

ICCP NEWS



NO 70
MARCH 2018

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

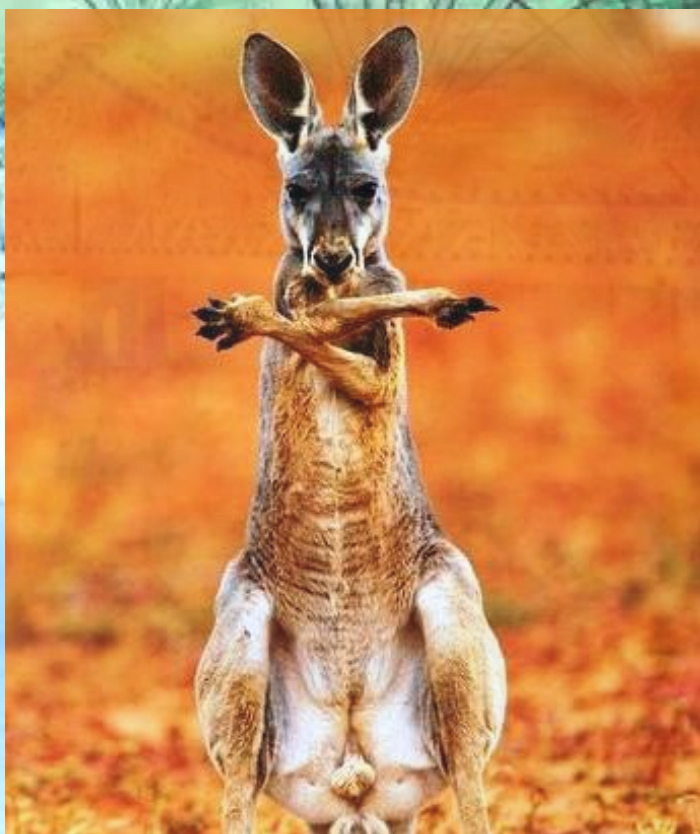
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70th Annual Meeting of the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP)

September
23 - 29, 2018
Brisbane,
Australia

ICCP DOWNUNDER



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**INSTITUTIONAL
MEMBER**



ICCP WEBSITE

<https://www.iccop.org>

Please send any feedback, comments, and uploads to Stavros Kalaitzidis [mail-to:skalait@upatras.gr](mailto:skalait@upatras.gr)

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. walter.pickel@organicpetrology.com

**Deadline for next ICCP
Newsletter:
20 June 2018**

EDITORS COLUMN

As we are well into 2018, memories of the ICCP Meeting in Romania are (somewhat) fading as we turn our attention half-way across the world to the 2018 ICCP Meeting to be held in Brisbane, Australia. This is the 70th Annual ICCP Meeting, and will be a true celebration of the ongoing achievements of this successful organization. Peter Crosdale and his team are putting together the program as outlined in the First Announcement included in this Newsletter; the web-page link is <https://www.iccop.org>

As noted by Peter, the last time the ICCP delegates graced the shores of Australia was in 1990, in Wollongong. This was before my ICCP-time, and I am looking forward to my first visit to Australia. Please take note of the registration timelines and the symposium abstract submission deadline – 30 May. The theme for the symposium is “Organic petrology in the 21st Century”, a very apt theme following the round-table discussions held in Romania last year. As the symposium is normally very well subscribed, make sure to get your abstract in early.

An important point to note regarding the accommodation in Brisbane: the week of the ICCP Meeting falls during the Brisbane Festival and hence it is advised to secure your accommodation a.s.a.p. I am certain the Festival will add to the evening entertainment of the ICCP delegates. Unlike previous years, you are required to select your own accommodation. The venue – Royal on the Park (<http://www.royalonthepark.com.au/>) has accommodation. Last point, ALL foreign nationals require a visa for Australia, so contact your embassy a.s.a.p.

Please note the call for nominations for the Thiessen Medal on page 11.

A reminder to all those participating in ICCP working group exercises, remember to **please read the instructions** and submit the findings to the conveners before the deadline. Also, please remind all your students to submit short synopses of their research to the ICCP Newsletter.

Best wishes

Nikki

**2018 ICCP Meeting in Brisbane, Australia
70th Annual Meeting of the International Committee for
Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP)
September 23-29, 2018, Brisbane, Australia**

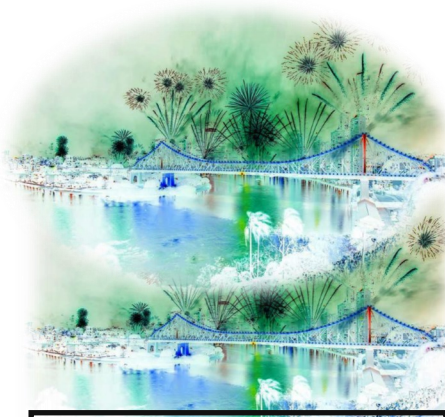
Dear colleagues,

An update of the 70th ICCP Meeting has been posted on the website, with more information regarding the accommodation.

Please note that the venue (Royal on the Park) will discount bookings made through their website by 20% - enter the code GROUP20 in the Discount CodeBox.

More updates regarding registration will follow soon.

Kind regards
Peter Crosdale



**Photos on front page
courtesy of Peter
Crosdale.**

PRESIDENTS COLUMN

You have in your hands the first Newsletter of the year with full details for enrolment in the ICCP Meeting to be hold in Brisbane in September. There, we will have an exciting program, preceded by a two days training course on General Coal Petrology (11th ICCP Course). I would like to thank the organizers for the actions to celebrate a successful meeting. Please, keep in mind the dates and book your flights and hotel well in advance to ensure that we can meet there.

A new Accreditation round has been initiated with the call for registration. This year there are some changes in the DOMVR program: João Graciano Mendonça Filho will take over the organization of the program, and the allowed scattering in the individual vitrinite reflectance results will be limited. You will receive complete information about this with the instructions to carry out the exercises once you register. **Please, read the instructions!!** I would like to thank João Graciano again for accepting this challenge.

This year the annual ICCP course in Potsdam will **not take place** in June as initially scheduled, but the **last week of October**. Some re-organization in the GFZ campus has occurred which delayed the confirmation of the venue and therefore the dates

have also been postponed to allow enough time for registration. The October course will be a practical course devoted to identification and quantification of organic components dispersed in sedimentary rocks (12th ICCP Course). Therefore, it is expected that either you have carried out any of the previous ICCP courses or you have enough experience in organic petrographic analysis. Autumn is also a nice season in Potsdam.

I am pleased to see that a summary of a PhD thesis is included in this issue. Please ask your students to make a summary of their Degree, Master or Ph.D. thesis for the Newsletter. This is good for them and also for the ICCP.

To all the conveners of the working groups, the Newsletter is the best forum to report the preliminary and final results. This enables consideration and discussion of the results and provides a reference to the work.

We have to regret the loss of Richard R. Thompson, who was member of the ICCP and active in Commission III until his retirement from Bethlehem Steel. I would like to express the condolences from the ICCP to his family.

I wish you are enjoying your spring holidays and hope to meet you in Brisbane this year.

Angeles G. Borrego



KNOW YOUR COAL PETROLOGIST Answer on page 7



**2018 ICCP Meeting in Brisbane, Australia
70th Annual Meeting of the International Committee for
Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP)
September 23-29, 2018, Brisbane, Australia**

The First Announcement of the 70th ICCP Meeting is now available online.

Registration and Abstract's submission will initiate mid of March 2018.

If you have any questions regarding the meeting, please contact the Chair of the Organizing Committee:

Dr. Peter Crosdale, peter.crosdale@energyrc.com.au

Link to the post: <http://www.iccop.org/2018-iccp-meeting-in-brisbane-australia/>

Link to ICCP: <http://www.iccop.org>

**70th
Annual Meeting
of the
International Committee
for
Coal and Organic
Petrology (ICCP)
September 23 - 29, 2018
Brisbane, Australia**

Book your accommodation early to ensure that you have somewhere to sleep.

The last Saturday of the Festival and also the ICCP Meeting, is programmed for a major fire-works display "Riverfire" which sees 10's of thousands of people congregate in the city.

So, on behalf of the organising committee, I warmly invite you to attend the fire works of the 70th ICCP Meeting - either during or after the formal programme. **(Ed: costs are shown on page 7)**

Dr Peter Crosdale
Chair Organising Committee
Vice-President, ICCP

ICCP70 - Welcome to Brisbane

The last time that the ICCP met in Australia was at Wollongong in 1990. Much has happened in the Australian (and global) context since that time. While record production and export volumes continue, there is a broad community perception that coal is in decline. Once new coal mine developments were welcomed for jobs and growth. Now they are actively campaigned against as being environmentally irresponsible. There is growing momentum to move electricity production away from fossil fuels into renewables.

It is against this background that the ICCP again comes to Australia. And not to just anywhere in Australia, but to Brisbane; the capital of Queensland and the centre for much of our coal production and coal seam gas activity.

Back in 1990, Brisbane was best described as a large country town. Now it is a vibrant, cosmopolitan city that operates almost around the clock. Looking for a good coffee at 6am? - No problem. Looking for a good coffee at midnight? No problem.

But be warned, Australia has a peculiar coffee language; a smalldoubleshotskinnycap (one word) is what I normally order.

The timing of the ICCP in late September is also co-incident with the major cultural event of the Brisbane Festival <http://www.brisbanefestival.com.au/> which occurs over the last 3 weeks of September.

About the ICCP and how the Meetings Work

The International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP) was founded in 1953 with the aim of standardising nomenclature in the area of the optical microscopic description of coals, along with the products of coal utilization and geological applications. Despite increasing the scope of the group to include all organic matter in sedimentary rocks, the ICCP acronym has been retained as a well known "brand".

ICCP is arranged into 3 Commissions:

- ⇒ Commission I on Nomenclature and Classification;
- ⇒ Commission II on Geological Applications of Organic Petrology; and
- ⇒ Commission III on Industrial Applications of Organic Petrology.

Each commission is comprised of Working Groups. During the course of the year, Working Group members contribute to activities.

Those who have never attended an ICCP meeting may find them unusual in many respects. At the annual meeting, it is the activities and results of the Working Groups that are reported and discussed rather than individual research results. In this way the views of multiple scientists can be compared and contrasted rather than just the opinion of an individual. This occurs over the first four days. Another unique aspect of the ICCP Meetings is the microscope session. This is an open session in which anybody can bring their

samples for discussion amongst interested colleagues.

Remember to bring along your polished blocks for observations and discussion.

The final day of the meeting is devoted to a symposium. This symposium follows the traditional format of conferences where individual researchers present their findings.

Organising Committee

- Dr Peter Crosdale (Chair)
- Dr Antonis Bouzinos
- Dr Joan Esterle
- Dr Mohinudeen Faiz
- Mr Peter Handley
- Dr Stavros Kalaitzidis
- Mr Paddy Ranasinghe
- Dr Sandra Rodrigues
- Dr Walter Pickel

ICCP Symposium “Organic Petrology in the 21st Century”

Oral and poster papers are invited for the ICCP Symposium on Friday 28th September. Oral presentations will be 15 minutes + 5 minutes for questions.

Abstracts due by May 30th. Submissions are open. <http://www.iccop.org/2018-iccp-meeting-in-brisbane-australia/>

Field Trip

A one day field trip on Saturday 29th September is planned to incorporate the Jeebpropilly Mine in the Ipswich Coal Measures, selected outcrops in the nearby Brisbane Region, a visit to the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary and an overview of Brisbane from the vantage point of Mt Coot-tha.

Social

The ice-breaker reception on Sunday 23rd will incorporate a live Jazz ensemble from St Peters Lutheran College.

The conference dinner will be held on the evening of Thursday 27th September.

If planning later night activities in the night club

districts, especially Fortitude Valley (“the Valley”), it is important to carry photo ID with you (i.e. your passport). This **ID WILL** be scanned to allow you access to many venues otherwise entry will be denied. It is a Government of Queensland law.

Note that the meeting will be concurrent with the Festival of Brisbane and its many cultural events

www.brisbanefestival.com.au/ .

Venue

The venue is centrally located in downtown Brisbane at:

Royal on The Park
152 Alice St, Brisbane City QLD 400
<http://www.royalonthepark.com.au/>

Getting there

Brisbane is served by the Brisbane International and Domestic Airport (BNE). International and domestic arrivals / departures are in separate buildings 2km from each other. Many airlines will fly directly into BNE through hubs such as Singapore, Dubai, Doha or Los Angeles.

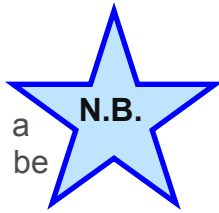
If flying via Sydney (SYD), then customs and immigration will normally be processed in Sydney but check your individual arrangements. For transfer from the International to the Domestic Terminal, Qantas (Jetstar) and Virgin offer a free bus transfer service if using a partner airline. Also available are a shuttle bus service (\$6AUD), train (\$6.20AUD) and taxi (\$20AUD approx). Further information can be found at:

<https://www.sydneyairport.com.au/info-sheet/getting-between-terminals#>

Once in Brisbane, train, taxi or uber to your hotel. A taxi will cost around \$50AUD. You can ask to go by the tunnel, which is a tunnel from near the airport to near the city centre; the drive is boring as it is in a tunnel. Alternatively, you can ask to go via Kingsford Smith Drive, which is more scenic but can be a nightmare at peak hours. Trains to the city run every 30 minutes from 06:04 until 22:04 at the domestic airport train station; they depart the international airport station 4 minutes later. Cost is about \$22 to the city.

Visa Requirements

All foreign nationals will require a Visa. Further information can be found at:



<https://www.australia.gov.au/information-and-services/immigration-and-visas>

Please check with the local Australian Embassy / Consulate or with your travel agent.

Accommodation

Accommodation arrangements will be the delegate's own responsibility. There are numerous web sites that can provide deals. We are happy to provide advice on request but will not make arrangements. Two bedroom serviced apartments may provide good opportunities for cost sharing.

Accommodation in Brisbane can be expensive and delegates are advised to book early. Refer to map on opposite page.

Note that the meeting venue (Royal on the Park) offer a 20% discount on bookings longer than 3 nights, or a 20% discount when booking using the code GROUP20 via the webpage. **(NB: Due to the Jazz Festival the night of the 29th Sept is extremely expensive compared to the other nights—from the Editor).**

Currency

Local currency is the Australian Dollar (AUD). Coin denominations are 5c, 10c, 20c, 50c and "gold" coins of \$1 and \$2. Bank notes are made of a polymer (plastic), highly coloured and with many security features including clear panels; denominations are \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100. Australia is currently replacing notes with new designs. Two designs for the \$5 and \$10 notes are in common circulation at present. Other denominations have only one design in circulation.

Local currency can be obtained via ATMs, Banks or currency exchanges. Most merchants will also accept payment by Visa, Mastercard or AMEX as well as other major credit / debit cards.

For small purchases (under \$100AUD),

"paywave" or "paypass" (simply tapping your credit card on the terminal) is commonly used, including in hotels and bars.

Tipping

Tipping is not usual and not expected in Australia. However, tips will always be accepted if offered. If you are used to tipping and feel guilty about not leaving one, then note that the minimum wage in Australia is \$18.29/hr (\$14.75USD) and tips do not form an essential part of a person's take home pay.

Smoking

Australian Government policies strongly discourage smoking. It is illegal to smoke in most indoor areas as well as many outdoor areas. Many venues have designated smoking areas which should be used (DOSA - Designated Outdoor Smoking Area). Note that Queen St Mall is a designated no smoking area, even outside. This area is monitored by cameras.

Getting Around Brisbane

Taxis and uber are freely available. A maxi-taxi will seat up to 10 people at no additional cost and may be useful for getting small groups around the city.

Public transport by bus, train or ferry is best with a "GoCard". Go Cards can be purchased from many retailers including newsagents, 7-elevens and railway stations. Journeys can be planned on the website:

<https://translink.com.au/>

which will give full details of all bus, train and ferry connections from your point of origin to your destination. GoCard can be used for travel in SE Qld in Brisbane, Ipswich (to the west), the Gold Coast (to the south) and the Sunshine Coast (to the north).

Sponsorship Opportunities and Further Information

Please email: peter.crosdale@energyrc.com.au



MAP OF BRISBANE IN THE VICINITY OF THE SHORT COURSE / ICCP MEETING VENUE (ROYAL ON THE PARK). THERE ARE OTHER HOTELS IN THE VICINITY (MANY MORE EXPENSIVE THAN THE ROYAL ON THE PARK). CHEAPER ACCOMMODATION IS AVAILABLE IN SOUTH BRISBANE



Answer to Know your coal petrologist (p. 2)
Dr Brian J. Cardott

Oklahoma Geological Survey, USA.
 Brian is a regular ICCP meeting attendee, and specializes in organic petrology pertaining to shale gas deposits.

Cost

Australian Dollars (AUD) ONLY can be accepted.
 Approximate cost in Euro and USD is given for convenience only.

Credit card (Visa and Mastercard), bank transfer and cash can be accepted.

Type	AUD	EUR (Approx.)	USD (Approx.)
Early bird (by July 31)	\$440	286 €	\$352
Late (After July 31)	\$500	325 €	\$400
ICCP / TSOP Non-Member	\$550	358 €	\$440
Student	\$180	117 €	\$144
Dinner	\$120	78 €	\$96
Ice-breaker only	\$40	26 €	\$32
Symposium Only	\$180	117 €	\$144

Full registration includes the ice-breaker and the symposium
 Dinner tickets must be purchased separately

70TH ICCP MEETING PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE, ASSOCIATED SHORT COURSE AND FIELD TRIP

Time	Thursday 20 Sept	Friday 21 Sept	Saturday 22 Sept	Sunday 23 Sept	Monday 24 Sept	Tuesday 25 Sept	Wednesday 26 Sept	Thursday 27 Sept	Friday 28 Sept	Saturday 29 Sept
07:00-07:30										Field Trip
07:30-08:00										
08:00-08:30	Registration									
08:30-09:00					ICCP Registration				Registration	
09:00-09:30					ICCP Welcome	ICCP Commission Meeting	ICCP Commission Meeting	ICCP Commission Meeting	ICCP Symposium	
09:30-10:00					Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break	
10:00-10:30					ICCP General Assembly	ICCP Commission Meeting	ICCP Commission Meeting	ICCP Commission Meeting	ICCP Symposium	
10:30-11:00					Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break	
11:00-11:30										
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ICCP Short Course: General Coal and Organic Petrology

A short course in general coal and organic petrology will be held on the Thursday and Friday before the meeting.

This will be a condensed version of the full 5 day course normally presented. It is designed for industry.

Topics include:

- ⇒ Introduction to organic petrology
- ⇒ Introduction to coal, concepts of coal rank, type and grade
- ⇒ Lithotypes, macerals and microlithotypes
- ⇒ Petrographic methods
- ⇒ Coal depositional environments
- ⇒ Coalification, its causes and effects
- ⇒ Australian coal deposits
- ⇒ Coal Classification
- ⇒ Introduction to dispersed organic matter (DOM) Application of organic petrology to oil and gas industry

Presenters will be:

- * **Dr Walter Pickel**
- * **Dr Stavros Kalaitzidis**

Walter Pickel received his PhD from the Rheinisch Westfälische Technische Hochschule (RWTH) Aachen, Germany in 1991. He taught and worked at RWTH until 1998. Afterwards he joined CSIRO Petroleum in Sydney, Australia as a senior research scientist. In 2003 he joined Harold Read & Associates and co-founded Coal & Organic Petrology Services P/L in Sydney in 2004, a company of which he is the managing director. He is now the owner and director of this company. Apart from teaching at Aachen University, he has been giving classes and workshops at Cologne University, in Chile, Indonesia, Iran and Australia. He is author/co-author of some 80 reviewed papers and abstracts. He is a member of the ICCP since 1991. He was awarded the Reinhard Thiessen Medal in 2015.

Stavros Kalaitzidis received his Ph.D. degree in the scientific field of "Peatlands and Peatification Processes" from the Department of Geology, University of Patras, Greece, in 2007. As postgraduate student he worked in several research programmes at the University of Patras in collaboration with Universities and Institutions in Germany, UK, and The Netherlands, but also for the Greek Institute of Geology and Mineral Exploration (IGME), and the Institute for Solid Fuels Technology and Applications (ISFTA) in Athens. From 2008 to 2014 he served in various positions in the Australian mining industry, initially in the exploration and mining sectors of BHP Billiton, and later as Senior Geologist at Integral Resource Consulting Ltd. based in Brisbane, Queensland. Currently he holds an Assistant Professor position in the field of Economic Geology at the University of Patras. He is a member of the ICCP since 1999.

Venue

The venue is centrally located in downtown Brisbane at:

Royal on The Park
152 Alice St, Brisbane City QLD 400
<http://www.royalonthepark.com.au/>

Dates

Thursday Sept. 20 - Friday Sept. 21, 2018

Cost

Company / Professional \$1300AUD
Govt./ Non-profit \$750AUD
Full time students \$250AUD

Registration and Further Information

<http://www.iccop.org>

**PLEASE DO BOOK EARLY FOR
THE COURSE AS IT IS A
POPULAR OFFERING**

Call for Participation in the ICCP Accreditation Programs 2018-2019 Exercise

The International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP) is pleased to invite you to participate in the next Accreditation round. The ICCP has three Accreditation Programs:

Single Coal Accreditation Program (SCAP) for both maceral group and vitrinite random reflectance analyses. In this program the ability of an analyst to identify and quantify the maceral groups and to identify and measure the vitrinite reflectance of a coal sample according to ISO standards is tested.

Organizer: Kimon Christanis (christan@upatras.gr)

Dispersed Organic Matter Vitrinite Reflectance Accreditation Program (DOMVR). In this program the ability of an analyst to identify and measure the reflectance of vitrinite occurring as dispersed vitrinite in rocks such as carbonaceous shales or hydrocarbon source rocks is tested.

Organizer: João Graciano Mendonça.

(graciano@geologia.ufri.br)

Coal Blends Accreditation Program (CBAP). In this program the ability of an analyst to identify the number of coals in a blend and their petrographic characteristics such as vitrinite reflectance and maceral group composition according to ISO standards is tested. Organic petrology is the only technique able to yield information of the individual component coals within a coal blend.

Organizer: Isabel Suárez-Ruiz (isruiz@incar.csic.es)

The ICCP offers discounts for those participating in more than one accreditation program and has established a

procedure to facilitate payments in which a single invoice will be produced. This requires that participants fill in the **registration form** available in the following link www.iccop.org/accreditation/accreditation-form before the **end of April 2018** in order to expedite the procedures. In addition the timing of the exercises has been spaced to reasonably distribute the analytical load of the participants along the year (Table 1).

Different number of samples are to be analysed in the programs depending on your previous participation. Participants entering SCAP or DOMVR programs or having lapsed for a round, have to analyse six samples, whereas continuation in the program requires the analysis of two samples. For CBAP, new entrants are expected to analyse two samples and continuation requires the analysis of a single sample.

No participation of automatic systems will be allowed in this round.

The samples for the exercises will be distributed once the organizer has been informed by the treasurer about the reception of the corresponding fee. The fees for the next Accreditation Round are summarized in Table 2. In addition, for participation in two ICCP accreditation programs a **10% discount** will be applied in the two of them and for participation in the three accreditation programs a **20% discount** will be applied in the three of them.

Further details on the Accreditation Programs, evaluation procedures and screening method to limit outliers in the accreditation database can be found at the ICCP website (www.iccop.org) and can be also received by contacting the respective program organizers.

The ICCP accreditation become consolidated over the years and are now an efficient instrument for checking the ability and method of an analyst for petrographic analysis. If you are interested in joining the programs, please contact the corresponding organizers.

Magdalena Misz-Kennan
Chair of the Accreditation Subcommittee

Table 1. General Schedule Proposed for 2018-2019 ICCP Accreditation exercises

	SCAP	DOMVR	CBAP
Announcement, call for participants and invoicing	February to May 2018	February to May 2018	February to May 2018
Sample distribution	April to June 2018	May to June 2018	January 2019
Reception of results	July to September 2018	October 2018	March-April 2019
Evaluation, Certificates and Web	October to December 2018	December 2018	May to June 2019
Certificates Validity	01.01.2019 to 31.12.2020	01.01.2019 to 31.12.2020	01.07.2019 to 30.06.2021

Table 2. Fees for the 2018-2019 ICCP Accreditation Programs exercise

	SCAP		DOMVR		CBAP	
	Entry	Continuation	Entry	Continuation	Entry	Continuation
Non-Members, €	130	90	100	70	200	170
Members, €	65	45	50	35	100	85

Members Corner

Members who can supply suitable bulk, single coal samples, for the SCAP Program please contact Kimon: christan@upatras.gr.

Dear all

As convenors of active Working groups in Commission III, it would be much appreciate if you could update the webpage of your WG, taking the following in consideration:

- ⇒ Update of the current activities and objectives of the WG
- ⇒ Brief description of the previous activities of the WG (if applicable)
- ⇒ Update on the members/participants of the WG, even convenors (it can have active and former members)
- ⇒ Selection of **images** to be upload to the WG's webpage
- ⇒ Keywords: 3 to 6
- ⇒ Links to other WG that could be also relevant (if any) and/or accreditation programs (if any).
- ⇒ Additional material (secret part and public).
- ⇒ And other aspects that you think that could contribute for a better webpage

It would be great if we could do the updates during this month (hopefully there will be some free time during the holiday season).

Best Regards, Sandra



ACADEMIA ROMÂNĂ
Jurnal online

The 69-th International Conference of the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology, ROMANIA, 2017

Georgeta has compiled a document pertaining to the 2017 ICCP Meeting. To access all information pertaining to the meeting, please use link below:

<https://academiaromana.wordpress.com/2017/12/14/the-69-th-international-conference-of-the-international-committee-for-coal-and-organic-petrology/>

Thiessen Medal: call for nominations

REINHARDT THIESSEN MEDAL

This is the highest award offered by ICCP. It recognizes a lifetime of achievement and outstanding contributions in the fields of coal and organic petrology.

The award consists of a bronze medal. The award committee consists of the five most recent and available medalists. Awards are made from time to time but applications are called for every 2 years. Any Full Member of the ICCP may propose the name of a person for the award. Nominations should include full details of a nominee's qualifications, experience, research accomplishments, awards and publications record; such details are required for the preparation of a laudation to be made at a General Assembly.



For an award to be made at the forthcoming ICCP meeting, nominations should be received by May 25, 2018.

To make a nomination or for further information on procedures contact the General Secretary: Walter Pickel: walterpickel@optusnet.com.au.

STUDENT CONTRIBUTION:

SUMMARY OF PHD RESEARCH BY Adrià Guerrero Costa, INCAR, Spain.

Thermoplastic behavior of coking coals macerals and their involvement in the coke properties.

Supervisors: Ángeles Gómez Borrego and María Antonia Díez Díaz-Estébanez

Presented in July 2017 at Universidad de Oviedo (UniOvi), Oviedo, Spain

Score: Sobresaliente *cum Laude*

Metallurgical coke is an irreplaceable raw material used for the production of iron and steel. The shortage and high price of premium coals for the production of high quality coke, technological developments for the replacement of coke in the blast furnace by other fuels and reducing agents, and commitment of the society to reduce greenhouse gas emissions have redirected the focus of research towards alternative technologies that allow the production of high quality coke while reducing its costs and gas emissions to the environment. These methods involve the modification of coal blends and the incorporation, as secondary raw materials, of organic industrial waste and biomass, classified as zero-emissions of CO₂.

This Doctoral Thesis explores the addition of charcoal to coal blends for the production of coke and the production of Fe-Coke briquettes with inexpensive materials such as iron ore fines and coals with poor coking properties, with the aim of determining the behavior of the macerals of the coking coals during the carbonization process and determine its involvement in the properties of the coke.

In order to achieve this goal, samples from coals typically used in the production of metallurgical coke of different rank, maceral composition, chemical and thermoplastic properties, and geographic origin are used. To follow the modifications that coal undergoes during its transformation to coke, this work used optical microscopy and other additional techniques to trace the transformations of coal macerals during the carbonization process, and to define their relation to their thermoplastic behavior with special emphasis on organic components traditionally considered as inert.

The optical characterization by Manual Scan Analysis at Maceral Level (ASM) has proved to be a good method for evaluating coals and predicting plastic behavior during the coking process. ASM allows characterizing the distribution of reflectance of the inertinite macerals that is linked to its fusibility. It was observed that the reflectance of the vitrinite and inertinite groups increase linearly with

the coal range, converging around 3.90% R_r (anthracite to meta-anthracite limit), in a temperature around 600 °C.

As a result a rank dependent threshold to determine the fusibility of inertinite was established. This associates inertinite fusibility with its reflectance and varies with coal rank, reaching the minimum value for coals with a vitrinite reflectance of around 1.3% to then increase (Figure 1). The mean inertinite reflectance at the minimum point is 1.5%, supporting previous findings of inertinite fusibility. From this determination it is concluded that in addition to the macerals traditionally considered as semi-reactive, a significant part of the fusinite also undergoes transformations during the coking process. The reflectance of semifusinite and inertodetrinite has shown to be very similar.

In a second stage a sub-series of coals has been selected for a more detailed study of the transformations of the macerals in stages critical for the carbonization process i.e., the pre-plastic, plastic and post-plastic stages and of the influence of the incorporation of controlled grain-sized charcoal on the development of coal thermoplastic behavior, and on the mechanical and textural properties of the resulting cokes.

It was observed that the addition of charcoal in the blends causes a reduction in the fluidity and the size of the optical textures of the coke matrix. This reduction is related to the amount and size of the inert particles. For the same amount of charcoal addition the smaller the particle size, the greater this effect. The degradation of the optical texture of the matrix occurs more markedly in the areas close to the inert inclusions (Figure 2).

In addition to the coal rank and plastic properties of vitrinite, the balance between the volume of reactive and inert components in the parent coal is a determining factor in the amount of the charcoal accepted by a blend. Coals with a higher balance of reactive components have shown greater capacity to incorporate larger quantities of charcoal with less deterioration of their properties.

Also the optical texture of the coke matrix and the inert matrix interface are determining factors in the chemical and mechanical properties of the coke. The Addition of charcoal prevents the growth of graphite structures and produces discontinuities that propagate at the inert-matrix interface, causing an increase in CO₂ reactivity and a deterioration of mechanical strength.

Finally, Fe-Coke self-reducing briquettes were successfully produced using fine-grained coals with poor coking properties and charcoal as carbon

source. The briquettes treated at 1000 °C achieved the complete conversion of the iron oxides to metallic iron, passing through the wustite state. There are three stages of devolatilization that are not produced during the carbonization of a coal matching with the thermal disintegration of the molasses, used as a binder, and with the reduction of the iron oxides. The briquettes produced from coals with greater fluidity have better mechanical resistance after carbonization.

The incorporation of this type of Fe-Coke briquettes in the blast furnace allows the use of biomass and recycled coal fines *with a strong deterioration of their thermoplastic properties*, thereby contributing to a reduction of CO₂ emissions and giving added value to their use in a sustainable integrated steel-making industry.

Scientific publications derived from the PhD Thesis:

Guerrero, A., Díez, M.A., Borrego, A.G., 2013. *Effect of volatile matter release on optical properties of macerals from different rank coals*. Fuel 114, 21–30. doi:10.1016/j.fuel.2012.05.023

Guerrero, A., Díez, M.A., Borrego, A.G., 2015. *Influence of charcoal fines on the thermoplastic properties of coking coals and the optical properties of the semicoke*. Int. J. Coal Geol. 147–148, 105–114. doi:10.1016/j.coal.2015.06.013

Flores, B.D., Guerrero, A., Flores, I.V., Borrego, A.G., Díez, M.A., Osório, E., Vilela, A.C.F., 2017. *On the reduction behavior, structural and mechanical features of iron ore-carbon briquettes*. Fuel Process. Technol. 155. doi:10.1016/j.fuproc.2016.07.004

Flores, B.D., Flores, I. V., Guerrero, A., Orellana, D.R., Pohlmann, J.G., Díez, M.A., Borrego, A.G., Osorio, E., Vilela, A.C.F., 2017. *Effect of charcoal blending with a vitrinite rich coking coal on coke reactivity*. Fuel Process. Technol. 155, 97–105. doi:10.1016/j.fuproc.2016.04.012

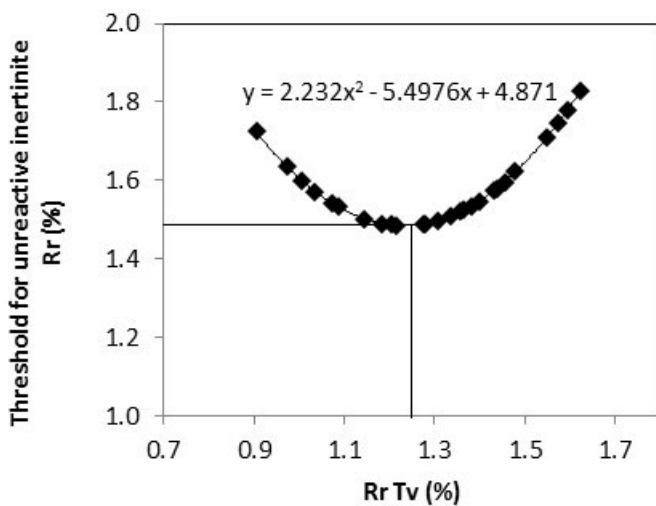
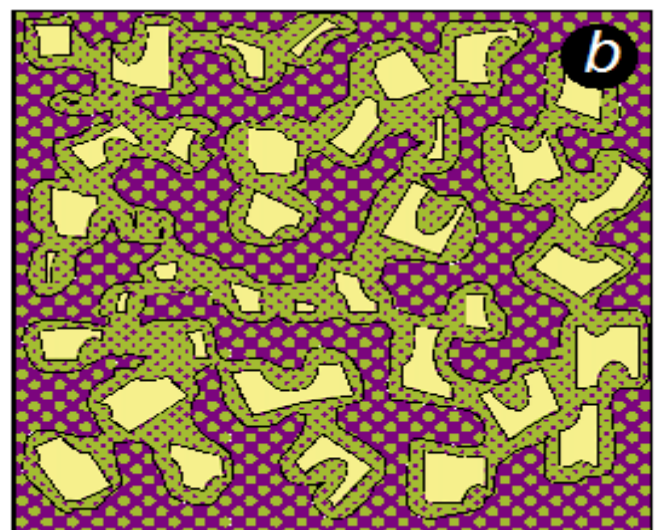
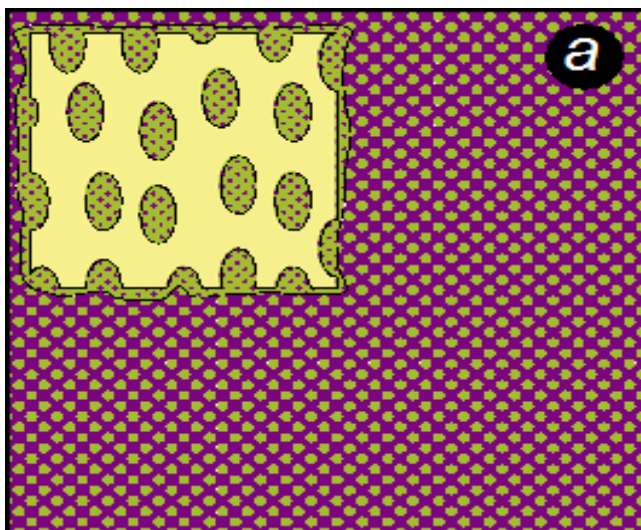


Figure 1.- Variation of the reflectance cut-off between reactive and unreactive inertinite as a function of coal rank (Rr Tv).

Figure 2.- Effect of inert charcoal particles distribution by the anisotropic matrix. The use of coarser granulometry supposes a smaller surface area between the charcoal and the matrix (a); as decreasing the size of the inclusions increases the surface area and the matrix degradation (b).



New Applications for Associate Member



Valerie Despujols
France

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Valerie.despujols@total.com
Tel: 06 79 820294

Mrs Despujols has worked for Total since 2008 in the organic petrology and geochemistry section. In 2016 she achieved accreditation in DOMVR and in 2017 attended the ICCP Training Course in Potsdam. Her experience in organic petrology is welcomed by the ICCP.

WELCOME AND CONGRATULATIONS

Applications for Full ICCP Member

AS A REMINDER, TO OBTAIN FULL VOTING RIGHTS IN THE ICCP, YOU NEED TO BE A FULL MEMBER. PLEASE CONTACT THE GENERAL SECRETARY WITH REGARDS TO BECOMING A FULL MEMBER.

Updated contact details

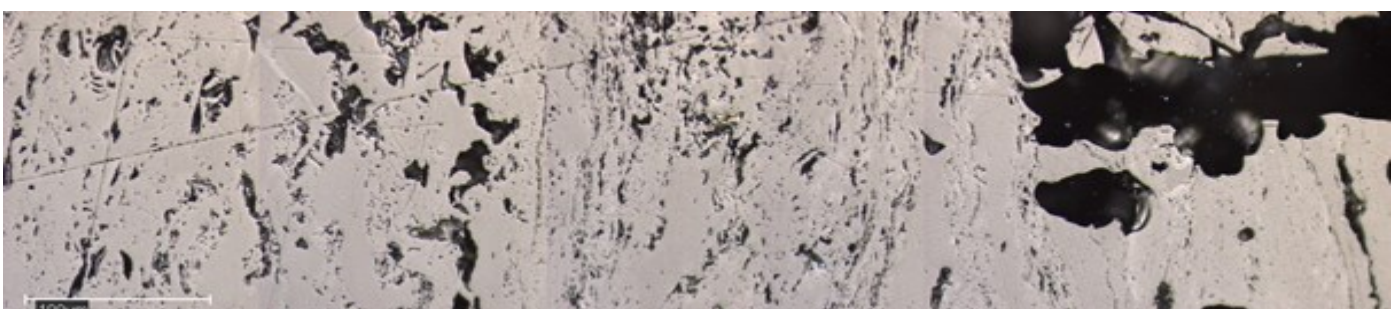
Walter Pickel

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Classifieds

Please **REMEMBER TO** submit any classified advertisements or points of interest for discussion to the Editor

Mosaic images of heated coal taken close to an underground coal gasification cavity. (Scale bar = 100 microns; white reflected light with x50 oil immersion lens). Photographs supplied by Nikki Wagner.



Obituary



Richard R. Thompson, 87, of Bethlehem, died peacefully at home on February 4, 2018.

He and his beloved wife, Ellen H. "Froy" Thompson, celebrated 63 years of marriage. Born in Rochester, PA, Richard was the son of the late C. Vance and Josephine R. Thompson. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church of Bethlehem (PCUSA), where he served in many capacities, including Elder and Deacon. He graduated from Lincoln High School in Midland, PA, in 1948; from Antioch College with a BS degree in Geology in 1954; and from The Pennsylvania State University with a PhD in Geology in 1961.

Richard worked in the Research Department at Bethlehem Steel for 20 years, and then for BethEnergy, dealing with all aspects of coal and coke technology, marketing and sales. He was a Senior Fellow of the Geological Society of America (GSA), and he received lifetime recognition awards from both the GSA and the Ironmaking Division of A.I.M.E. for his contributions to coal geology and to the technology of coal and cokemaking.

After he retired in 1994, he pursued many interests, including his faith, small group activities, enjoying music and the performing arts, volunteering, politics, a bit of golf, but especially quality time with his wife, daughter, and friends.

Published in Morning Call on Feb. 7, 2018, and supplied by Jim Hower.

Rudi Schwab: Dick was a Full Member of ICCP and he actively contributed to the work of Commission 3 before retirement.

FUNDAMENTALS OF GASIFICATION PROCESSES

17th - 18th September 2018

Announcement Gasification Course, 17-18 September 2018, Freiberg, Germany

The Institute of Energy Process Engineering and Chemical Engineering (IEC) at TU Bergakademie Freiberg is pleased to inform you that the

Compact Course: Fundamentals of Gasification Processes

will be held from **17th - 18th September, 2018** in Freiberg/Germany.

The compact course is designed to provide a general overview of gasification technologies and related issues. Over two days, a broad survey on the fundamentals of gasification along the entire process chain will be given.

The course is intended for engineering and technical personnel who either want to get a first understanding of gasification or plan to update and expand their knowledge on gasification processes and technologies.

[More information and course schedule](#) (click)

As attendance is limited to 20 participants, please send us your registration at the earliest possible opportunity.

Registration:

For questions please contact: [Sindy Bauersfeld](#)

Via email: Sindy Bauersfeld (gasification-course@tu-freiberg.de)

Homepage: [Institute of Energy Process Engineering and Chemical Engineering - Compact Courses](#)

ICCP Publications & Training Material

ICCP Publications are available for download or purchase to all members and non-members.

DO NOT SEND PAYMENT WHEN ORDERING, AN INVOICE SHALL BE ISSUED AFTER ORDERING

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-handbook/>

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

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Maceral Group Analyses of Coals (SCAP)

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Vitrinite Reflectance of Coals (SCAP)

Convenor: Dr Kimon Christanis
mailto: christan@upatras.gr

Coal Blend Analysis (CBAP)

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Vitrinite Reflectance of Dispersed Organic Matter (DOM)

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ICCP Reflectance Standard

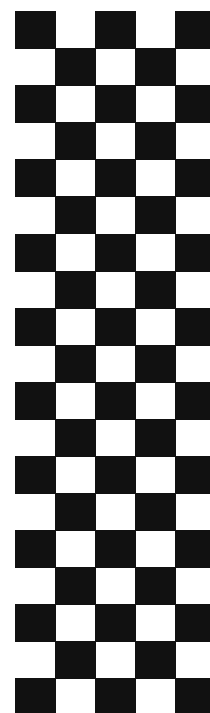
If you would like to check the calibration of your reflectance standard against the ICCP standard, please contact the following people for availability and costs:

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THE ICCP: OUR HAPPY PLACE



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or visit the website <http://www.iccop.org>

ICCP Publications & Training Material:...Dr Peter Crosdale mailto: peter.crosdale@energyrc.com.au



UPCOMING EVENTS

19-20 April, 2018: VI International Conference on Coal ash—removal, transport, processing, disposal. Moscow, Russia. Paper submission by 22 December, 2017. <http://www.ecopower.ru/index.php?newsid=139>

2-4 May, 2018. International Conference on Geology and Earth Sciences. Rome, Italy. <http://geoscience.madrige.com/>

21—23 May 2018: 13th Mercury and Multi-pollutant emissions from coal workshop, Krakow, Poland. Registration website opens in mid-March.

3-8 June 2018: 9th Freiberg Conference on IGCC & Xtl Technologies—closing the carbon cycle, Berlin, Germany. Draft program is now available. www.gasification-freiberg.com / gasi-fication@iec.tu-freiberg.de

16 - 21 June, 2018: RFG 2018 Resources for Future Generations. Vancouver, BC Canada. Abstract submission by 15 January 2018. [Review Technical Program](#)

18—19 June 2018: International Conference on Sustainable Energy and Environment Sensing (SEES 2018), Fitzwilliam College, University of Cambridge, Cambridge City, UK Website: <http://sees-conference.org/>

17—22 August 2018: 35th TSOP Annual Meeting, Beijing, China

5—7 September 2018: 12 ECCRIA Conference. Cardiff, UK. www.eccria-conferences.org

11—13 September 2018: 8th Cofiring Biomass with Coal workshop, Copenhagen, Denmark. Call for abstracts and sponsorship opportunities, please contact Ms Xing Zhang xing.zhang@iea-coal.org. Deadline for abstracts 30 April 2018.

15-17 September 2018: International Conference on Energy Internet and Energy Systems (EIES 2018), Chongqing, China. www.engii.org/conference/EIES2018/

15-21 September 2018: XXIX IMPC 2018—International Mineral Processing Congress. Moscow, Russia. www.impc2018.com

24—28 September 2018: 70th Annual ICCP Meeting, Brisbane, Australia

15-18 October, 2018. Pittsburgh Coal Conference, Xuzhou, China. Abstracts due 31 March 2018. <http://www.pccpitt.org>

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 on the website.

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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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