

# ICCP NEWS



NO 66  
DEC 2016

Newsletter of the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP). Founded 1953.  
<http://www.iccop.org>

On Line ISSN 1445-4858



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**ICCP WEBSITE**

<https://www.iccop.org>

Please send any feedback, comments, and uploads to Stavros Kalaitzidis

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The ICCP Newsletter, ISN 1445-4793 (1445-4858 online) is distributed 3 times a year, & welcomes contributions from members & non-members. The minutes of the Annual Meeting are published in the final issue each year, & the program for the Annual Meeting is included mid-year. The Newsletter is distributed to all members & is available on the open area of the webpage. This enables anyone interested in the science to obtain exposure to the ICCP activities. ICCP application details are available on the website, or contact the General Secretary, Walter Pickel.

mail to: [walter.pickel@organicpetrology.com](mailto:walter.pickel@organicpetrology.com)

**EDITORS COLUMN**

I was very sorry to have missed the combined ICCP-TSOP-AASP meeting in Houston. By all accounts, the meeting was a success I believe. I will certainly endeavor to attend the Bucharest and Brisbane meetings in the coming years and hope to meet you all there too. This Newsletter includes the Plenary meeting minutes, as well as minutes for each Commission, thus making the information available for those who attended the Meeting and for those who were not able to travel to Houston. Since the Potsdam meeting, 3 great (in my opinion, but I may be biased) Newsletters – No.s 63 (Nov 2015), 64 (March 2016), and 65 (July 2016) – have been produced. Approximately 200-210 pdf Newsletters were sent via email, and 63 hard copies posted. The emailed figure is somewhat vague as email addresses constantly change (please ensure you keep your contact details up to date – drop me an email with any changes); at least 24 email addresses do not work, and have been removed from the Editors distribution list. In addition, at the 2015 Potsdam Meeting it was decided that the ICCP Newsletters would be available for download on the public site of the ICCP website. This was agreed as an effort to provide valid, up to date information about the ICCP and organic petrology to anyone interested in the topic. A total of 21 new ICCP members were introduced in the newsletters during 2015 / 2016, with most new members residing in Europe. Dr Dash replaces Dr Banerjee as the Tata Steel Institutional representative. I believe the ICCP Newsletter continues to be a useful medium of information sharing for the organization. A concern is the lack of articles submitted for inclusion, such as student project findings or research summaries. Only 1 article submission was received this year. I would really like to encourage everyone to submit short articles on their research, and specifically encourage students to make use of this medium to promote their research work. Interesting images of organic petrology samples are welcomed and will perhaps open discussion and debate. It has been a pleasure working on the ICCP Newsletter this year, and I look forward to producing further useful, informative newsletters. All comments / suggestions / positive criticism most welcomed, please. Holiday greetings to one and all.

Regards, nikki

**FRONT COVER: JOINT TSOP-AASP-ICCP MEETING, HOUSTON, TEXAS, SEPTEMBER 2016, HELD AT THE MAGNOLIA HOTEL. THE BEER IS APPARENTLY GOOD IN TEXAS!**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

Deadline for next ICCP Newsletter

20 Feb 2017

Please submit short research synopses, articles, images

**KNOW YOUR COAL PETROLOGIST**

Answer on page 21

## PRESIDENTS COLUMN

The 68<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting took place this year in Houston. It was a joint meeting with The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP) and the AASP-The Palynological Society. It was a well-attended meeting and therefore we had the chance to exchange views with colleagues who do not regularly attend ICCP Meetings. I would like to thank the organizers: Thomas Demchuk, Jen O'Keefe, Thomas Gentzis and Joseph Curiale who worked for a nicely organized meeting.

We also had a microscopy session during the meeting that, as usual, allowed for lively discussions and the possibility for young and experienced petrographers to face together the problems of organic matter identification in rocks. I would like to thank the conveners and participants of the working groups for every effort and remind the membership that even not being able to attend the meeting, you can still participate in the activities of the institution through the working groups. In my experience you learn a lot doing that and you get exchange of results between different laboratories and analysts which is particularly useful for the beginners. Therefore I would like to encourage the new members to actively participate in the working groups.

You will find the minutes of the meeting in the following pages of this newsletter. In some of the pending issues we progressed, and most specifically with one regarding the publication of the handbook. We agreed to go for Open Access publication in Elsevier for the handbook chapters having ICCP as co-author of the publication in the last position and to maintain the restricted access in the website for the work of the working groups. This appears to be a reasonable balance between the need of recognition of the work of the individuals doing the revisions or new chapters and the liaison of the work with the organization and the contribution of the members in the existing chapters and the revisions. I would like to thank all the contributors to the revision of the handbook for the effort and very specially the authors of Liptinite Sheets and TEM-SEM chapters for waiting patiently until a decision has been taken. The first appearing chapters will be oxidation and Liptinite Classification, which have been already accepted in the International Journal of Coal Geology. I also would like to thank the Editor in charge Shifeng Dai for handling the manuscripts.

We are approaching to the end of the year and the evaluation of the SCAP and DOMVR accreditation programmes is being finalized. Very soon you will receive the CBAP samples. All the programmes will use a similar format in this round since they will work with databases developed for the purpose. We all, participants and organizers, will need to get used to the new needs of the databases

I finally would like to take this opportunity to greet you for the season and wish you a venturous 2017.

Angeles G. Borrego

Angeles welcomes all to the ICCP Meeting, Houston, in the traditional ICCP way.!



ICCP COUNCIL ATTENDEES ICCP MEETING,  
HOUSTON, 2016

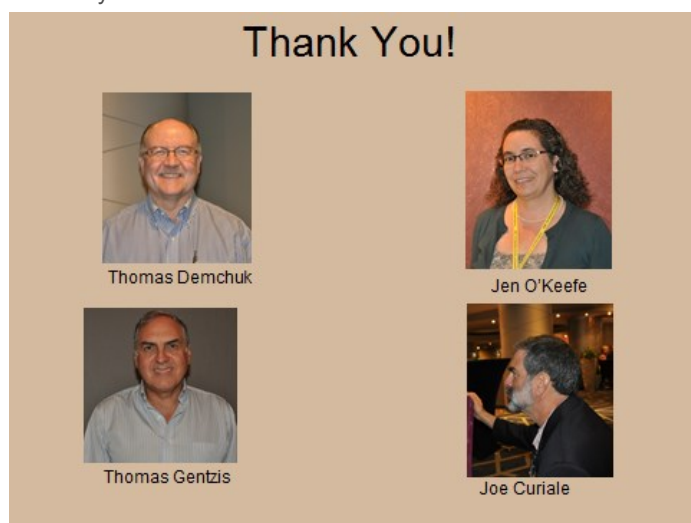




# The 68<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting, Houston, September 18 – 23, 2016

The 68<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting was held in the Magnolia Hotel in Houston, Texas, in conjunction with Meetings of TSOP (The Society for Organic Petrology) and AASP (The Palynological Society) from September 18 – 23, 2016. A one day short course "Integration of microscopy and geochemistry in petroleum source rock evaluation" by Dr. Richard Tyson (Getech, UK) and a pre-meeting field trip with focus on the Eagle Ford Fm. led by Barry Wawak (Core Laboratories, Houston) preceded the meetings. A post-meetings field trip to Cretaceous through Eocene strata of east central concluded the meeting.

We learnt that joint meetings are a special challenge for the organisers and Jen O'Keefe, Thomas Demchuk, Thomas Gentzis and Joe Curiale managed the 'chaos' most efficiently and always with a smile.



The meeting benefitted from generous support of various sponsors.



The ice breaker in the conference hotel and fabulous conference dinner in the Sambuca Café completed the conference experience. And the daily happy hours in the Magnolia Hotel after the meetings promoted the communication between members of the three societies and helped to 're-fuel' the exhausted attendees. Thanks to the organizers and sponsors.

The ICCP Meeting began at 9.30 am with the opening plenary session and ended with the closing plenary session on Friday, September 23 at 1pm. Between the two plenaries the commission meetings and a microscopy session were held, which are

covered by the commission minutes printed in this Newsletter. All commission sessions were very successful and the conveners, chairs and secretaries deserve high praise for their efforts. With attendants of three meetings 'all over the place' it was difficult to determine the number of participating ICCP members, given that many are members in at least two of the three participating organizations and everybody was tempted to join the sessions of the others as well. The best guess is probably somewhat in the mid-twenties..

The joint meeting was held in parallel sessions, although a small adjustment on Monday morning allowed ICCP members to join the TSOP keynote talk: Jarvie: Remembering and Honoring the Life and Times of Two Legends of Organic Petrography: Jack Donald Burgess and Wallace "Wally" Gillmore Dow.

## Plenary Session

The opening plenary session was held on Monday, September 18 from 9.30 am the closing plenary session on Friday, September 23, from 1 pm. The schedule was as follows:

1. Apologies for Non-attendance
2. Minutes of the Potsdam Meeting Meeting
3. Arrangements for Houston Meeting
4. Future Meetings
5. Membership
6. Elections
7. Editor's Report
8. Financial matters
9. ICCP Training Subcommittee
10. ICCP Accreditation Programs
11. Registration and Revision of Statutes
12. Website
13. Short reports from the Commission Meetings
14. Short report from the Council Meeting
15. Archives

All decisions brought forward by council, (see 'Short council minutes' in this Newsletter) were accepted by the general assembly.

## 1. Apologies for non-attendance

Apologies were received from the following members: Jen Pearson (CA), Nikki Wagner (ZA), Jolanta Kus (DE), Sandra Rodrigues (AU), Alan Davis (US), John Crelling (US), Harold Smith (UK), Rosa Menéndez (ES), Diego Álvarez (ES), Javier G. Prado (ES), Dave Pearson (CA), Olga Patricia Gómez López (CO), Manuela Marques (PT), Petra David (DE), Angelika Vieth (DE), Barbara Kwiecinska (PO), Georgeta Predeanu (RO), Paula Gonçalves (PT), Polla Kanaqa (IQ), Carla Araujo (BR), Rich Pearson (CA), Lila Gurba (AU), Joana Ribeiro (PT), Kimon Christanis (GR), Bruno Valentim (PT), Aivars Deepers (AU), Antonis Bouzinos (AU), Malgorzata Piechaczek (PL).

## 2. Minutes of the Potsdam Meeting

The President asked the Plenary Session for confirmation of the minutes of the 67th ICCP Meeting held in Potsdam as published in the ICCP News #63, which was approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

## 3. Arrangements for Houston Meeting

Minimal time adjustments in schedule to allow for attendance of parallel sessions. The arrangements for the microscopy session on Wednesday afternoon have required some expenditures (\$541.25).

## 4. Future Meetings

### 4.1. Meeting in Bucharest Romania, 2017

On behalf of Georgeta Predeanu, the chair of the meeting's organizing committee gave a presentation of the scheduled



meeting and the attractive host city and surroundings were presented. The meeting will be held on September 3 – 8, followed by a one day field trip. [An invitation with details is available on the website, and in this Newsletter..](#)

#### 4.2. Meeting in Brisbane, 2018

No further developments at this early stage.

#### 4.3. Suleymaniye, Iraq, 2019

The present situation prohibits a decision for a meeting in Iraq in 2019 at his point in time. ICCP will reconsider a meeting in Suleymaniye possibly after 2020 next year.

#### 4.4. China, 2020

An invitation has been received from Shifeng Dai to organize an ICCP meeting in China in 2020 and was accepted.

#### 4.5. Delhi, 2022

An invitation has been received from Ashok Singh to organize an ICCP meeting in Delhi in 2022

### 5. Membership

#### Applications for Associate Membership

- ◆ Fahrizan Sahputra (A1) Australia. Introduced in ICCP News #64
- ◆ Riza Gökem Oskay (A1, 2, 3) Turkey. Introduced in ICCP News #64
- ◆ Louise Ponsaing Lauridsen (A1, 2) Denmark. Introduced in ICCP News #65
- ◆ Dimitrios Rallakis, France (A1). Introduced in ICCP News #65
- ◆ Laura Zieger, Germany (A1, 2). Introduced in ICCP News #65
- ◆ Sandra Rocío Manosalva Sánchez (A1, 2, 3) Columbia. Introduced in ICCP News #65
- ◆ Elizabeth Kongari (A3) India. Introduced in ICCP News #65
- ◆ Sangita Biswas (A3) India. Introduced in ICCP News #65
- ◆ Sayantani Ganguly (A1) India. Introduced in ICCP News #65
- ◆ Henrique Severiano de Jesus (A1, 2, 3) Brazil. Introduced in ICCP News #65
- ◆ Solomon Nyathi (A1, 3) USA. To be introduced
- ◆ Magdalena Zielinska (A 2) Poland. To be introduced
- ◆ Olivia Grafka (A1, 2) Poland. To be introduced
- ◆ Eva Geršlová (A 1,2) Czech Republic, To be introduced

#### Applications for Full Membership

- ◆ Malgorzata Piechaczeh, Poland.
- ◆ Ali Ihsan Karayigit, Turkey.
- ◆ George Siavalas

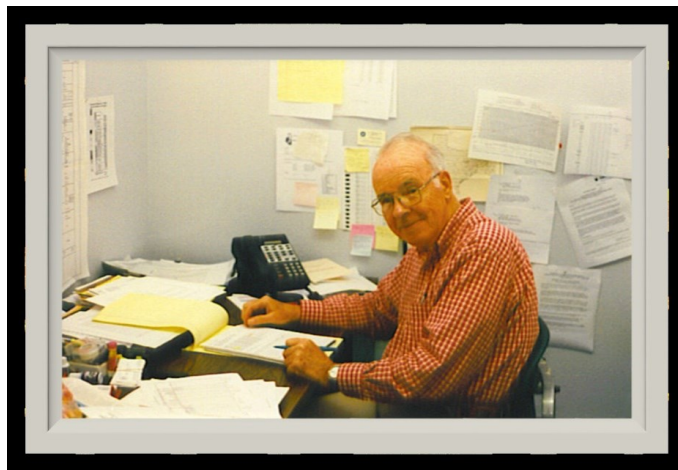
All applicants were accepted and welcomed as new members of the ICCP by the general assembly.

In Jack Burgess the ICCP has sadly lost a long standing member. He will be missed.

No other membership matters have occurred and needed attention.

### 6. Elections

No nominations or elections are required in 2016 – see table in minutes of council meeting.



### 7. Editor's Report

The report of the Editor, Nikki Wagner, was presented on her behalf. The report is published in this Newsletter

### 8. Financial matters

The report of the treasurer, Jen Pearson, was presented on her behalf. The report is published in this Newsletter.

### 9. ICCP Training Subcommittee

A training course on General Organic Petrology has been held in June in Potsdam (6<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> June) By Ageles G. Borrego and Walter Pickel. A report by Peter Crosdale can be found in this Newsletter.

### 10. ICCP Accreditation Programs

The 2016-2017 round has been initiated during the year for the three ICCP accreditation programs. The Chair of the Accreditation Subcommittee and the Organizers of SCAP and DOMVR have provided reports of the activities in their respective programmes. (Refer to Commission I minutes)

### 11. Registration.

Progress has been made with regard to the registration of ICCP in Victoria. However the matter is still a work in progress. (see council minutes).

### 12. ICCP publications ('Handbook')

Council forwarded the proposal to publish chapters from the New Handbook with Elsevier's International Journal of Coal Geology as 'open access publications'. This will cost \$2500 per chapter/publication. It allows the ICCP to make the ICCP classifications and definitions, available to everybody, allowing for a certain unity in the body of knowledge of the ICCP and identifying the publications as ICCP products. This meets the needs of the authors to publish in high impact journals and link the work to the ICCP making it widely available. It allows ICCP to revise text passages and add links to the revisions on the website.

**NOTE: For future publications from ICCP Working Groups:**

- ⇒ **WGs will be publishing the material as established.**
- ⇒ **The name of the ICCP should appear somewhere in the title indicating it is derived from an ICCP WG.**
- ⇒ **The paper is authored by the active participants in the WG.**
- ⇒ **Once it has passed the review process and it is in the process of being printed, instead of signing the copyright transfer ask for a non-exclusive copyright form.**

## 12. Website

Stavros Kalaitzidis has been the contact person for developing improvements in the Webpage. A system has been implemented to have the chance of sending e-mails to the membership. The expenditure of €225 was approved by council after consultation via e-mail.

The complete 'Old Handbook' is now available on the ICCP web-site thanks to scanning by Peter Crosdale, Petra David, Jolanta Kus, and Stavros Kalaitzidis.

With regards to an updated membership directory a safe (only accessible by members) directory is being considered.

## 13. Reports from the Commission Meetings

Reports from the three commissions and their work were heard at the Houston meeting. The reports are found in this Newsletter.

## 14. Short report from the Council Meeting

See minutes of the council meeting.

## 15. Archives

Alan Davis has sent a number of his personal correspondence with some of the founding members of the ICCP for the Archives. He has been thanked for this generous contribution. Deolinda Flores has written a report on the status of the Archives.

**Many thanks again to the wonderful organisers of this meeting for a successful and very interesting meeting..**

Walter Pickel

# Meeting Field trips and

## Short-course.

Thanks to Isabel and Angeles, who each attended one of the field trips and provided us with their summaries.

## Friday-Sunday Pre-Meeting Field Trip to West Texas (by Isabel Suarez Ruiz)

This pre-meeting field trip occurred from Friday (September 16<sup>th</sup>) to Sunday (September 18<sup>th</sup>) and led by Barry Wawak (Manager of Reservoir Geology of the Core Laboratories in Houston). A total of 10 participants from different countries such as Czech Republic, Russia, Serbia, Spain and US visited the Boquillas Formation (Eagle Ford formation) and associated strata in road cuts along the U.S. Highway 90, in Northwest of Del Rio in Texas. The Eagle Ford formation is one of the most prolific petroleum resources in US. Being both a source rock for oil and gas in conventional reservoirs, as well as an unconventional reservoir that produces oil, gas, condensate and natural gas liquids (NGLs), this Formation is a world-class source-rock reservoir resource in the subsurface of south Texas. The accompanying strata have been researched extensively in stratigraphic, geochemical and biostratigraphic studies.

In West Texas, the Eagle Ford is represented by the Boquillas Formation and in a series of various stops from Del Rio to Langtry to Del Rio we visited the three members of the Boquillas Fm. as well as the underlying Buda and Del Rio, and the overlying Atco Chalk Formations. We enjoyed a great abundance of very well exposed sedimentary features, diverse fossil fauna and other characteristics in these Formations. During this field trip we also enjoyed the almost totally flat landscape of

this part of Texas only cut by river Canyons such as the Pecos River Canyon. It was a nice field trip.

## Saturday Post-Meeting Field Trip (by Angeles G. Borrego)

The post-meeting field trip took place on Saturday after a busy week with the TSOP-AASP-ICCP technical sessions. The excursion focused on the Paleocene-Eocene Stratigraphy and Paleontology of East-Central Texas Wilcox Group-Claiborne Group-Jackson Group. We initiated the trip early in the morning and stopped at four locations to examine and discuss the depositional environment and stratigraphic relationships in sediments that can be considered as reservoir analogs and as potential equivalents for subsurface units.

The four localities visited were all essentially marine deposits: starting with distal shelf parasequences (lower Riverside Fm., Stop 1), grading into more proximal muddy to sandy tidal flats (upper Riverside Fm., Stop 2), and continuing with the sediments of the tidal delta system forming the Carrizo Fm. The third stop allowed us to observe a shallow marine unit of glauconitic, fossiliferous sandstone, interbedded with marine siltstones. Finally, at lake Somerville spillway, we saw shallow shelf marine parasequences typically capped by lignite. The thin parasequences containing the lignites are related to low accommodation space in a passively subsiding shelf, in which the proximal areas of the delta lobes became vegetated.

We had the chance to observe the lignites in detail and also the branches and small trunks included in the siltstone. *Cruziana* Ichnofacies and amazing sedimentary features were also observed in the various stops.

We had lunch at Neighbors restaurant and dinner at BT Longhorn Saloon where we enjoyed delicious food and a friendly atmosphere. We are particularly in debt with Chris Denison and Jen O'Keefe who guided a perfectly organized excursion, amazing for palynologists and coal petrographers and with a very informative guidebook.

## Short Course, Richard Tyson "Integration of microscopy and geochemistry in petroleum source rock evaluation"

The short course was a perfect opener for the joint meeting, Richard Tyson guided the participants through the chapters: *Introduction, Kerogen type, Organic facies and organofacies, S2 v. TOC plots, Amorphous Organic Matter, Orange AOM, Correlations between microscopy HI & H/C, Fluorescence, Weighting of optical data, Estimation of initial HI, Ternary diagrams* with elegance in a very entertaining and informative way. For us old folk in the audience, who had had a chance to read his 'bible' when it was published it was a great refresher and update on what had happened since and for everybody in attendance the combination of microscopical and geochemical methods and data in the presentation were certainly worthwhile to listen to. It was a most pleasantly spent Saturday. Thanks to Richard for the presentation and to the organisers for making this event possible.



Walter celebrates at the ICCP Houston meeting.



# Short Minutes of the ICCP Council Meeting, Houston, September 2016

Members of Council present, Angeles G. Borrego, President, Walter Pickel, General Secretary, Peter Crosdale, Vice-President, Deolinda Flores, Chair Commission I, Stavros Kalaitzidis, Secretary Commission I, Paul Hackley, Chair Commission II, Magdalena-Misz-Kennan, Chair Commission III, Jennifer Pearson, Treasurer, Nikki Wagner, Editor, Jolanta Kus, Secretary of Commission II, and Sandra Rodrigues, Secretary of Commission III have sent their apologies.

## 1. Apologies

See list in Minutes of General Assembly.

## 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

*Resolution ICCPC16/2/1. Council approves the Council minutes as circulated.*

The minutes of the Plenary Sessions were published in the ICCP Newsletter # 63.

*Resolution ICCPC16/2/2. Council approves the Plenary Session minutes as printed in the ICCP Newsletter.*

## 3. Arrangements for the Houston meeting

The arrangements for the microscopy session (renting a microscope) on Wednesday afternoon have required some expenditures (\$541.25). The costs estimates was circulated to Council and approved.

## 4. Future meetings

### 4.1. Meeting in Bucharest Romania, 2017

The organizers of the Bucharest Meeting in Romania have been contacted to provide a further update of the meeting.

### 4.2 . Meeting in Brisbane, 2018

No further developments at this early stage.

### 4.3. Meeting in Suleymaniye, Iraq, 2019

A decision will be delayed to 2017 due to the political situation in the area.

### 4.4. Invitation to future meetings

An invitation has been received from Shifeng Dai to organize an ICCP meeting in Xuzhou in 2020. It is understood that this will be a joint back-to-back meeting with TSOP. ICCP will request the availability of microscope equipment suitable for a

microscope sesión.

*Resolution ICCPC16/4/1. Council thanks the organizers for invitation and approves the organization of the 2020 Meeting in China.*

An invitation has been received from Ashok Singh to organize an ICCP meeting in Delhi in 2022

*Resolution ICCPC16/4/2. Council forwards to the General Assembly the approval to hold the 2022 Meeting in Delhi, India and thanks the organizers for the invitation.*

## 5. Awards

### 5.1. Thiessen Medal Award Committee

No nominations were accepted this year.

### 5.2. Organic Petrology Award.

No nominations have been received.

## 6. ICCP Student Grant

Applications were circulated to Council for approval of Grant Sub-committee's decision.

The ICCP Grant Committee proposed the 2016 ICCP Grant to be granted to Mr. Ndivhuho Nendouhoda (1000 €) and Ms. Maseda Mphaphuli (500 €) both of the University of Johannesburg (South Africa).

*Resolution ICCPC16/6/1. Council congratulates the student grant sub-committee for the activities and supports sub-committee decision.*

*Resolution ICCPC16/6/2. Council congratulates the students: Mr. Ndivhuho Nendouhoda and Ms. Maseda Mphaphuli for being awarded with the students travel grant to attend ICCP-courses*

## 7. Elections

The current members of Council and their dates of elections are listed in the table below. No nominations are required for 2016

## 8. Membership

### 8.1 New membership

For a list of new members, see report of General Assembly in this Newsletter.

*Resolution ICCPC16/8/1. Council voted in favor of the applications and will forward them to the Plenary Session for approval.*

### 8.2 Honorary Membership

No nominations for Honorary membership were received during the year.

OFFICE	Yr Elected	First meeting in office	Y2	Y3	Y4	Yr to call nominations
President	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2018
V-Pres	2014	2015(2014 acting)	2016	2017	2018	2017
Gen Sec	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2018
Hon Treas*	2007, 2011,2014	2008,2012 2015	2016	2017	2018	2017*
Editor*	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2018*
Ch Com I	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2019
Sec Com I	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2019
Ch Com II	2011,2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2017
Sec Com II	2011,2015	2013, 2017 (2012 acting)	2018	2019	2020	2019
Ch Com III	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2018
Sec Com III	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2019

\* For these officers different rules of terms of office apply.  
No nominations are required 2016.

### 8.3 Resignations

No resignations had been received at the time of the Houston Meeting.

### 8.4 Membership directory 2016

The last updated directory was produced in July 2008 and distributed in August 2008. It was discussed how to produce an updated version and how to make it available to members..

*Resolution ICCPC16/8/3. Council renews its request that the new directory be posted on a secure area of the website now that appropriate access codes for this area are available.*

### 8.5 Other membership matters

During the year ICCP has lost one long standing ICCP member, Jack Donald Burgess. An article in memoriam of Jack was published in the ICCP News. A letter of condolences was sent to his family.

## 9. Financial matters

### 9.1. Treasurers Report 2015-2016

The report is published in this Newsletter.

*Resolution ICCPC16/9/1. Council*

- i) receives the report presented by the Honorary Treasurer*
- ii) agrees that the report represents a fair statement of the financial affairs of the ICCP and congratulates the Honorary Treasurer on the report.*

## 10. Editor

The Editor's report is published in this Newsletter.

*Resolution ICCPC16/10/1. Council receives the report of the Editor and congratulates her on the presentation of the Newsletter.*

*Resolution ICCPC16/10/2. Council approves spending by the editor in accordance with the budget estimates given in the Editors Report*

## 11. Accreditation Program

### 11.1. Accreditation Round 2016-2017

During the year Interrelate Lda has developed an excel sheet to evaluate the SCAP and DOMVR data. This involved intensive communication between the conveners, and Deolinda Flores as past chair of the Accreditation Subcommittee and the company.

*Resolution ICCPC16/11/1 Council acknowledges the great advance that the excel database represents for the evaluation of the three ICCP Accreditation Programmes and thanks Deolinda Flores, the Organizers of the ICCP Accreditation Programmes and Interrelate Lda for their work*

*Resolution ICCPC16/11/2 Council receives Deolinda Flores's report on the Excel Database developments and congratulates her on the report.*

The 2016-2017 round has been initiated during the year for the three ICCP accreditation programs. The Chair of the Accreditation Subcommittee and the Organizer of DOMVR have provided reports of the activities in accreditation which published in this Newsletter

*Resolution ICCPC16/11/3 Council receives the report of the Chair of the Accreditation Sub-Committee and the Organizer of the DOMVR and congratulates them on the report. Council thanks the Organizers of the three ICCP Accreditation Program for their tremendous work and the Accreditation Sub-Committee for its support.*

## 12. ICCP training activities

### 12.1. 2016 training course

A training course on General Organic Petrology took place in June in Potsdam (June 6<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup>). The report by the Vice-President is published in this Newsletter

*Resolution ICCPC16/12/1. Council notes the large involvement of Andreas Küppers and Anjie Treutler as organizers, Petra David for supporting the organizers and the ICCP Vice-President, responsible for overseeing the training activities and the organization of the training course on Organic Petrology and congratulates them for their work. Council notes the enormous amount of work involved in teaching the intensive ICCP course and expresses that ICCP is deeply in debt with Dr. Walter Pickel and Dr. Angeles G. Borrego for having accepted this challenge.*

*Resolution ICCPC16/12/2. Council receives the report of the ICCP Vice-President on the ICCP training activities and congratulates him for the report.*

### 12.2. Future training courses approved

2017 Training Course Dispersed Organic Matter: June 2017 Joao Graciano Mendonca Filho & Angeles G. Borrego (5 days) 26-30 June Potsdam, Germany.

2018 Training Course Organic Petrology, 2018, Stavros Kalaitzidis & Walter Pickel,

## 13. Website

Stavros has been the contact person for developing improvements in the Webpage. A system has been implemented to have the chance of sending e-mails to the membership. The expenditure of €225 was approved by council after consultation via e-mail. Complaints have been received about the server speed or time to download documents

*Resolution ICCPC16/13/1. Council notes the involvement of Stavros Kalaitzidis in the development of the ICCP webpage and thanks him and Silk Tech for the improvements.*

## 14. Handbook

### 14.1 Old Handbook

Following last year's decision to make the Old Handbook available on the ICCP webpage it is now available from the ICCP web-site.

*Resolution ICCPC16/14/1. Council acknowledges the contribution of Peter Crosdale, Petra David, Jolanta Kus, and Stavros Kalaitzidis for providing scanned versions to be downloaded of the old ICCP handbook and thanks them for the work involved.*

### 14.2 New Handbook

*Resolution 15/14/1. Council requests approval from the General Assembly to decide on a way to publish ICCP definitions, classifications and results from the working groups that enables ICCP to keep rights on intellectual property.*

Proposal from Council:

Publish parts of the Handbook in the International Journal of Coal Geology as 'open access' publication with the names of the contributing authors followed by the name of the ICCP as author. This will cost \$2500 per chapter/publication. This allows ICCP to make available for everybody the ICCP classifications and definitions, allows to keep a certain unity in the body of knowledge of the ICCP and identify them as an ICCP products. This meets the needs of the authors to publish in high impact journals and link the work to the ICCP making it widely available. It allows ICCP to revise text passages and add links to the revisions on the website.



#### 14.3. Publications from ICCP Working Groups.

WGs will be publishing the material as established.

The name of the ICCP should appear somewhere in the title indicating is derived from an ICCP WG

The paper is authored by the active participants in the WG

Once it has passed the review process and it is in the process of being printed, instead of signing the copyright transfer ask for a non-exclusive copyright form

#### 15. Registration of ICCP

Jen Pearson has made progress during the year regarding the Registration of the ICCP. A draft document of constitution has been set up by a lawyer. It has to be evaluated, how this document, which is rather a document of constitution for a company can be changed to match the purpose of ICCP.

#### 16. Revision of the Statutes

Pending progress in the registration process no further pro-

gress has been made.

#### 17. Relations with TSOP

Relations with TSOP was strengthened this year with the joint organization of the 2016 Meeting in Houston.

#### 18. Archives

Alan Davis has sent a number of his personal correspondence with some of the founding members of the ICCP for the Archives. He has been thanked for this generous contribution. Deolinda Flores has written a report on the status of the Archives.

#### 19. Feedback from members

None.

#### 20. Other business

None.

CLOSE



**Deolinda receives a gift in recognition of her 16 years of service to Commission I, - 2 terms as secretary and 2 terms as chair**

## THE 69<sup>TH</sup> ICCP ANNUAL MEETING

3 – 9 SEPTEMBER 2017, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

Romanian Academy, University "Politehnica" of Bucharest, and University of Bucharest are proud to invite you in Bucharest - the capital of Romania, to the 2017 ICCP Annual Meeting.

### Meeting Venue

Romanian Academy Library

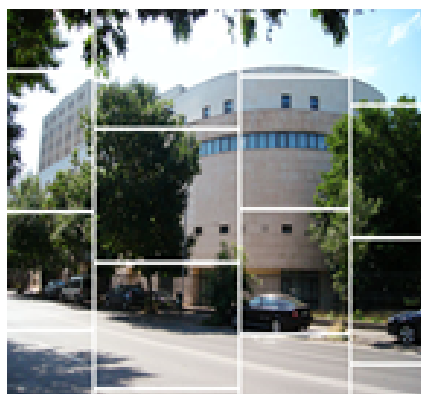
United Nations depository library in Romania

Caldea Victoriei 125, Sector 1, Bucharest

[http://www.biblicad.ro/enq\\_index.html](http://www.biblicad.ro/enq_index.html)



MINISTERUL EDUCAȚIEI NAȚIONALE  
ȘI CERCETĂRII ȘTIINȚIFICE



Under the auspices of National Authority for Scientific Research and Innovation of Romania, the three host organizations are the highly prestigious and the most emblematic for scientific and cultural national, European and international community. The Organizing Committee, Chaired by Dr. Georgeta Predeanu is proposing you:

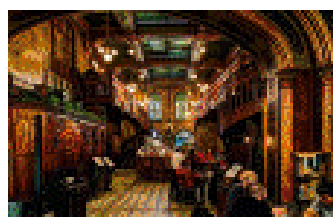
- ❖ Scheduled meetings into the Romanian Academy Library;
- ❖ Field trip to significant geological targets of Southeast Carpathians, and
- ❖ Many suggestions for visits in association with the Meeting that certainly gifts you in a sensitive touch by Romanian spirit, culture, music, food&wine. All you can enjoy!



Geological Museum, <http://www.geology.ro/>



Village Museum, <http://www.muzeul-satului.ro/en/>



"Caru' cu bere" traditional restaurant in old city central area

### Suggestions for visits in association with the meeting



Romanian Athenaeum and Romanian Opera for  
"George Enescu" - International Festival during 2-24 September 2017  
<http://festivalenescu.ro/en/>



"Sîrbel Palace" historic attractions dating the times of Wallachian princes and cumulating a wide lawn, a church, a chapel, a summer pavilion, a park, a water tower and even a lake.



"Snagov" monastery and island - geographical wonders belts with Romanian legend of Dracula in a real spiritual frame.

You may find the 1st Announcement of the ICCP meeting 2017, Bucharest, after November 2016, on [www.iccp.org](http://www.iccp.org)



## Report on the 2016 Joint Meeting: TSOP-AASP-ICCP

Over 170 attendees participated in the five day historic joint meeting of these three societies (16-24 September 2016). The venue for this meeting was The Magnolia Hotel in downtown Houston. The meeting organizers included Dr. Thomas Gentzis (Core Laboratories, Houston), Dr. Jen O'Keefe (Morehead University, Kentucky), Dr. Joe Curiale (Consultant, Houston) and Dr. Thomas Demchuk (RPS, Houston). This is the first time these three specialty geology and botany societies gathered together to discuss various aspects of palynology, organic petrography and organic geochemistry.

The meeting started on the Friday prior to the technical sessions with a 2+ day fieldtrip to the Eagle Ford Formation outcrops of west Texas. The Eagle Ford is a world-class unconventional/source-rock reservoir play in south-central Texas. The fieldtrip was organized and led by Barry Wawak and Thomas Gentzis. Twelve people took part in the fieldtrip. Saturday prior to the formal start of the meeting was a full-day Short Course by Dr. Richard Tyson (Getech, UK): the course was entitled, "Integration of Microscopy and Geochemistry in Petroleum Source Rock Evaluation". Almost 60 scientists attended the course that was held in classroom fashion at the Hotel. The following Sunday was a full day of registrations, and Board Meetings for both ICCP and TSOP.

The five-days of technical sessions were divided into several Theme Sessions and Symposia for TSOP and AASP, as well as concurrent research sessions for ICCP and their Working Groups. Several high-profile invited Keynote Speakers started each of the technical sessions. The highlight of the week was a full-day Symposium on Wednesday entitled, "Multi-modal Characterization of Source Rocks, including Source-Rock Reservoirs". Throughout the week, session topics revolved around the integration of palynology, organic petrography, organic geochemistry and other aspects of sedimentology and stratigraphy. During the course of the week, 129 abstract submissions resulted in a full schedule of extremely high-quality oral and poster presentations.

To facilitate discussion around the poster sessions, Happy Hours were held on both the Tuesday and Thursday. Beverages and finger food were provided to promote activity and talk around the posters. The Icebreaker was held on the Monday with discussions and renewed friendships continuing well into the late evening hours. A Conference Dinner was held on the Wednesday evening at the nearby Sambuca Restaurant, a venue in revitalized downtown area known for its excellent live music scene. Along with dinner, awards were presented for the TSOP Best Student Paper, and AASP-TPS presented awards to distinguished members. The Friday brought the end of the

technical sessions, as well as the Incoming Board Meeting for AASP-TPS and the final closing remarks from ICCP.

Over the course of the meeting and at the Business Luncheons, several awards were presented recognizing significant contributions to the sciences of organic petrography and palynology. At the TSOP Business Luncheon on Tuesday, the John Castano Award was presented to Dr. Joe Curiale for his service and dedication to TSOP and to the sciences of organic petrography and geochemistry. Fifty people participated in the luncheon to honor Joe, to enjoy the festivities, and to hear about the upcoming meeting to be held in Calgary next year. The AASP-TPS Business Luncheon on Friday allowed for the recognition of several in the palynology scientific community. The Medal for Excellence in Teaching was presented to Dr. Vaughn Bryant, the Medal for Scientific Excellence was presented to Dr. Geoff Clayton, AASP-TPS Honorary Membership was presented to Dr. Norm Norton, and Distinguished Service Awards were presented to both Dr. Jim Riding and Dr. Fred Rich (who received his award earlier at the Conference Dinner). All of these recipients were more than worthy of these awards and achievements for their contributions to the society and science.

Student awards were also given out through the course of the meeting. The TSOP Best Student Paper Award was presented to Dane Synott (U. of Calgary) for his presentation, "The effect of bacterial degradation on bituminite reflectance" and the TSOP Best Student Poster Award was given to L. P. Lauridsen (Greenland Geological Survey) for her poster entitled, "The Upper Jurassic source rock potential in the Danish central graben". The AASP-TPS L.R. Wilson Best Student Paper was given to Vera Korasidis (U. of Melbourne) for her presentation, "Cyclic floral succession and fire in a Cenozoic wetland/peatland system".

Saturday saw over 30 participants enjoy the post-meeting fieldtrip to the Paleocene-Eocene outcrops of southwest Texas. The fieldtrip was led by Dr. Chris Denison and Dr. Jen O'Keefe, and investigated these significant outcrops whose time-correlative strata are important exploration targets in the deep-water Gulf of Mexico.

The Organizers would like to thank all who participated in the meeting, either through the submission of an abstract, or simply by being part of the overall experience renewing friendships and participating in the scientific discussions. The meeting was a great technical and financial success, well beyond the expectations of the Organizers. We look forward to seeing everyone at the 2017 meetings for TSOP in Calgary (Canada), AASP-TPS in Nottingham (UK) or ICCP in Bucharest (Romania).

By Thomas Demchuk



**Far left:**  
Thomas Gentzis, local organizing committee member.  
**Left:**  
Jen O'Keefe, local organizing committee member.

# ICCP Training Course Program 2015 – 2016

**Dr Peter Crosdale, ICCP Vice-President**

Two courses were held during 2015 – 2016: (1) 8<sup>th</sup> ICCP Course: Organic Petrology for Industrial Applications, September 1 - 4, 2015 and ; (2) 9<sup>th</sup> ICCP Course: Organic Petrology, June 6 - 10, 2016. Both were held at the GFZ in Potsdam, Germany. Trainers for Industrial Applications were Dr Walter Pickel and Dr Isabel Sáurez-Ruiz, while those for General Organic Petrology were Dr Ángeles G. Borrego and Dr Walter Pickel. The GFZ in Potsdam is now a semi-permanent home for ICCP Training Courses with courses to be offered there in most years

This was the first time that the course in industrial applications had been held, with strong interest in it being indicated from course questionnaires and ICCP members. However, attendance was only modest with a total of 6 participants, of which 1 was from industry and 5 were students. Despite these low numbers, the course content and delivery was well received with very high participant feedback scores in all categories. The ICCP Grant Committee proposed that student travel grants be awarded to Ms. Malgorzata Justyna Uglik from the University of Wrocław, Poland and Munira Raji Durham University, Durham, UK. The decision was taken to split the grant given that both awardees were from Europe and travel costs would be modest. However at the last moment Raji was unable to attend and Council agreed to roll over the value of the award to the following course. Even though attendance was not strong in the first instance, this course will be continued to be offered as its value is deemed to be high.

Course attendance at the 9<sup>th</sup> ICCP Course: Organic Petrology was also modest compared to previous years with a total of 11 participants, 8 of whom were students and 3 from government. This course also extremely well received with very high participant feedback scores in all categories. A constant problem with this course has been the difficulty in providing practical microscope sessions. For the first time the Fossil Student system of Carl Hilgers was implemented and was met with great success. This is a computer based system using real images acquired from Hilgers Fossil system and allows both point counting and reflectance determinations to be made on

the images. The ICCP Grant Committee proposed that student travel grants be awarded to Mr. Ndivhuho Nendouvhada and to Ms Maseda Mphaphuli, both from the University of Johannesburg, South Africa. This was possible as one of the grants awarded for the previous course was not taken up.

Financially, both courses ran at losses. The 8<sup>th</sup> course lost €4637 and the 9<sup>th</sup> course lost €3483. These losses are largely attributed to the lack of participants from industry and the strong focus on providing affordable training to students.

Future training courses that have been agreed upon are:

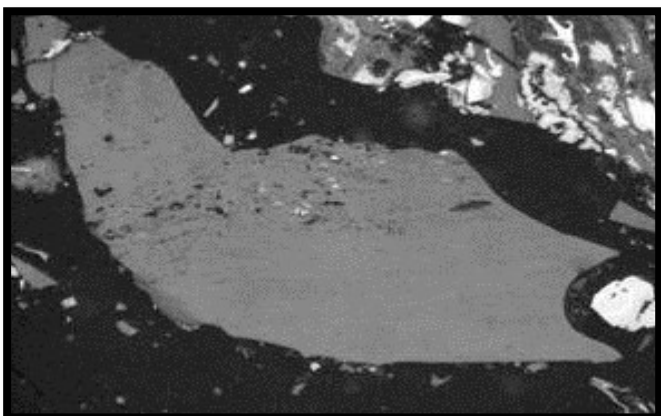
2017 Training Course in Potsdam: 26 – 30th June 2017 with the topic of Dispersed Organic Matter; Trainers to be Dr João Graciano Mendonça Filho and Dr Ángeles G. Borrego

2018 Training Course in Brisbane attached to the meeting: a 5 day course to be held in September with the topic of General Coal Petrology; Trainers to be Dr Walter Pickel and Dr Stavros Kalaitzidis

2019 Training Course in Potsdam: a 5 day course to be held in June with the topic of Industrial Applications; Trainers to be Dr Walter Pickel and Dr Isabel Sáurez-Ruiz

Strong support for the courses is given both logistically and financially in-kind by a number of persons and organisations. Their assistance is gratefully acknowledged:

**Organization: Dr Andreas N. Küppers and Antje Treutler**  
**Instructors and development and delivery of material:**  
**Dr Isabel Suárez-Ruiz (Spain) & Dr Walter Pickel (Australia)**  
**Dr Ángeles G. Borrego (Spain) & Dr Walter Pickel (Australia)**  
**German Research Centre for Geosciences – GFZ**  
**R+M Teichmüller Foundation**  
**Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geowissenschaften - DGG**  
**Carl & Britta Hilgers (microscopes and other significant sponsorship including dinner and students)**  
**Financial matters: Jennifer Pearson**  
**Student Travel Grants: Stavros Kalaitzidis**



**Another photo in the series:**

**Petrography feeds the imagination.**

**Supplied by Walter Pickel.**

**PLEASE ALL CONTINUE TO SUBMIT  
IMAGES TO THE EDITOR**



# Treasurer's Report

## August 1 2015 – July 31 2016

It has been a busy year for the ICCP; a new round for the accreditation program, a training course in June at Potsdam, and all the usual administrative chores that have to be dealt with. You may recall that last year the ICCP collected all money for the meeting held at Potsdam and then passed it on to the President, who dealt with all the costs of running the meeting. Because of the large sum of money involved in this process it is difficult to compare the totals of the last three years.

The Activity Statement (opposite page) receipts during 2015/2016 include membership fees €4,218.19; sales of publications €99.71; fees collected for the SCAP (6,068.80), CBAP (3,166.53) and DOMVR (2,794.94) programs came to a total of €12,030.27. This is down from the previous program by about €1,380. Interest in our savings account is €182.62. As always, many thanks go to Dr. Geoff Taylor for donating the royalties from his book, a total of €90.99. Some late registrations collected for the meeting at Potsdam, and fees for the seventh training course at Potsdam were €4,100.

Expenses include €2,500.42 for bank and credit card charges; administration costs were €273.51; travel grants

€1,500; €6,537.59 for the development of software for the SCAP program; and €379.76 for web page management. Our previous editor submitted a claim for newsletter costs for three years, so added to this year's newsletter the cost comes to a total of €3,911.68; €836.58 expenses for SCAP and €237.45 expenses for DOMVR; working group costs €538; the training course cost a total of €7,583.47, so we made a loss on the June 2016 course of €3,483.47. Other costs were for the ICCP Meeting at Potsdam and a loss in exchange rates.

The Balance below sheet shows the final balance of all accounts compared with those of the previous year. Almost all of the money is held in Canadian dollars, but on the balance sheet everything is converted to Euros using the closing rate of July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016. Slight discrepancies in the totals on the financial statements and those listed above are due to the fact that at the time of the transaction the exchange rate was different to that at the year-end.

Unfortunately we made a loss this year, caused by an unusual set of circumstances, beginning with income for the Potsdam meeting occurring in the prior financial year, but the costs occurring in this fiscal year. As well, two extraordinary expenses are recorded this year, which are the accreditation software development, and repayment of the previous Editor's expenses for the prior three years. But, overall, the ICCP continues to have a healthy balance.

## Finance: balance sheet 2016

Assets & Liabilities	July 2015	July 2016
<b><u>Canadian Account</u></b>		
Chequing Account	\$ 80,023.43	\$70,610.98
Savings Account	53,206.33	53,472.36
Cash	309.65	234.35
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$133,539.41</b>	<b>\$124,317.69</b>
 Exchange rate at year end	 \$1 = €0.6950 =€92,809.89	 \$1 = €0.6865 =€85,344.09
<b><u>Euro Account</u></b>		
Cash	890.52	572.20
SCAP Float	1,727.73	963.65
General Secretary	0	155.23
President – for Potsdam Meeting	20,455.06	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>€23,073.31</b>	<b>€1,691.08</b>
 <b>Total Balance in Euros</b>	 <b>€115,883.20</b>	 <b>€87,035.17</b>

# ICCP

Activity Statement as of July 31, 2016 in Euros.

**Opening Balance –**  
**July 31/2015**

Canadian Accounts	€91674.80
Euro Accounts	<u>€23,073.31</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€114,748.11</b>

**Receipts:**

Membership Dues	€2,002.58
Prepaid Membership	€2,215.61
Sales	€99.71

**Accreditation -**

SCAP	€6,068.80
DOMVR	€2,794.94
CBAP	€3,166.53

Bank Interest Received	€182.62
Donation	€90.99
ICCP Meeting at Potsdam	€6,454.96
Training Course 2016	€3742.36
Miscellaneous	<u>€111.88</u>

**TOTAL RECEIPTS** **€26,930.98**

**BALANCE** **€141,679.09**

**Expenses:**

Bank Charges	€940.72
Credit Card Charges	€1,559.70
Administration	€273.51
Travel Grants for 2016 Course	€1,530.11
SCAP Software Development	€6,537.59
Web site Management	€379.76
Newsletter Costs	€3,911.68
Accreditation: SCAP	€836.58
DOMVR	€237.45
Working Group Costs	€538.00
Training Course – June 2016	€7,644.28
ICCP meeting at Potsdam	€30,047.79
Loss on Exchange	<u>€206.75</u>

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **€54,643.92**

**FINAL BALANCE** **€87,035.17**



**Left :**

Stavros shows his immense appreciation of the ICCP meeting. Magda and Dragana share his enthusiasm.



# Minutes of ICCP Commission III Industrial Applications of Coal Petrology

68<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting, Houston, September 20, 2016

**Chair person:** Magdalena Misz-Kennan

mail to: [magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl](mailto:magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl)

**Secretary (acting):** George Siavalas

mail to: [georgios.siavalas@shell.com](mailto:georgios.siavalas@shell.com)

## Tuesday – 20<sup>th</sup> September: 08:00-08:15 – Opening Address

Commission III meeting was attended by 22 participants. Magdalena Misz-Kennan acknowledged the former Chair of Commission III, Isabel Suárez-Ruiz, for her contribution to the activities of this Commission. The Chair also presented the objectives of Commission III, the schedule for the 2016 Commission Meeting, the active Working Groups, active Working Groups with not much activity, and closed Working Groups.

## 08:15-08:45 – Identification and Petrographic Classification of Components in Fly Ashes

Isabel Suárez-Ruiz presented progress on the activities of the WG. The convener reported that the WG is closing its activities this year. This year's objectives were (1) to upload the approved and completed Atlas into the ICCP website, which was achieved by the end of 2015; and (2) to write and submit a paper to a peer-reviewed journal. The convener reported that the paper is written and presented its layout. The list of authors contains all participants in the WG's exercises and the paper itself contains 21 pages of text, 8 figures, and 8 tables. It is expected to be submitted within 2 months, after it is reviewed by all co-authors and English is revised. The convener addressed a question whether ICCP statistic system should be included in this paper. Angeles Gomez Borrego mentioned that ICCP statistics could not be applied in a dataset like this. Isabel also expressed concerns that ICCP might lose the Atlas' copyright after the publication of the paper. It was proposed to put the Atlas in the "publications" site of the ICCP with a reference to the WG. The Convener agreed with this proposal.

Peter Crosdale expressed concerns that all corporate memory might be lost after the WG concludes its activities. Magdalena Misz-Kennan proposed to extend the activities of the WG with a Round Robin Exercise to test the Classification. The Convener agreed and it was decided that pellets will be distributed to the participants in this exercise to mitigate bias due to different preparation techniques among the analysts. The interested members were invited to sign a list of participants.

## 08:45-09:20 – Carbon Materials WG

Isabel Suárez-Ruiz presented the report of this working group on behalf of Georgeta Predeanu. The report included presentation of WG objectives, past activities (2009-2013) and of the 2016 exercise that was based on sample images from carbon materials from Romania and Spain. Samples included activated carbons produced from a low rank (lignite, xylite) and a high rank (semi-anthracite) coal, respectively. Detailed petrographic composition and activation steps for these two coals were presented.

Participants were asked to identify the optical texture of raw coals and chars (precursors), to evaluate the morphological differences (including shape, size, anisotropy, pore size) and origin of optical texture and porosity development in char and activated carbon. The exercise included 30 photomicrographs including 31 fields to be evaluated according to the criteria mentioned above and report the results to the conveners in Excel spreadsheets. Twelve participants completed the exercise but eventually 11 responses were evaluated due to one late submission.

The analysts' responses were evaluated applying the "level of overall agreement" (LOA) approach. This considers both the correct answers identified (positive identification), the lack of

response - but identified and not marked (negative identification), and incorrect responses (disagreement). The results showed an average LOA of 92% for the whole exercise, 95% LOA for the char particles, and 95% LOA for the activated carbons. Concerning the individual characteristics that were evaluated, LOAs for a) particle/surface origin ranged between 96-98%; b) optical texture ranged between 83-91%; c) morphology range between 77-86%; and d) optical shape/size ranged between 95-98%. These LOAs are very high, as even the lowest recorded LOA (77%) can still be considered high.

Conclusions from this exercise were that the objective of the WG are successfully fulfilled, the statistical method used gives a novel and original approach for the evaluation of results, the analysts' level of overall agreement is very high, and the results are satisfactory. People were asked for providing samples of various carbon materials to be used in future exercises in this WG. Isabel Suárez-Ruiz stated that she can provide different types of carbon materials to the WG.

Angeles Gomez Borrego commented that it is hard to apply this classification to other carbon forms because it is designed only for coke-like materials. Isabel replied that it is also meant for other carbon materials, however expressed a concern over how "porous" is porous and that it should be more clearly defined.

## 09:20-09:40 – Optimization of Reflectance Measurements on Complex Coal Blends

Ashok Singh presented a proposed action plan for the optimization of maximum and random reflectance measurements on vitrinite in complex blends. The proposal included reflectance measurements and maceral analysis of 5 individual coals, mixing of the coal samples to prepare at least 10 different blends and distribute these samples to participants to perform a round robin reflectance measurement exercise. The aim of this exercise is to bring down the required number of measurements from a 1000 to a number between 100-250.

Walter Pickel disputed the Convener's statement that according to ISO-7404 there is a need to acquire at least a 1000 measurements for coal of 0.80%Ro or higher. Magdalena Misz-Kennan asked Isabel Suárez-Ruiz, as the convener of Coal Blend Accreditation Programme, to comment on the planned exercise. Isabel agreed with Walter's statement. She also addressed two key points including 1) the need to define reactive macerals (what they are and which macerals are reactive), and 2) that there was an active WG within ICCP on reactive macerals. Magdalena Misz-Kennan suggested that 5 different blends instead of 10 should be used in the first round of this exercise. It was finally agreed that the numbers of samples should be limited to 3-4 and these would be distributed to participants by March 2017. Interested members were invited to sign in a list of participants.

## 10:15-11:00 – Self-Heating of coal and coal wastes WG

Magdalena Misz-Kennan (convener) presented the report on this working group for this year, reminding the objectives of the WG, past activities, and presenting the objectives of 2016 exercise. This last exercise was designed to test the newly established and modified classification of transformed organic matter in coal wastes and compare the results with the previous exercise that was based on the same microphotographs. Thirty photomicrographs were distributed to 14 participants that were asked to characterize each particle basing on a newly proposed 6-level classification scheme designed after the refinement of previous schemes based on the results of past exercises. Examples of good and poor agreement were shown by the convener and discussed among the members of Commission III.

The convener focused on comments by individual participants. Most of the participants found the new classification to be simpler. Key comments included if the isotropic/anisotropic distinction should be replaced by homogeneous/heterogeneous. The convener proposed to leave this distinction as it is solved on the base of reflectance and Commission III agreed with this suggestion. Another participant's comment was if vitrinite reflectance alone is an argument that a particle is altered or



unaltered. It was discussed that reflectance could also be a function of preparation artefacts. One participant suggested that bands should fall under newly formed as it is not something normally present and that devolatilisation pores are also newly formed rather than altered. This proposal for modification in the classification was rejected by the members of Commission III.

The Convener concluded that the results were very good, much better comparing to the last year's exercise and therefore the proposed classification is ready to be published. The convener offered to either proceed to the preparation of a manuscript or perform another exercise in 2017. Commission III left it to the convener's discretion for the best option. It was decided that a manuscript of the classification to be circulated among the WG participants will be prepared by her in 2017.

#### **11:00-11:25 – Environmental Applications of Organic Petrology WG**

**George Siavalas** presented the objectives of this WG, which ultimately aims to the establishment of a soil/recent

sediment classification, along with a draft classification basis. Next step in the activities of this WG is the distribution of a questionnaire to the interested participants, where a range of considerations will be addressed. **Responses received from this form will assist in the design of a round robin exercise to be performed in 2017.**

#### **11:25-11:30 – Closing remarks**

**Magdalena Misz-Kennan** presented a brief recap of all the WG's reports and announced the establishment of a new WG with the title **"Assessment of Organic Matter Oxidation with the use of Optical Microscopy"** to be convened by herself and Isabel Suárez-Ruiz. The Chair also made a brief statement on inactive WG's with a special focus on the Coke Petrography WG. It was stated that the Commission will wait for one more year for progress in this WG otherwise the Commission should start consider to assign this WG to another Convener.

**The activities of Commission III were concluded.**

## **Minutes of ICCP Commission II Geological Applications of Coal and Organic Petrology**

**68<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting, Magnolia Hotel, Houston Texas  
September 18-23, 2016**

**Chair:** Paul Hackley, mail to: [phackley@usgs.gov](mailto:phackley@usgs.gov)  
**Acting Secretary:** Dragana Životić,  
mail to: [dragana.zivotic@rgf.bg.ac.rs](mailto:dragana.zivotic@rgf.bg.ac.rs) for Jolanta Kus, mail  
to: [J.Kus@bgr.de](mailto:J.Kus@bgr.de)

#### **Wednesday – 21st September**

The Commission II meeting started on Wednesday September 21<sup>st</sup> at 08:00 in the Magnolia Hotel, Caroline Meeting Room, Houston, Texas and was attended by 21 participants.

#### **08:00 – 08:15 - Opening address – Paul Hackley & Dragana Životić**

The opening address was given by Paul Hackley, followed by a short presentation of the planned schedule of Commission II for Wednesday. The Chair asked convenors to provide necessary updates to the web site of Commission II; Stavros kindly agreed to put the information on the webpage.

#### **8:15 - 9:15 - TSOP-ICCP DOM Atlas– acting convenor: Isabel Suarez-Ruiz**

Isabel presented the historical development of the TSOP-ICCP DOM Atlas Project, including a summary of the new Atlas updates, and recommended Carolyn Thompson-Rizer as one of the Editors of the Atlas. Numerous amendments were successfully accomplished regarding, e.g., compliance of applied terminology to the TSOP-ICCP Classification of DOM, but Isabel emphasized that some pages and chapters could still be improved and added, as well as a thin section chapter. Many new photomicrographs based on various sample preparations and microscope lighting conditions, of samples of known maturity and hydrocarbon generating potential have been added to the Atlas. Due to the small number of photomicrographs, some formations were removed from the Atlas. In addition, Thomas Gentzis offered some more images when the current status of the Atlas was shown to TSOP Council. The final version of the TSOP-ICCP DOM Atlas should be finished by next year and will be sold from the ICCP and TSOP websites.

**Commission II thanks Isabel Suarez-Ruiz for her highly valued work and determination offered within this WG.**

#### **9:15 - 10:00 - Identification of Primary Vitrinite WG – convenor: Paul Hackley**

Paul gave a short historical review of activities carried out within the WG since its establishment in 2008, including among others the interlaboratory study performed in 2012-2013 with the aim to test the ASTM D7708. The results of the study were published in 2015. The convener presented results of an interlaboratory study on six high maturity shale samples with high TOC content performed in 2016 and expressed concern on the very high discrepancies of measured data between participants. The results showed poor reproducibility and will require extensive evaluation to present any improvement in reflectance measurement reproducibility.

In the subsequent discussion, Ángeles Borrego indicated that a possible solution to the problem might be calibration difficulties and usage of inappropriate standards during system calibration. Peter Crosdale expressed that the size of measurement spots might have influence on measurement results. He also mentioned that it could be useful to include the Rock-Eval data in the guideline for the exercise. The possible solution for the problem could be to re-evaluate measurement with different standards, or/and a statistical evaluation of all data and elimination of outliers (lowest and highest values).

**Commission II thanks Paul Hackley for his highly valued work and determination offered within this WG.**

#### **10:15 – 10:45 - Palynofacies WG - convenor: João Graciano Mendonça Filho**

João presented results of the fourth 2016 exercise focusing on characterisation of the origin of freshwater palynomorphs as well as on the identification of individual **organic-walled microfossils (OWM) particles**, and their preservation state in strew mounts, kerogen concentrates and whole rock samples. The objective of the exercise comprised also a potential correlation of palynofacies information obtained in this exercise with the ICCP classification of macerals.

The presented results on the strew mounts displayed a predominance of palynomorphs among the phytoclasts and amorphous OM, pointing to the dominance of *Pediastrum* over *Botryococcus* and sporomorphs in the PWG5 sample. In the whole rock and kerogen concentrates, a predominance of liptinite over vitrinite and inertinite groups was documented in the PWG5 sample. In the correlation between palynomorph populations in strew slides and alginite macerals in WR and KC samples, positive correlation between the majority of freshwater palynomorphs and alginite macerals was obtained.

A fifth 2017 exercise will encompass amorphous organic matter (AOM) from the Amorphous Group. In the subsequent discussion, Ángeles Borrego suggested an informative guideline for

the next exercise.

**Commission II congratulates João Graciano Mendonça Filho for his well conducted work in the WG.**

#### **10:45 – 11:30- DOMVR Accreditation Program – Ángeles Borrego**

Ángeles presented an extensive summary of the Dispersed Organic Matter Vitrinite Reflectance (DOMVR) Accreditation Program. The DOMVR Accreditation Program was initiated by Alan Cook in 2006. The 2014-2015 Round was again a successful one with all 56 participants becoming accredited including 15 entering participants and 41 continuing participants. The highest number of participants was from Colombia followed by the USA, Australia and Brazil. Participants from the European countries were in the minority. In general, over the last two DOMVR rounds there is an increasing tendency in participation from South and North American countries, as well as from Europe. In addition, a marked rise of non-ICCP members among all of the participants was noticed in the last two DOMVR Rounds. The sixth DOMVR Accreditation Round started in April of 2016 and will conclude by the 31<sup>st</sup> October. New participants received six samples to analyse whereas continuing participants received two. The samples were sent in May-June with deadline for submission of results in October. The results will be evaluated in December with validity of the DOMVR accreditation extending until 31 December 2016. The list of DOMVR accredited petrographers will be updated on the ICCP website. The convenor kindly asked for contributions of marine and freshwater shale samples for the Accreditation Program. João Graciano Mendonça Filho will take care of samples for DOMVR Accreditation Program in future. Ashok Singh and Paul Hackley kindly offered to send samples to João. **Commission II congratulates Ángeles Borrego for her excellent work running the DOMVR Accreditation Program.**

#### **11:30 - 11:45 - The Confocal Laser Scanning Microscopy (CLSM) WG – convenor: Paul Hackley**

Paul Hackley presented a short summary of the Confocal Laser Scanning Microscopy WG describing instrument access and available instrument parameters, e.g., type of lasers, detectors, objective lens, etc. Nine participants also compiled a list of confocal applications in which they are interested to pursue within the context of the working group.

During 2016-2017 the members of the WG will decide on consensus study objective(s) and select a common set of sample (s), if applicable. The intention of the WG is to function as a multi-year interlaboratory study, trading common perspectives and approaches within confocal laser scanning as applied to sedimentary organic matter and to organic petrology in general. Potential outcomes may include a 'white paper' reviewing techniques and applications, or research paper(s) describing consensus objective(s) from interlaboratory study. Indirect outcomes also are anticipated as collaborative efforts develop between individual participating laboratories. Interested parties are encouraged to contact WG conveners Paul Hackley ([phackley@usgs.gov](mailto:phackley@usgs.gov)) and Jolanta Kus ([j.kus@bgr.de](mailto:j.kus@bgr.de)) to participate.

#### **11:45-12:00 – Closing remarks – Paul Hackley & Dragana Životić**

Paul Hackley congratulated all conveners of the WGs as well as the numerous participants of the ICCP Meeting for their significant and stimulating work and fruitful discussions. The Chair also thanked ICCP members who have actively participated in a number of the round robin exercises carried out in 2015 and 2016 and encouraged conveners to publish valuable results in international journals and in the ICCP News. **Paul Hackley asked all conveners to send their presentations and updates for the ICCP Commission II website to Paul Hackley or Jolanta Kus.**

#### **13:00-17:00 – Microscopy section of Commission I and Commission II – Paul Hackley & Deolinda Flores**

Commissions I, II and III held a joint microscope session on September 21<sup>st</sup> afternoon. Paul Hackley discussed samples from the Identification of Primary Vitrinite WG. Peter Crosdale discussed samples of the Suberinite WG exercise. Ángeles Borrego presented and discussed samples from DOMVR Accreditation Program, while Walter Pickel discussed lignite samples from the Standardisation WG and a shale sample from the Identification of Organic Matter WG.

**The meeting of Commission II ended at 17.00 on September 21<sup>st</sup> 2016.**

## **MINUTES OF COMMISSION I GENERAL COAL AND ORGANIC PETROLOGY**

68<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting, Houston, USA, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016

Chair: Deolinda Flores, [dflores@fc.up.pt](mailto:dflores@fc.up.pt)

Secretary: Stavros Kalaitzidis, [skalait@upatras.gr](mailto:skalait@upatras.gr)

#### **Opening remarks**

The Commission I meeting was held the whole day on Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September and was attended by 26 members. Apologies for not attending were received by Lila Gurba and Shaoqing Wang. The Chair outlined the programme for the sessions and presented a short overview of the Commission's activities during the last year.

Commission's I sessions included a joint Microscope Session with Com II, as well as presentations of the following WG's:

- SCAP - Single Coal Accreditation Program
- Suberinite Working Group
- Standardization Working Group
- ISO Standard
- Distinguishing Features of Macerals Editorial Group

- Reflectance & Terminology of Zooclasts in old sediments
- Petrographic Image Database
- Xylite-rich Lithotype Classification WG
- New Handbook Editorial Group
- Liptinite Editorial Group
- Oxidation Editorial Group

#### **Temporal Variations in Coal WG – Lopo Vasconcelos**

Although this WG is not active any more, Lopo continues to add new data into the database, which now reaches in total 13,416 maceral data entries from 76 countries and territories (22 "Gondwana" and 54 "North Atlantic" countries/territories). **ICCP Members are encouraged to use the Database that is loaded on the ICCP webpage (<http://www.iccop.org/workinggroup/temporal-variation-of-coals/>) and/or to add any new data that become available by conducting either Lopo or Com I Chair/Secretary.**

#### **Single Coal Accreditation Program - Kimon Christanis**

Stavros presented on behalf of Kimon the progress of the 2016 SCAP round. The 2016 SCAP exercise was announced in February 2016. Participants have electronically registered via the ICCP webpage. Unfortunately, due to late registrations the dispatch of invoices, samples and instructions have taken from April till August 2016.

In the past exercises, beginners received six block samples and continuing participants two bulk coal samples. However, in the 2016 exercise for the first time all the participants received bulk samples. In total, around 350 samples were despatched. The participants had to measure the following parameters:

- Vitrinite random reflectance (VR) according to ISO 7404-5 measured on collotelinite (ICCP, 1998).
- Vitrinite content (VC) according to ISO 7404-3.

The extended deadline to submit the results was set for the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2016.

In total 107 analysts were initially registered in the 2016 SCAP from 63 laboratories located in 23 countries; 106 analysts corresponded further, from whom 65 are ICCP members. The breakdown in continuation *versus* new entries is 89 to 17, respectively. It is also interesting to note that the majority of the participants are ICCP Members, something that did not happen since the 2008 round. **The geographic (concerning continents) distribution of the participants was: Oceania 30%, Europe 33%, America 23%, Africa 10% and Asia 4%.**

Kimon also sent some comments regarding the logistics of the Programme so far.

After the experience of the 2014 round, sample sets to participants in certain countries were sent per registered post. This increased the expenses per sample set, although at the end, proved being cheaper (30%) and more reliable (i.e. less lost sample sets, no delays in the procedure).

Several payments were enormously delayed and after several reminders sent by Jen and Kimon, the completion of the sample-dispatch could be achieved only by the end of August, instead of the planned date that was May.

**For the first time in SCAP's history, the participants' results will be assessed through a database.** This prerequisite that the organizer inserts the coal and sample codes for all participants into the database; then the data summary sheet for each sample is generated and sent to the participant. In order to be able to complete this job, all the participants have to pay the fee on time and to receive the samples. Late payments and lost sample sets lead to delays. For this reason the data summary sheets have been distributed to the participants early September.

Kimon acknowledged the contribution of the following persons, the former and the current chair of the ASC Deolinda and Magda for continuous support. He specially thanks Deolinda for her valuable contribution in the preparation of the database to electronically assess participants' results; the Honorary Treasurer Jen for handling the SCAP finances; Isabel, Gisela & Gerd, Deolinda, Jolanta, Stavros, Małgorzata for sample supply and his students Nadia, Vasia and Zozo for assistance in preparing the sample sets.

Regarding the samples databank, since only bulk samples will be distributed from now on, **Members who can supply with suitable bulk, single coal samples, please contact Kimon: [christan@upatras.gr](mailto:christan@upatras.gr).**

During the discussion Isabel and Paul offered to send samples to Kimon.

Another point that was raised on the discussion and was agreed upon was the suggestion to include in the future in both the webpage and the call for participation the following recommendation:

*'It is highly recommended that CBAP participants also participate in SCAP exercise'.* Commission I will act on this.

**Commission I thanks Kimon for all his efforts in convening the SCAP.**

Deolinda also presented the Excel-based databases for the evaluation of the SCAP and DOMVR Accreditation Programs. The databases were created by Interrelate Lda and the final versions were ready in May 2016. The software enables for an automated pipelined procedure for the evaluation of the data of each program. All the previous data of the Programs were provided by Kimon (SCAP 7606 entries) and Angeles (DOMVR 724 entries) and added in the database. The set-up process of

the database is still on going and the final checks if the system works properly will be performed during the evaluation of the data which will be by the end of November early December 2016. Therefore, it has been approved that Kimon and Magda will travel to Porto for the final checks.

**Deolinda would like to thank Angeles and Kimon for their support during the development of the databases and also her colleague Álvaro Figueira from Interrelate Lda Company, as well as José Carlos, who understood the complexity of the ICCP APs and conceived and developed a very satisfactory system.**

Finally, Isabel sent the following letter to Commission I regarding the creation of the Accreditation Software.

*"This is the last time that we are having Deolinda as Chair of the Accreditation Subcommittee (ASC). Hence, I want to dedicate a few words to Deolinda for their important and invaluable work as Chair of the Accreditation Subcommittee.*

*When she started as Chair of the Accreditation Subcommittee (some years ago) she quickly understood my problems with the CBAP database, as well as the need to have a set of unified databases for all the Accreditation Programs. Unfortunately this was an issue not very well understood by the ICCP.*

*The Accreditation programs are one, if not the main source, of income for the ICCP. Many ICCP members and also non-ICCP members participate, and every year the number of participants increase. This is largely due to the good work of the Convenors of the accreditation programs, especially those more complicate programs, and the Chair, Deolinda, of the ASC.*

*To have successful Accreditation Programs, Deolinda always understood that everything related to the Programs and databases should be professional, and not something developed in an excel spread sheet "in the kitchen" of the convenors. It was for that she fought in the last 4 years. And with my support and my complaints and overall her high professional interest in these matters, and she won. (Editor: We all won –thank you!)*

*And now thanks to Deolinda the Accreditation Programs have a set of unified and professional databases, working properly for many years to come.*

***Deolinda, I want only to say to you thanks, thanks and thanks".***

***Isabel, September 2016***

#### **Standardization WG – Walter Pickel**

Walter Pickel presented a summary of the conclusions derived during the 2010 Standardization Exercise. The annual reports of this, as well as the exercise files are located in the ICCP webpage (<http://www.iccop.org/workinggroup/standardization>).

Some main remarks that came out from the 2010 RIC concern the distinction between telovitrinite and detrovitrinite, since it is important to distinguish between the two sub-groups in order to decide on which to perform vitrinite reflectance analysis.

Petrographers should be aware when comparing results from different analysts or labs, since there is still a lack of reproducible data in the distinction between Telo-, Detro- and Gelovitrinite. Definitions are useful in low to medium rank bituminous coals, but less useful with increasing rank.

Walter will provide a final report of the 2010-2016 Activities of the 2010 Standardization Exercise.

He also presented the New exercise RIC 2016, which will be based on lignite samples. The objectives of the exercise will be to test the applicability of ICCP 1994 System Classifications regarding the maceral group, sub-group, maceral, and maceral type level.

**Two lignite samples from the the Lausitz Lignite District in Germany, kindly supplied by Claudia Niemtz from Vattenfall AB, will be distributed to the 13 Members that already expressed interest to participate.**

The analysts will be asked to perform maceral analyses on both samples at least down to the maceral type level. The round robin will also include huminite reflectance analyses on ulminite. Analysts will be asked to note their level of experience in lignite analyses, e.g. high, low, never seen one in my live, etc.



Samples are prepared and ready to ship with instructions by end of the year.

The samples of the 2016 RIC were also examined in a short microscope session and during the discussion Peter Crosdale mentioned the need to use fluorescence mode when conducting this exercise. Furthermore, Angeles and Stavros proposed that the analysts should also return photomicrographs of the macerals they identified, in order to comprehend better the results.

**Anyone interested to participate to the 2016 RIC please send an email to Walter [walterpickel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:walterpickel@optusnet.com.au).**

**Commission I thanks and congratulates Walter for his dedication conducting the Standardization round robin exercises. Also we would like to thank Bernard Kuecking from Bernard Instruments, Houston for providing the Microscope for our sessions.**

#### ISO Standard – Walter Pickel

Walter discussed the status of the ISO 7404 parts 1-5, the development of which must be in the interests of ICCP to have an active participation.

Therefore, ICCP Members should revisit the ISO Standards and be ready with ideas when the revision time will come.

Commission I thanks Walter and the WG participants for their efforts in delivering the ISO Standard.

#### Suberinite WG – Peter Crosdale & Antonis Bouzinos

Peter Crosdale presented the results of the 2015 Suberinite Exercise. The objectives of the exercise were:

To investigate the various forms of suberinite in coal.

To establish if the present ICCP definition is adequate.

The participants received a file with 30 fields of view from two discrete samples of the Jurassic Walloon Coal Measures, Surat Basin, Qld. Each field comprised 5 images:

1. Black and white reflected white light
2. Black and white with areas of interest identified
3. Colour of fluorescence
4. Colour under reflected white light
5. Black and white with the value of reflectance measurements

Within each field between one and four areas of interest were indicated, resulting in a total of 113 identifications. The results were reported on a customised Excel spreadsheet.

Thirteen analysts conducted the exercise and sent results to Peter. The main observations from the evaluation of the exercise are summarized below:

Fluorescence properties are an important parameter in positively distinguishing suberinite from huminite/vitrinite.

The presence or not of structure is a key element in deciding among suberinite / bituminte / liptodetrinite.

Suberinite was recognised by many participants by association to corpohuminite. If there is no clear corpohuminite then suberinite was identified by exclusion, i.e. excluding other macerals.

Peter will continue with the statistical evaluation of the results, to be presented next year. Furthermore, a new exercise for 2016 was discussed, in which the participants will receive blocks of the examined samples, for point counting; in addition they will have to take photomicrographs and label the various suberinite forms they will identify.

**All the relative documentation of the WG is available on the ICCP webpage, along with the files of the 2015 Exercise (<http://www.iccop.org/workinggroup/suberinite>).**

**Fourteen members expressed their interest to participate in the 2016 Exercise, however, anyone interested in participating please contact Peter ([peter.crosdale@energyrc.com.au](mailto:peter.crosdale@energyrc.com.au)).**

**Commission I thanks Peter and Antonis for convening this very interesting WG.**

#### Reflectance & Terminology of Zooclasts in old sediments WG – Thomas Gentzis

Thomas gave a presentation on Zooclasts characteristics and reflectance measurements; various forms of Graptolites of various maturity levels were presented, in order to realize the difficulties petrographers might encounter when studying such samples. In an effort to 'kick-start' the WG on Zooclasts, he presented the plan for the 2017 round exercise. He proposed to send a number of graptolite-containing samples (~12), taken from various formations in North America, Europe and Asia. Few members felt that the above number of samples is very large and would create problems with the circulation and timely analysis. Deolinda suggested that she could send a sample from the Silurian of Portugal that is very rich in graptolites of good quality. Thomas and Stavros reviewed Deolinda's slides to confirm. Having so many splits from the same 'parent' sample will expedite the analysis. The idea is for each pellet to be analyzed by 3 participants. Results of the RR study will be reported at the next ICCP meeting.

Angeles and George also expressed an interest to submit Zooclasts-bearing non-proprietary samples for future studies.

**Already 18 members signed to participate in the Round Robin study, and anybody interested, please contact Thomas ([Thomas.Gentzis@corelab.com](mailto:Thomas.Gentzis@corelab.com)).**

**Commission I thanks Thomas for his presentation and efforts in convening this WG.**

#### Distinguishing Features of Macerals EG – Walter Pickel

Walter presented the aim of the WG, which is to "define and compile criteria that will add more detail to the ICCP 1994 maceral classification and thus support analysts in maceral identification". The intention is to add detail in the framework of the existing definitions to assist analyst with further distinguishing features of the macerals they want to identify.

He presented draft texts for several macerals from all the maceral groups (i.e. Telovitrinite, Detrovitrinite, most of liptinite and inertinite macerals). This text will be circulated among the 14 members, who expressed their interest to participate with comments and additions. A draft version of this compilation will be presented at the next ICCP meeting in Bucharest.

**Commission I thanks Walter for his efforts in this Editorial Group.**

#### Petrographic Image database – Petra David

Stavros presented on behalf of Petra the progress on the ICCP Image Database. Although the level of activity during 2015 was low, Petra modified and distributed the Information Sheet for photomicrographs to the members of the working group: Paddy Ranasinghe, Paul Hackley, Angeles G. Borrego, Johan Joubert & Stavros Kalaitzidis for their comments.

It was agreed that for the 'industrial products' additional information are required (e.g. process, burner, temperature, etc). Magdalena was contacted and contributed with additional info. Ralph Delzepich was contacted and he had suggested the "TwentyTwenty" (<http://zurb.com/playground/twentytwenty>) as potential tool that could be used to present images under different illuminations. Also he suggested a separate webpage for the image database. However, Stavros will conduct Silk Tech, the company that already supports the current ICCP webpage for technical and financial information.

As a test set of images for the database the imaging material from the Qualifying WG, will be used, but additional material could be delivered by the Concentration of Organic Matter WG and/or the images taken for the DOM Atlas.

The Information Sheet for the Database will be uploaded to the webpage so that ICCP Members can review and comment if anything else can be added. Once the Sheet is agreed upon a Demo version will be created to evaluate and then the members will be requested to provide images.

**Commission I anticipates that in Bucharest the Demo will be presented, and thanks a lot Petra for her efforts and dedication on this work.**

#### **Xylite-rich Lithotype Classification WG – Giannis Oikonomopoulos**

Stavros presented on behalf of Giannis: the activities of the WG that was established last year. The objective of this WG is to develop a Classification scheme for Xylite-rich lithotypes of low-rank coals. For the 1<sup>st</sup> year, Giannis conducted a detailed review of the existing international literature and circulated an Excel spreadsheet to the WG members for additional entries and comments. The collected information referred to the various "xylite" types that occur in xylite-rich lignite deposits in Eastern Europe and Western Asia.

The bibliographical information was grouped in the following categories:

- Definitions of macrolithotypes.
- Classification systems of lignite/coals and the reasoning of the systems.
- Classification systems for xylite-dominated lignites and the reasoning of the systems.
- Descriptions of xylite-dominated lignite deposits.

The spreadsheet was presented and discussed and it will be available to the 12 interested members soon for additional comments. During the discussion, Dragana Zivotic mentioned that in the classification scheme technological properties (e.g. grindability), should also be included. Additionally for 2016-2017 the activities will focus on creating a set of images of the macro-characteristics of xylite-rich lithotypes.

Anybody interested to participate in the activities of this WG please contact Giannis ([giannis@metal.ntua.gr](mailto:giannis@metal.ntua.gr)).

**Commission I would like to thank Giannis for his initiative and efforts in this Working Group.**

#### **New Handbook Editorial Group – Petra David, Ivana Šýková, Isabel Suárez Ruiz & Kimon Christanis**

Deolinda presented a short overview of the progress related to the New Handbook. The new chapters that have been approved are: Liptinite, Oxidation, SEM and TEM microscopy. The Chapter Pyrolytic carbon was already approved but has been published in International Journal of Coal Geology, without being an ICCP publication or referring to ICCP, which definitely is a not in the interests of ICCP.

The chapter on QEMSCAN has been sent to two external reviewers and is under review at this stage. For the chapter on Raman Spectroscopy, it was decided to contact Dr. Keno Lunsdorf to take over as a new convenor.

It was also reminded that the old Handbooks are already scanned and uploaded on the open part of the webpage <http://www.iccop.org/publications/iccp-handbook/> for everybody to download.

During the discussion the issue of how to publish the various ICCP classifications on peer-review journals was raised. It was suggested, as a possible solution to overcome the problem with retaining copyright, to publish under Open Access licence, but since this issue would have been a subject for the General Assembly the issue was postponed.

**Commission I thanks Petra, Isabel, Ivana and Kimon for their efforts on the Handbook, as well as all the reviewers that help to improve the manuscripts prepared by the conveners.**

#### **Oxidation Editorial Group – Jolanta Kus & Magdalena Miszkennan**

Magdalena presented the final text of the Oxidation Chapter, which also was approved last year and can be found in <http://www.iccop.org/workinggroup/oxidation-editorial-group/>. The manuscript will be submitted to a peer-review journal once ICCP solves the copyright issues.

**Commission I congratulates Jolanta and Magda for their work on the Oxidation Chapter.**

#### **Liptinite Editorial Group – Walter Pickel**

Walter presented the Classification of Liptinite – ICCP System 1994 manuscript that was already approved last year and only minor editing issues were fixed in the text. The final version is available on the ICCP webpage (<http://www.iccop.org/workinggroup/liptinite>).

The manuscript will be submitted to International Journal of Coal Geology once ICCP solves the copyright issues.

**Commission I congratulates Walter for his work on the Liptinite chapter.**

#### **Closing Remarks**

Deolinda Flores and Stavros Kalaitzidis closed the Session of Commission I. Deolinda presented also a summary of Commission I activities for the period 2013-2014, since it is her last term as Chair of the Commission. In this period 10 WGs and 7 Editorial Groups were active. All the Groups produced a significant amount of work, and all the presentations and reports are available in the webpage <http://www.iccop.org/commissions/commission-i/>.

Stavros also expressed his gratitude to Deolinda for her friendship, high professionalism, commitment and integrity in every step during the last 8 years, as well as her enormous efforts in leading and supporting the scientific activities of Commission I. He said **"ICCP Family is lucky to have you Deolinda; Dragana and I will try to honour the legacy you leave behind, by caring for ICCP"**.

ICCP Members were also reminded that the following Commission I Services are available for the Coal Petrography Community:

**Single Coal Accreditation Program, SCAP – Kimon Christanis** ([christan@upatras.gr](mailto:christan@upatras.gr)).

**Reflectance Standard Checking:** The service to check standards against the *ICCP Reflectance Standard* continues available from Dave Pearson, Walter Pickel and Gerd Bieg (USD 50; and free of charge for ICCP members).

As per final remarks Commission I would like to encourage ICCP members to visit the webpage, since a lot of data and information from the WGs has been uploaded <http://www.iccop.org/commissions/commission-i/>.

Also the convenors of the various WGs are encouraged to check and update regularly the web material.

Finally, Commission I would like to thank Thomas Demchuk and all the participants of the sessions for their active participation resulting in another productive Meeting.

## **REMINDER**

The SCAP Program depends on samples to support the sample bank.

As only bulk samples will be distributed from now on,

members who can supply suitable bulk, single coal samples, please URGENTLY contact Kimon:

[christan@upatras.gr](mailto:christan@upatras.gr).

**Kimon will provide information pertaining to sample type, mass, particle size and so on.**



**Thank you Deolinda!!!**

Deolinda is thanked by all for Chairing Commission I since 2009.

*The ICCP Newsletter is also a forum for students, young and advanced researchers, petrographers, and any one else, to present results, submit short reviews or articles, post notifications, request for assistance, announce relevant conferences / workshops / courses. Please submit all documents for inclusion into the next ICCP Newsletter to mailto: [nwagner@uj.ac.za](mailto:nwagner@uj.ac.za) as soon as possible. The ICCP Newsletters are freely available.*

### Answer to Know your coal petrologist (P2)

Marie Stopes, 1880—1958.

A world renowned palaeobotanist and coal petrographer who developed the concept of macerals and lithotypes. She was known outside the coal community for family planning advocacy.

(Photograph courtesy of Jim Hower)

## Updated contact details

### Genaro de la Rosa Rodriguez

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### Jolanta Kus

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Updated Fax: +49-511-643 3664

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**Do you know the advantage of being an ACTIVE ICCP member? See the benefits of participating in the working group activities by viewing the webpage. <http://www.iccop.org/application/>**

## ICCP Archives

Deolinda Flores, Universidade Do Porto, Portugal is collecting any ICCP related documents for archiving. Should any one wish to contribute documents, please contact Deolinda:

[dflores@fc.up.pt](mailto:dflores@fc.up.pt)



## New Applications for Associate Member



**Dr. Eva Geršová (neé Franců)**  
(A1, 2)  
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Kotlarska 2, Brno, 61137  
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Dr Gerslova completed a PhD in 2000 at the Masaryk University in Geology and Geochemistry, Brno, Czech Republic. She has been involved in organic geochemistry and petrology, specializing in petroleum geology and geochemical data evaluation, for a number of years at the university. Dr Gerslova has produced a number of publications on geochemistry and petrology.



**Dr Olga Gorbanenko (A1, 2)**  
United Kingdom

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Dr Gorbanenko was awarded the Shell Doctoral Scholarship (2012—2015), as well as the Conoco Phillips Education Award. (2009). She undertook her PhD at the Eberhard Karls Tübingen University, Germany, and her MSc at Moscow State University. Her current research applies methods of organic petrology to provide new insights into the formation of potential Mesozoic hydrocarbon source rocks.



**Dr. Mhlwazi Solomon Nyathi (A1, 3)**  
United States of America

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Dr Nyathi completed a postdoc at the Indiana Geological Survey in the USA before commencing employment with ArcelorMittal Global R&D in 2014. His PhD in Fuel Science was obtained from Penn State, following his MSc from the University of Pretoria, South Africa. Mr Nyathi undertakes coal and coke petrographic based research



**Dr. Magdalena Maria Zielinska (A2)**  
Poland

University of Silesia  
Faculty of Earth Sciences  
Bedzinska 60, 41-200 Sosnowiec  
Ph: +48 323689317  
Mail to: [zielinska.magdalena@gmail.com](mailto:zielinska.magdalena@gmail.com)

Dr Zielinska completed a second PhD in 2013 considering dispersed organic matter in the Western Flysch Carpathians at the University of Cracow, Poland. She is currently a research assistant in the Faculty of Earth Sciences at the University of Silesia involved in petrology and Geochemistry.



## Applications for Full ICCP Member

### **George Siavalas**

Shell Global Solutions International  
Netherlands

George is welcomed as a full ICCP member after 10 years as an Associate Member. George works as an organic petrologist for Shell (since 2013), having worked with Kimon Christanis at the University of Patras prior to this.

**WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS**

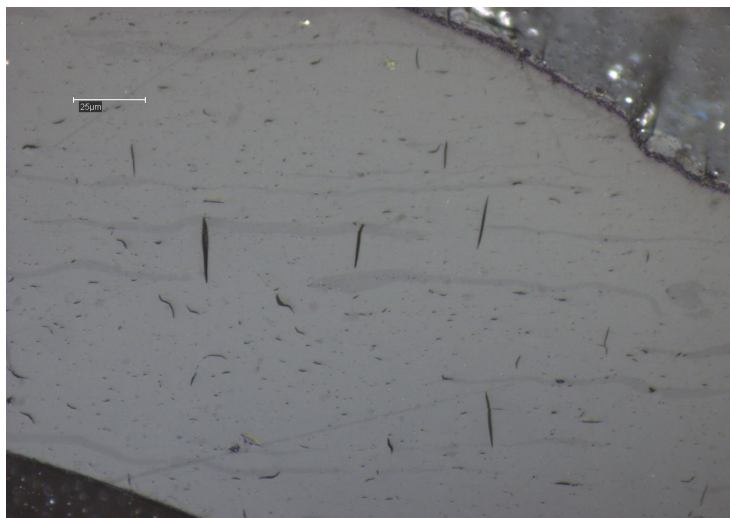
THE ICCP NEEDS YOU!



Dirk , Courtesy of Peter Crosdale

## Members Corner

Oh dear, this section is a bit empty this time. Please submit any snippets of newsworthy information, awards given to ICCP members, things wanted to buy or sell. IT IS YOUR CORNER TO USE.



Pseudovitrinite, Springbok Flats Coalfield, South Africa  
White reflected light, oil immersion, x500  
Courtesy Nikki Wagner



Angeles during the microscope session

## ICCP classifieds

Contributions welcomed





## Applications of Confocal Laser Scanning Microscopy (CLSM) to Organic Petrology Working Group Report 2016

A working group (WG) to investigate applications of confocal laser scanning microscopy to organic petrology was established within ICCP Commission II in 2015 at the Potsdam meeting. The WG is open to all interested persons. During 2015-2016, potential members of the WG were solicited for activity and asked to complete a survey describing instrument access and available instrument parameters, e.g., type of lasers, detectors, objective lens, etc. Participants also compiled a list of confocal applications which they are interested to pursue within the context of the working group. At the 2016 Houston joint meeting of ICCP-TSOP-AASP the members of the WG and their interests were presented as:

Dragana Životić, Univ. Belgrade, Belgrade, Romania: 3-D imaging of sedimentary organic matter.

Mark Curtis, Univ. Oklahoma, Norman OK, USA: imaging of hydraulic fracture networks and proppant embedment.

Bill Schopf, UCLA, Los Angeles CA, USA: 2-D and 3-D imaging of sedimentary organic matter for cellular morphology and preparatory selection for detailed study location, also investigation of fluorescent minerals, e.g. REE substitution in apatite.

João Graciano, UFRJ, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: imaging and fluorescence properties of palynological concentrations.

Angeles Borrego, INCAR, Oviedo, Spain: improved imaging for maceral identification and characterization of morphology and

microstructure, quantitative spectroscopy of autofluorescent macerals.

Katrin Ruckwied, Shell, Houston TX, USA: thermal maturity applications.

Ingrid Romero, Univ. Illinois, Champagne IL, USA: palynomorph ultrastructure imaging, assessment of fluorescence properties for kerogen type differentiation.

Jolanta Kus, BGR, Hannover, Germany: improved imaging for maceral identification and characterization of morphology and microstructure, distribution of fluid inclusions, quantitative spectroscopy of autofluorescent macerals.

Paul Hackley, USGS, Reston VA, USA: thermal maturity applications, relation of autofluorescence to variation in chemical composition and structure.

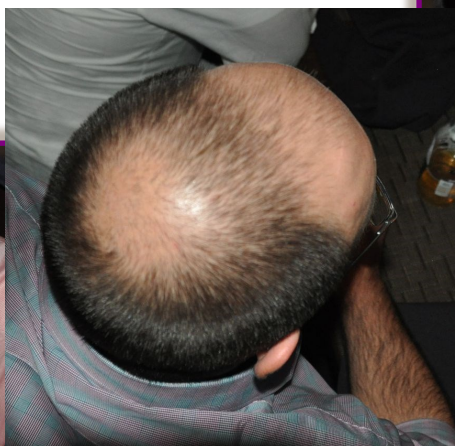
During 2016-2017 the members of the WG will decide on consensus study objective(s) and select a common set of sample(s), if applicable. The intention of the WG is to function as a multi-year interlaboratory study, trading common perspectives and approaches within confocal laser scanning as applied to sedimentary organic matter and to organic petrology in general. Potential outcomes may include a 'white paper' reviewing techniques and applications, or research paper(s) describing consensus objective(s) from the interlaboratory study. Indirect outcomes also are anticipated as collaborative efforts develop between individual participating laboratories.

**Interested parties are encouraged to contact WG conveners Paul Hackley ([phackley@usgs.gov](mailto:phackley@usgs.gov)) and Jolanta Kus ([j.kus@bgr.de](mailto:j.kus@bgr.de)) to participate.**

## How well do you REALLY know your petrologists?

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**Answers on back page.**



A

B

C



# SOCIAL ICCP, HOUSTON





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**Orders to:** Dr Peter Crosdale <mailto:peter.crosdale@energyrc.com.au>  
P.O.Box 54, Coorparoo, Qld 415, Australia.

**All ICCP HANDBOOKS** -(1963, 1985, 1986, 1993) can be downloaded from the website:  
<http://www.iccop.org/publications/ICCP>

**Atlas on Fly Ash**, as prepared by Commission III, is available for free download on the ICCP website.



## **Atlas of Anthropogenic Particles**

A digital atlas of anthropogenic particles largely derived from fossil fuel sources. The atlas contains 543 images grouped by source and site of occurrence. ICCP News 39 Nov 2006 pp 55-56.  
Cost: 16€ including postage.

## **ICCP Training Material on Vitrinite Reflectance Measurements on Dispersed Organic Matter**

CD & set of 4 polished grain mounts; CD's can be purchased separately ICCP News 39 Nov 2006 pp 53-54.  
Cost: CD+polished blocks set 40€ incl. postage (ICCP/TSOP members); 120€ (non members).  
CD alone: 16€ .

## **ICCP Training kit for spectral fluorescence measurements in Dispersed Organic Matter.**

Two polished blocks Posidonia & Irati shales & Excel sheet of results from round robin exercises.  
Cost: samples & excel sheet 30€ incl. postage (ICCP/TSOP members); 90€ (non members).

## ICCP Services

### **Accreditation Programs**

#### **Maceral Group Analyses of Coals (SCAP)**

Convenor: Dr Kimon Christanis  
Department of Geology  
University of Patras  
Ph +30-2610-99 7568  
mailto: [christan@upatras.gr](mailto:christan@upatras.gr)

#### **Vitrinite Reflectance of Coals (SCAP)**

Convenor: Dr Kimon Christanis  
mailto: [christan@upatras.gr](mailto:christan@upatras.gr)

#### **Coal Blend Analysis (CBAP)**

Convenor: Dr Isabel Suárez-Ruiz  
Instituto Nacional del Carbon—CSIC  
Oviedo, Spain  
Ph +34-98-5119090  
mailto: [isruiz@incar.csic.es](mailto:isruiz@incar.csic.es)

#### **Vitrinite Reflectance of Dispersed Organic Matter (DOM)**

Convenor: Dr Ángeles Gómez Borrego  
ICCP President  
Instituto Nacional del Carbon—CSIC  
Oviedo, Spain  
Ph +34-98-5119090  
mailto: [angeles@incar.csic.es](mailto:angeles@incar.csic.es)

### **ICCP Reflectance Standard**

If you would like to check the calibration of your reflectance standard against the ICCP standard, please contact the following people for availability and costs:

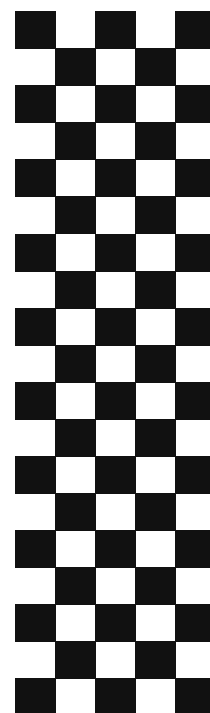
- Dr Walter Pickel, ICCP General Secretary  
Director Organic Petrology, Coal and Organic Petrology  
Services Pty Ltd  
Sans Souci, NWS, Australia  
Ph +61-2-9524 0403  
mailto: [walterpickel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:walterpickel@optusnet.com.au)

The standard is also available through

- Dr David Pearson  
David E. Pearson & Associated Ltd  
Victoria, British Columbia, Canada  
Ph +1-250 477 2548  
mailto: [dpearson@coalpetrography.com](mailto:dpearson@coalpetrography.com)

And

- Gerd and Gisela Bieg  
Mikroskopische Untersuchungen  
Haltern am See, Germany  
Ph +49-2364-6285  
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# UPCOMING EVENTS

**28 Feb-3 March 2017: 12th Mercury emissions from coal conference and work-shop**, Mpumalanga, South Africa. Hosted by the IEA Clean Coal Centre, the event combines a one day workshop on Energy Efficiency and Emission challenges, and the three day annual workshop, co-hosted by the UN Environment, DEAT, FFF, and Eskom, followed by the Annual Meeting of the UN Environment Coal Partnership. *Abstracts still possible.* <http://mec12.coalconferences.org/ibis/MEC12/home>

**8-12 May 2017: 8th Clean Coal Technologies Conference (CCT2017)**, Cagliari, Italy, The coal industry is undergoing a major transition to meet increasingly demanding environmental requirements worldwide, and technological innovation must play a crucial role in facing this challenge. A truly international event, CCT2017 aims to help disseminate new technologies to new regions and support further innovation by bringing together utilities, technology providers, researchers, and policy-makers from coal-using nations around the world. *Call for abstracts open!* <http://www.cct2017.org/>

**26-30 June 2017: ICCP Training course on dispersed organic matter—integrating transmitted and reflected light microscopy.** Instructors are: prof. Joao Graciano Mendonca Filho from the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and Dr. Angeles G. Borrego, Instituto Nacional del Carbón, CSIC, Oviedo, Spain. A Textbook will be available for the participants. Practical sessions will be hold using a microscope with image projection, set up for transmitted and reflected white light observation, as well as reflectance measurements (FOSSIL software). The microscope system will be provided by Hilgers Technisches Büro. <http://www.iccop.org>.

**3-9 Sept 2017: 69th Annual ICCP Meeting**, Bucharest, Romania, <http://www.iccop.org>.

**5-8 Sept 2017: 34th Annual International Pittsburgh Coal Conference**, Pittsburgh, USA. Abstracts deadline March 1 2017. [www.pccpitt.org](http://www.pccpitt.org)

**3-6 Sept 2017: International Conference on Coal Science and Technology (ICCS&T).** <http://iccst2017.csp.escience.cn/dct/page/65555>. or email: [lingmeizhou@hotmail.com](mailto:lingmeizhou@hotmail.com)

## Answer to

## How well do you know your petrologists?

Courtesy of Peter Crosdale, these delightful images are of

A Stavros Kalaitzidis

B: George Siavalas

C: Paul Hackley

THE 1ST FLYER FOR THE 2017  
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Or visit the website: <http://www.iccop.org>

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Any submissions, contributions, letters, comments, news items, and so on, most welcomed

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