sedimentological Research Group (BSRG) is the principal focal point for all aspects of sedimentological research in the UK. The group is an informal collection of sedimentologists from both Britain and the rest of the world. There is no membership or joining fees; if you come to a meeting then you are a member by default. The aims of the group are four-fold:

- ♦ To provide a focus for sedimentological research both within the UK and internationally.
- ♦ To promote and support young research workers (PhDs and post-docs) in sedimentology.
- ♦ To organise and support high quality research meetings including an annual AGM.

- ♦ To provide a resource base for sedimentologists world wide.

One of the keystones of the BSRG is the annual conference, which this year will be held at the University of Wales in Bangor (in mid December 2009). The conference involves field trips and workshops (visit www.bsrge2008.org.uk for information on what happened at last year's conference in Liverpool), as well as two days where postgraduate students and other sedimentologists from across the UK and Europe get the opportunity to present what is often cutting edge research within the field of sedimentology. In addition the BSRG committee are committed to providing extra feature events such as the excellent and well attended North Sea Core Workshop showcased at last year's conference.



Figure 1. BSRG field trip to view the Carboniferous, 2007 AGM, University of Birmingham, UK.



Figure 2. Mud flake breccia may represent tidal influence at base of meandering channel sand

Presentations at the conference cover the whole gamut of the subject, from fluvial through shoreface systems and out into the deeper water turbidites. Datasets utilized include everything from the microscopic, through outcrop and core data, industry seismic data, and

regional data. Subject areas such as diagenesis, geochemistry and stratigraphy are also well represented. New foci at the conference in coming years will include the use of Lidar, carbon sequestration and climate change. Many controversial



Figure 3. Spectacular spiral *Ophiomorpha* burrows



sedimentological topics are introduced and discussed in this forum, and the BSRG welcomes diverse speakers.

Presenters, while mainly comprising students, also include both senior academic staff and experienced sedimentologists from industry, who bring their own flavour to the conference due their more economically-minded approach to the field. The meeting provides a showcase to what is happening in British sedimentology, while allowing industry the opportunity to spot up and come geological talent. There is also the chance to learn about potential analogues to hydrocarbon reservoirs, and to keep abreast of new and refined techniques.

In addition to the conference, an active website keeps sedimentologists up to date with forthcoming conferences (<http://www.bsrq.org.uk/>). There is an electronic mailing list that allows members to post research positions, or ask for advice or garner opinion on any aspects of the world of sedimentology. Several teaching workshops and talks are also organized every year to keep students abreast of advances in the field, and there is a yearly, subsidised postgraduate field trip held over a long weekend. All in all the BSRG provides the perfect focal point to what is hot in sedimentology in the UK today. Why not visit the website and sign up to the mailing list?

*Jon Noad
Chair BSRG*

IAS Postgraduate Grant Scheme

IAS 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 well-explained 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, e-mail 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
2nd session: **before December 31**

CALENDAR

SEDIMENT 2009

6TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF SEPM CENTRAL EUROPEAN SECTION

24-25 June, 2009
Kraków,
Poland

Dr. Joachim Szulc
E-mail: sediment09@uj.edu.pl
Website: [http://www.ing.pan.pl/
Sediment_2009/index.htm](http://www.ing.pan.pl/Sediment_2009/index.htm)

5TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON LITHOGRAPHIC LIMESTONE AND PLATTENKALK*

17-22 August, 2009
Basel,
Switzerland

Dr. Daniel Marty
Section d'Archaeology at Palaeontology
Porrentruy
E-mail: antoINETTE.hitz@bs.ch
Website: www.nmb.bs.ch



27TH 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



FIRST MEETING ON LOW-TEMPERATURE GEOCHEMISTRY

27-30 September, 2009
Córdoba,
Argentina

Prof. Pedro J. Depetris
CIGES-CICTERRA
Córdoba, Argentina
E-mail: pdepetris@efn.uncor.edu;
iragsu@gmail.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
Phone: +54 381 4321 165 Fax: +54 381 4321 165
Website: <http://lillo.org.ar/content/view/551/153/>

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON GEOLOGICAL AND BIO(GEO)CHEMICAL PROCESSES AT COLD SEEPS – CHALLENGES IN RECENT AND ANCIENT SYSTEMS *

28-30 September,
2009
Varna,
Bulgaria

Eva De Boever
Dep. Of Earth and Environmental Sciences
K.U. Leuven, Belgium
E-mail: Eva.DeBoever@ees.kuleuven.be
Website: <http://ees.kuleuven.be/wvarna09/>

THE 4TH CHINESE NATIONAL CONGRESS ON SEDIMENTOLOGY

16-20 October,
2009
Qingdao, China

Dr. Ping Yin
E-mail: yinping@cgs.gov.cn;
yaocx@cgs.gov.cn

12TH FRENCH MEETING OF SEDIMENTOLOGY

27-29 October, 2009
Rennes, France

E-mail: asf2009@univ-rennes1.fr
Webpage: <http://www.asf2009.univ-rennes1.fr>



**18TH INTERNATIONAL
SEDIMENTOLOGICAL CONGRESS***

26 September,
1 October, 2010
Mendoza,
Argentina

Eduardo Piovano
GIGES
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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Data Print Ltd. 11a West Way Botley Oxford OX2 0JB, UK
Designed by Proedex s.l. Francisco Silvela 27
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