

# ICCP NEWS



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## 70th ICCP MEETING, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER 2018

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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](mailto:walter.pickel@organicpetrology.com)

**Deadline for next ICCP  
Newsletter:  
March 2019**



**KNOW YOUR COAL  
PETROLOGISTS  
P. 16**

## EDITORS COLUMN

### Greetings ICCP Members and others,

I am writing this whilst still in Brisbane as my flight has been delayed by 24 hours, and I thought it appropriate to capture the essence of the 70<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting whilst still in Australia. Thank you Peter for hosting the meeting and for encouraging us to visit Brisbane. It certainly is a friendly, relaxed, modern, yet not pretentious city, very easy to navigate, and many places to enjoy. The Riverfire fireworks display Peter organized for us was just the cherry on the top (actually, whilst Peter is great organizer, even managing to collect his new Ducati during the Symposium; the Riverfire display credit needs to be given to the City of Brisbane and Queensland (#Riverfire2018). We missed all who were not able to travel and attend, and I hope you are able to capture some of the fantastic moments in the Newsletter and the recently established Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/International-Committee-for-Coal-and-Organic-Petrology-ICCP-301670160628781/>). (please go and like the page!)

The inaugural "Hackley" took place, which we hope will become an integral part of the ICCP meeting agenda – see page 20 for more details. And the koalas are just as cute and cuddly in real life. And, who has completed their puzzle?

Although the number of meeting delegates was relatively small in Brisbane, only 2 council members were not able to attend. The meeting discussions were again fruitful, and first time attendees commented on the value of the week long meeting to organic petrographers. Dispersed organic matter and suberinite dominated the microscopic session, providing lively debate and fortunately a lot of agreement! If you want the discussion centered around your samples, please make sure you bring them along next year.

I encourage you to read the minutes of the General Assembly as well as the Commission Minutes. The ICCP needs to conduct a round of votes for the position of General Secretary, as well as voting pertaining to registration in Portugal, so please ensure your email details are up to date (visit the webpage). As only Full ICCP Members are eligible to vote, please can you forward all nominations to Full membership to the General Secretary if you would like to participate. (PS Angeles and myself were voted in to serve another term on Council and as President and Editor respectively; and Magda was re-elected to Chair Com III).

It is with great sadness we note the passing of two valuable ICCP members – Colin Ward and Jack Crelling. **Both were invaluable organic petrologists of global repute, and their legacies will live on.** The International Journal of Coal Geology will prepare Special Issues in both their names – please contact the Editors for further information if you have not yet received it.

The next ICCP Meeting will take place in the Hague, hosted by Georgios Siavalas and Shell. The 2020 ICCP Meeting combined with the TSOP Meeting will be hosted in China. And in the following years, the ICCP Meetings will take place in Prague and India. As usual, I have captured as many conferences that I am aware of on the back page so that you can plan your travels in 2019 and beyond.

May I take this opportunity to wish all ICCP Members and other readers well for the end of the year festivities and best wishes for 2019. **Please do remember to forward your short contributions to the ICCP Newsletter to the Editor.**

All the Best,  
Nikki

# PRESIDENTS COLUMN

The 70<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting took place this year in Brisbane. It was the second time we visited Australia, this time to the city of Brisbane. Peter Crosdale and a bunch of ICCP colleagues Stavros Kalaitzidis, Walter Pickel, Paddy Rhanasinghe, Joan Esterle, Sandra Rodrigues, Antonis Bouzinos, Mohinudeen Faiz, Peter Handley supported by Kudzai Dube made every effort to ensure a great success of the meeting. I would like to thank all of them and very especially Peter and his family who received us in their home and promoted our health by doing sport after a delicious barbecue. It was certainly a lot of fun. The venue of the meeting (Royal on the Park hotel) was nicely located in front of the beautiful Botanical Garden and the timing was such that we could also enjoy the fantastic fireworks linked to the celebrations of the Brisbane Festival. A visit to the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary was the nice flourish for closing the meeting. I would like to thank the commission officers, the conveners and participants of the working groups for every effort and remember the membership that everybody is welcome to participate in the activities of the organization

through the working groups. I also would like to congratulate our Thiessen medallists Kuili Jin and Reinhard Sachsenhofer for the achievements to win the award. I also would like to welcome the new Vice-President, Treasurer, and Chair of Commission II. I thank Jen Pearson and Paul Hackley for their years of service in their positions and in Council. Peter Crosdale will continue in Council, now as Treasurer of the ICCP.

You will find the minutes of the meeting in the following pages of this newsletter. The accreditation round is ongoing and the certificates for SCAP and DOMVR have been already distributed, whereas those enrolled in CBAP will be receiving the samples soon. Congratulations to all those awarded with accreditation.

Following the mandate of the General Assembly Council, the search for additional options for registration continued during the year. Canada, USA, and Australia appear to be unaffordable, whereas the requirements in Portugal could fit with the common practice in our organization. This option would be put for vote as soon as online vote is available.

We regret the had two sad loses within the ICCP membership before the Meeting. We lost Colin Ward before the Meeting, and Jack Crelling during the Meeting in Brisbane. We will keep them alive in our memory and thank them for their legacies.

I take this opportunity to wish you all the best for the starting of 2019.

## ICCP Services

### 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  
Coal & Organic Petrology Services Pty Ltd  
Unit 3 & 4/328-330 Darling Street  
Balmain, NSW 2041  
P.O. Box 672, Rozelle, NSW 2039  
tel.: +61-2 -98103970; mobile: +61 (0)410418756  
e-mail: [walterpickel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:walterpickel@optusnet.com.au)

- 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)

- Gerd and Gisela Bieg  
Mikroskopische Untersuchungen  
Haltern am See, Germany  
Ph +49-2364-6285  
mailto: [mikro-un@t-online.de](mailto:mikro-un@t-online.de)

### 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: Prof. João Graciano Mendonça Filho  
Dean of the Mathematical and Natural Sciences Center (CCMN)  
Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro - UFRJ  
Tel. +55 21 3938 9401 / 9480  
Cel. +55 21 99602 4528  
mailto: [graciano@geologia.ufrj.br](mailto:graciano@geologia.ufrj.br)



# Minutes of ICCP Council Meeting and Plenary Session, Brisbane, September 2018

## Council:

Members of Council present: Angeles G. Borrego, President; Peter Crosdale, outgoing Vice-President / incoming Treasurer; Nikki Wagner, Editor; Stavros Kalaitzidis, Chair Commission I; Paul Hackley, Chair Commission II; Magdalena-Misz-Kennan, Chair Commission III; Sandra Rodrigues, Secretary of Commission III; Walter Pickel, General Secretary.

Jennifer Pearson, outgoing Honorary Treasurer; Dragana Zivotic, Secretary Commission I; Jolanta Kus, Secretary of Commission II; **João Graciano Mendonça Filho, Vice President (elect)** have sent their apologies.

## 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from the following members:

Dragana Zivotic (RS), Jen Pearson (CA), Dave Pearson (CA), Jolanta Kus (DE), Lopo Vasconcelos (MZ), Elena Karmazina (AU), Alan Davis (US), John Crelling (US), Harold Smith (UK), Rosa Menéndez (ES), Diego Álvarez (ES), Javier G. Prado (ES), Barbara Kwiecinska (PO), Georgios Siavalas (NE), João G. Mendonça Filho (BR), Kuili Jin (CN), Reinhard Sachsenhofer (AT), Malgorzata Wojtaszek (PO), Ray Smith (AU), Atul K. Varma (IN), Wayne Knowles (UK), Angelika Vieth (DE), Barbara Bielowicz (PO), Rudi Schawb (UK), Carla Araujo (BR), Deolinda Flores (PT), Paula Gonçalves (PT), Joana Ribeiro (PT), Bruno Valentim (PT), Georgeta Predeanu (RO), Maria Ghiran Doria (RO), Mihai Popa (RO), Cornelia Panaitescu (RO), Izabela Maris (RO), Olga Patricia Gómez López (CO), Zuleika Carreta Correa da Silva (BR), Claus Diessel (AU), Kimon Christanis (GR), Vongani Prince Chabalala (ZA), Johan Joubert (ZA), Lila Gurba (AU), Carl Hilgers (DE), Petra David (DE), Gerd Bieg (DE), Gisela Bieg (DE)

## 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

*Resolution ICCPC18/2/1. Council approves the Council minutes as printed in the ICCP Newsletter #69.*

The minutes of the Plenary Sessions were published in the ICCP Newsletter # 69.

*Resolution ICCPC18/2/2. Council approves the Plenary Session minutes as printed in the ICCP Newsletter #69.*

## 3. Arrangements for the Brisbane meeting

Peter Crosdale presented details for the Brisbane Meeting. According to the circulated information the Brisbane Meeting looked very well organized and as it turned out, it was.

*Resolution ICCPC18/3/1. Council thanks the organizers on their work in preparation of the meeting.*

## 4. Future meetings

### 4.1. Meeting in The Netherlands, 2019

George Siavalas has confirmed by e-mail to the President that he will on behalf of Shell be able to organize a meeting in The Netherlands. As Shell is planning to move its premises in the country, it is not yet clear, in which city this meeting can be held. Suggested date: 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> September.

*Resolution ICCPC18/4/1. Council thanks George Siavalas and Shell for commitment and their work in preparation for this meeting.*

ICCP accepted an invitation to Beijing for 2020 in 2016

ICCP has accepted an invitation to hold an ICCP meeting in New Delhi in 2022.

ICCP has received an invitation from Ivana Sykorova to Prague for 2021. Proposed date is 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> of September.  
*Resolution ICCPC18/4/2. Council accepts the invitation.*

## 5. Awards

### 5.1 Thiessen Medal Award Committee

The Thiessen Medal Award was awarded to  
Prof. Kuili Jin for 2018  
Prof. Reinhard Sachsenhofer for 2017.

### 5.2 Organic Petrology Award.

No nominations have been received.

## 6. ICCP Student Grant

No information was available at the time this agenda was compiled. The process of awarding the grant will take place before the course in Potsdam.

## 7. Elections

The current members of Council and their dates of election are listed in the table opposite. The positions in red are due for nomination of candidates in 2019. **No nomination for GS was received and is urgently sought.**

*Resolution ICCPC18/7/1. Council nominates the following candidates for election/re-election. Angeles Gomez Borego for President, Magdalena Misz-Kenan as Chair of Commission III, George Siavalas as Secretary of Commission II.*

All candidates were confirmed by the Closing Plenary Session.

## 8. Membership

### 8.1 Applications for Associate Membership

Valerie Despujols  
V.A. Mendhe  
Nehar Aggarwal  
Priya Kumari  
Javin Hatcherian

### 8.2 Applications for Full Membership

Henny Gerschel

*Resolution ICCPC18/8/1. Council has accepted the applications and at the meeting via e-mail and forwarded them to the Plenary Session for approval.*

All applications were approved by the Closing Plenary Session.

### 8.3 Honorary Membership

No nominations for Honorary membership were received during the year.

### 8.4 Resignations

Pamela Alexander.

### 8.5 Deceased

Geoffrey H. Taylor  
Chris Cornford  
Richard R. Thompson  
Colin Ward.

### 8.6 Membership fees:

There are 26 members whose membership fees are overdue. The Treasurer will contact these members.

## 9. Financial matters – Treasurer's report

The report from the outgoing treasurer had been circulated to members of council (refer to page 12).

*Resolution ICCPC18/9/1. Council*

- receives the report presented by the Honorary Treasurer*
- agrees that the report represents a fair statement of the*



**Table: Elections for Council**

\* These officers have different wording in relation to the terms of office. In red those positions requiring nominations this year.

Office nomination	Year elected	1 <sup>st</sup> meeting	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y to call for nomination
President	2018	2020	2021	2022	2023	2022
V-Pres	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2021
Gen Sec	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2018
Hon Treas*	2017	2019	2020	2021	2022	2021
Editor*	2018	2020	2021	2022	2023	2022
Ch Com I	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2019
Sec Com I	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2019
Ch Com II	2017	2019	2020	2021	2022	2021
Sec Com II	2018	2020	2021	2022	2023	2022
Ch Com III	2018	2020	2021	2022	2023	2022
Sec Com III	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2021

*financial affairs of the ICCP and congratulates the Honorary Treasurer on the report.*

*iii) thanks Jen Pearson for her outstanding contributions as treasurer.*

#### *Resolution ICCP/18/9/2 Council*

*i) Approves the use of Westpac as our bank*

*ii) Approves as signatories:*

*Dr Peter Crosdale, Treasurer*

*Dr Walter Pickel, General Secretary*

*Dr Angeles Borrego, President*

*Dr Sandra Rodrigues, Secretary Commission III*

*iii) Approves that only one signatory is necessary to operate the account.*

*iv) Council congratulates Peter Crosdale in his new role as treasurer and wishes him well.*

## **10. Editor's report**

The editor's report has been received.

*Resolution ICCPC18/10/1. Council receives the report of the Editor and congratulates her on her outstanding work.*

*Resolution ICCPC18/10/2. Council approves spending by the editor in accordance with the budget estimates given in the Editors Report.*

## **11. Accreditation Programs**

### **11.1 Accreditation Round 2018-2019**

SCAP and DOMVR accreditation programs have been begun on schedule. Samples and instructions have been circulated to participants and evaluations are expected on time by the end of the year. CBAP is also expected to run on schedule.

Reports from the SCAP and DOMVR accreditation programs were received. A report from the Chair of the Accreditation Sub-Committee, Magdalena Misz has also received.

*Resolution ICCPC18/11/1 Council thanks the organizers of the*

*three programs for their work and congratulates them and Magdalena Misz for her report. The report is attached to this agenda (please refer to the website)*

## **12. ICCP training activities**

### **12.1 18/12/1 2018 year training courses**

A short training course "General Organic Petrology" was held in Brisbane prior to the ICCP Meeting, on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018. It was outstandingly well organized by Peter Crosdale, and presented by Stavros Kalaitzidis and Walter Pickel. Nineteen participants registered. A summary of the course and participant's evaluation forms have been sent to the Vice President for his report on 2018 training activities.

A training course on dispersed organic matter will take place in Potsdam (29<sup>th</sup> October—2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2018) to be held by João Graciano Mendonça Filho and Dr. Angeles G. Borrego (Ed: Unfortunately this was cancelled).

*Resolution ICCPC18/12/1. Council acknowledges the large involvement of Peter Crosdale, Andreas Küppers and Anjie Treutler as organizers. Council acknowledges the enormous amount of work involved in teaching the intensive ICCP course and express that ICCP is deeply in debt with Dr. João Graciano Mendonça Filho and Dr. Angeles G. Borrego, Dr. Stavros Kalaitzidis and Dr. Walter Pickel for their work.*

### **12.2 18/12/3 Future training courses**

A Training Course Organic Petrology and Industrial Applications to be held by Isabel Suárez-Ruiz & Walter Pickel in Potsdam has been approved and scheduled for late spring in Potsdam.

A course on 'General Organic Petrology' to be held by Stavros Kalaitzidis and Walter Pickel in Potsdam 2020 in late spring.

*Resolution ICCPC18/12/3. Council forwards to the Plenary the proposal to hold the above courses in Potsdam.*

In the meantime the 2018 course in Potsdam has been cancelled due to organizational problems and a very small number of participants. The Potsdam venue for the courses in 2019 and 2020 has been since confirmed.

A proposed contract between the ICCP and CSIR to hold biannual training course with ICCP lecturers teaching for free in India has been rejected by council in its proposed form. In a response it was suggested that CSIR negotiates contracts with lecturers individually under economic conditions. ICCP may, against a small fee, if the lecturers are approved by ICCP, lend its name to such courses."

### 13 Registration

Deolinda Flores forwarded a proposal for an ICCP registration in Porto for comment including estimated costs for the installation of such a registration. The proposal was discussed by council members via e-mail. The ICCP can be registered in Portugal without having to take up insurance. It is not clear yet what the ongoing costs of this registration will be. Council members have to be present at the registration in Portugal or register at their nearest Portuguese embassy

*Resolution ICCPC18/14/1. Council thanks Deolinda Flores and those, who participated in the discussion for their work to effort in this matter*

*Resolution ICCPC18/14/2. Council will send a ballot out electronically to all full members regarding the registration before the next meeting.*

Discussions via e-mail have been recently held between council members regarding the voting procedures of the ICCP. A change of these would at least in part require a change of statutes. This would also apply to item 13 (see above).

Given the average participation in ICCP votes and election over the past years it appears to be difficult to impossible to receive the required (by the present statutes) majority for or against a change of statutes. This catch 22 will need further discussion and preferably a solution.

### General Assembly:

Meetings of the General Assembly were held on September the 24<sup>th</sup> and September the 28<sup>th</sup>. The opening session was attended by 30 members, the closing session by 17.

All council resolutions were approved by the Closing Plenary Session. No candidate for the outgoing General Secretary was nominated and nominations are urgently sought before the next meeting.

The four members of the ICCP, who had passed away in the upcoming year to the meeting, were remembered in a minute silence.

Peter Crosdale and his organizing committee organized and managed an outstanding meeting and short course, which was very much enjoyed by all in attendance. The President thanked all members of the meeting's organizing committee.





# MINUTES OF COMMISSION I GENERAL COAL AND ORGANIC PETROLOGY

70<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting – Brisbane, Australia, 24-25<sup>th</sup> September 2018

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

**Acting Secretary:** Paul Hackley, [phackley@usgs.gov](mailto:phackley@usgs.gov)

Commission I met on Monday September 24, 2018, in the Catalina Room of the Royal on the Park Hotel in downtown Brisbane, with 25 attendees.

Stavros Kalaitzidis presided as Chair with Paul Hackley acting as Secretary in place of Dragana Životić whom could not attend the meeting, with apologies.

**Opening Remarks:** Stavros outlined the Commission I schedule, which was to occupy the remainder of the Monday afternoon. He highlighted recent achievements of Commission I, including the publication of papers in the International Journal of Coal Geology in 2017-2018: Kus and Misz-Kennan, 2017: "Coal weathering and laboratory (artificial) coal oxidation"; and Pickel et al., 2017: "Classification of liptinite - ICCP System 1994".

## Single Coal Accreditation Program - Kimon Christanis

On behalf of Kimon Christanis, whom could not attend the meeting with apologies, Stavros presented the activities of the Single Coal Blend Accreditation Program. The program is running slightly behind schedule, with 62 laboratories from 26 countries participating. Approximately 50 percent of the participants are ICCP members and the other non-members. For the first time, the program includes participating analysts from China, Indonesia and Japan. Up until now, there have been some issues with sample shipments, with some analysts still unable to receive samples for the 2018 round, results of which are due on October 14, only several weeks away. Walter Pickel commented that there will be a need to push back the deadline for returning analysis results because of the delay in sample shipment to some laboratories and asked that the specialized Excel sheet for entering results be sent immediately from Kimon to the participants. Magda Misz-Kennan commented that the deadline for results should not be pushed back because that would make the timeframe for analysis of the results too short and interfere with the Christmas holiday. Nikki Wagner, whom only just received her samples, commented that about 8 other analysts in South Africa still had not and that the October 14 deadline was not realistic. Stavros indicated that the need for the sample shipments to be completed and the Excel sheet sent to participants would be communicated to Kimon.

## ISO Standard – Walter Pickel

Walter Pickel presented on the ISO 7404 standards for petrographic coal analysis, outlining the responsibility that the ICCP has for maintenance of this international standards set. He asked for any in the audience that had interest in remarking on the standards during their update to be in contact with him. There were no comments or questions from the Commission I attendees.

## Standardization WG – Walter Pickel

Walter continued, by presenting on the Standardization Working Group of Commission I. This working group initiated a round robin on two lignite samples in 2016 to see if application of the huminite classification could be reproducibly adapted to point counts of these samples. Sample blocks had been sent to 24 participants, with results received from only 8 participants up-to-date, including results from Walter himself and another in his laboratory. Walter requested that the participants who had received blocks either send him results, with the deadline up

until the end of 2018, or return the blocks to him so that they could be sent to others interested in participating. Joan Esterle suggested that we use Hilgers Fossil Student to do a point count during the meeting, with a scan of the sample to begin immediately. However, fluorescence is required for these samples so that prohibited working on them during the meeting. Peter Crosdale remarked that the use of fluorescence would certainly impact the quality of results with different maceral abundances being reported by those laboratories who use fluorescence during a point count compared to those who don't. Angeles Borrego also remarked that the results are likely to be highly divergent and that the Hilgers Fossil Student should be used to sort out the reasons for potential discrepancies. Stavros remarked that an email reminder should be sent to the participants asking for the results and return of the samples.

## Suberinite WG – Peter Crosdale

Peter Crosdale handed out polished blocks for the Suberinite Working Group and passed around the room a sign-up sheet for those interested to participate in the 2018 exercise of this working group. He insisted that suberinite may be up to 50 vol.% in some samples of this coal. Peter requested that working group participants perform a point count of the sample using the ICCP nomenclature and complete a VRo measurement. Images, preferably annotated, were also requested from the participants. Peter noted that previous round robins in the working group presented a high range in VRo standard deviation, with some analysts reporting minimal values while others reported high values. He suspected that this was due to some analysts measuring all types of huminite while others selected only one type. There was a remark from Joan Esterle that perhaps VRo was an inappropriate rank parameter and maybe some other parameter should be used instead, although she admitted that other rank proxies had their own issues. Peter put the sample onto the microscope and projected the field onto the screen allowing a lively discussion of the merits of suberinite versus bituminite *versus* attrinite *versus* the "outlaw" degradinite. Peter commented that suberinite abundance in the coal measures may positively correspond to gas content, thus there is an economic implication for a better understanding of its abundance. Twelve people immediately signed up to participate.

The discussion continued in the afternoon with more insights on distinguishing features of suberinite, and the need to make its identification in context of its appearance in other microscope fields than the current. That is, the information from the whole sample should be taken in context, so that degraded suberinite which has lost its corpogelinite inclusions could be identified by the presence, in another field, of undegraded suberinite with corpogelinite fillings in place. This contextual need for maceral identification is not widely communicated and may be unknown to those whom are attempting to learn organic petrography without the benefit of attendance to the ICCP meetings.

## Xylite-rich Lithotype Classification WG – Giannis Oikonomopoulos

Commission I reconvened in the Catalina Room at 09:00 on September 25, with 17 attendees. Stavros ran over the schedule and launched into the remaining presentations, beginning on behalf of Giannis Oikonomopoulos with a description of the activities of the Xylite-rich Coal Working Group. There currently is a round robin exercise in progress, using images and an Excel form, although not all members of the working group have yet received the materials. The goal and objective of the working group is to have a classification and descriptive index for xylite-rich coals. A sign-up sheet was passed out for interested members to join the working group.

## Distinguishing Features of Macerals WG – Walter Pickel

Walter Pickel presented an update from the Distinguishing

Features Working Group, although he apologized that no work had been accomplished in the working group over the last year. He proceeded to discuss the need for a 'white paper' of maceral distinguishing features, a need which had been well illustrated by the preceding afternoon's discussion of the distinction of suberinite, bituminite or attrinite in the coal sample from the suberinite working group. Walter agreed that he would solicit contributions from ICCP members by placing a call in the Newsletter. The contributors would place their comments in an email to Walter, which he would then compile into the 'white paper'. It was suggested by Walter a deadline of New Years for these contributions. Angeles Borrego suggested that contributors should first read the maceral classifications before making their comments, so that the comments could add to the existing descriptions, and Walter agreed that this would be included in the invitation from the Newsletter.

#### **Petrographic Image database – Petra David**

Stavros next presented on the status of the Commission I image database, reminding attendees that a request for ICCP funding of 15,000 Euros to have a commercial vendor build the infrastructure had been rejected at last year's ICCP Closing Plenary. Instead the members of the working group had been requested to find a less expensive option. Petra David and Jolanta Kus had been able to find some more expensive options and several potentially less expensive options had been suggested but not researched to the point that a cost estimate was available. Magdalena Misz-Kennan suggested that she knows a colleague who worked in IT at her institute and she could ask for ideas, if she had a description of the requirements of the infrastructure, which Stavros agreed to provide. Javin Hatcherian asked what the right price would be and is it possible to scale down the requirements so that a cost more acceptable could be presented to the General Assembly. Stavros thought that the current requirements were a minimum. Greg Shand from ALS Global suggested that a cheaper or free option could be explored by having a student do the work from an ICCP member's institute and that if the product was not acceptable then the commercial route would be required, and the cost justified. Angeles noted that this was a very important activity for ICCP as regards preserving our work and providing a training tool for future organic petrology students. Isabel agreed that it was an important work, but it was necessary to find a lower cost to keep fairness among the funding priorities of ICCP activities. Angeles agreed that a new proposal should be presented to the ICCP General Assembly rather than a repeat of the failed proposal of last year's General Assembly. Stavros agreed that he would work further on identifying other options and Paul Hackley agreed that he would investigate possibilities within the USA.

#### **Application of TEM and SEM Chapter - Barbara Kwiecińska, Sławomira Pusz and Brett J. Valentine**

The last item discussed in Commission I was the status of the SEM-TEM handbook chapter which had submitted and rejected by International Journal of Coal Geology, despite that Editor-in-Chief Shifeng Dai had previously agreed that these handbook chapters would be accepted as approved by the Commission I and General Assembly. The main problems were that there were too much 'general' type information in the paper, such as the basics of SEM, and not enough information specific to SEM-TEM applications to organic matter. This had been addressed by the authors by an update, which included addition of almost 35 new references. Angeles noted that the changes should be approved by Commission I and the ICCP so the updates in tracked changes were reviewed and approved by Commission I with a show of hands and the comment that some grammatical fixes were required. Paul Hackley noted that based on discussions with the author Brett Valentine, the changes that were made should be sufficient for acceptance by the journal editor. Angeles asked if the authors could be contacted with the suggestion that if the paper were again rejected from the journal then it could be assigned an ISBN number and made available from the ICCP webpage and Stavros agreed to contact them with this request.

#### **Closing Remarks**

Commission I wrapped up with a short presentation from Stavros, and requests to update the Commission I webpages <http://www.iccop.org/commissions/commission-i/> and contact the Commission I Chair and Secretary with news about the working groups. Com I would like to thank the conveners for their dedication and efforts to run the WGs, and encourage ICCP members to participate in Commissions Exercises.

Stavros also acknowledged the great assistance of Paul Hackley to run the sessions of Com I.

The Commission activities concluded at 1030 with a break for coffee.

## **MINUTES OF COMMISSION II**

### **Geological Applications of Coal and Organic Petrology**

70<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting – Brisbane, Australia, 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018

**Chair:** Paul Hackley [phackley@usgs.gov](mailto:phackley@usgs.gov)

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

Commission II met on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 09:00, in the Catalina Room of the Royal on the Park Hotel in downtown Brisbane, with 18 attendees.

Paul Hackley presided as Chair with Stavros Kalaitzidis acting as Secretary in place of Jolanta Kus who could not attend the meeting, with apologies.

**Opening Remarks:** Paul outlined the Commission II schedule of the day and the changes required since Lila Gurba could not attend. He further presented the objectives and the status of the active WGs of the Commission II, emphasizing in recent activities. All the available information can be found in <https://www.iccop.org/commissions/commission-ii/>.

Paul also mentioned changes on the Conveners and the objectives of the Classification of Dispersed Organic Matter ICCP-TSOP DOM Atlas and Dispersed Organic Matter in Sedimentary Rocks WGs; Dr. Isabel Suárez-Ruiz will convene both activities with the objectives to a) produce a photographic atlas in cd or web based and b) produce a 'white paper' journal article linked to image atlas, for the two WGs, respectively. Paul also commented on the need to create a section in Commission II webpage for the Spectral Fluorescence Calibration Service, as well as he urges the Conveners of all the WGs to submit material to COM II Secretary for updating the WGs webpages, as many seem to be outdated.

#### **TSOP-ICCP DOM Atlas – Isabel Suárez-Ruiz**

Isabel presented the last version of the Atlas and the history of preparing it as well as what is still required. Main tasks for the immediate future are:

- Inclusion of all the contributors and reviewers
- Inclusion of more photomicrographs, and in different light modes, particularly of components that are totally missed (e.g. bituminite)
- The Introduction section needs to be significantly revised and to update the references
- Modifications of the Depositional Environment and Sedimentary OM sections
- Updating the text in DOM classification
- Include also comments on Transmitted light usage
- Modifications in Methods section
- Information on DOM by various Formations, mostly Reflectance and Rock Eval data

However, some of the above information can be provided in later stages, resulting in various versions of the Atlas. Isabel



also referred to the review process by mentioning that Dr. Thomas Gentzis (TSOP member) and Dr. Peter Crosdale (ICCP member) have been appointed to review the Atlas and both agreed, with Peter having already submitted his comments. During the discussion, Paul asked whether the Atlas will be on a cd or web-based; Isabel responded that this is still an open issue and will be resolved once work is more completed. It was also approved that Dr. Paula Alexandra Gonçalves will be assisting Isabel in the above tasks. Commission II acknowledges the enormous efforts and valuable work of Isabel Suárez-Ruiz within this WG.

#### **Dispersed Organic Matter in Sedimentary Rocks WGs - Isabel Suárez-Ruiz**

Although not scheduled, Isabel presented a short history of the efforts to prepare a White Paper related to DOM in sedimentary rocks, as Dr. Wolfgang Kalkreuth proposed in 1995. During this period several members were asked to submit chapters, and although few responded the work has not really been completed. Wolfgang sent the material he collected to Dr. Mária Hámor Vidó, who realized that the work is still in a very early stage and did not proceed significantly. In 2017, Maria asked Paul to hand over the WG to a new Convenor and Isabel has accepted along Dr. Paula Alexandra Gonçalves.

Isabel reviewed the existing material and she concluded that the Paper has to be re-written since many information and terms are outdated. However, this is a task that Isabel and Paula cannot undertake alone, hence she proposed that members who are interested to assist can communicate with her [isruiz@incar.csic.es](mailto:isruiz@incar.csic.es).

During the discussion Walter Pickel asked about the need to produce the White Paper, since the DOM Atlas will cover the subject. Isabel and Paul pointed out that the Atlas will focus on the images of DOM, whereas the Paper will include more text related to the DOM occurrence.

Angeles Borrego mentioned that the initial plan was for various experienced Members to contribute with texts, so perhaps Isabel can coordinate another round of communications to establish an editorial team. Finally, it was decided that Isabel and Paula will coordinate for the next 2 years and will firstly approach the initial authors to revise/contribute, before they extend the invitation to new authors.

Commission II would like to thank Isabel and Paula for their dedication to accomplish the DOM White Paper

#### **Confocal Laser Scanning Microscopy (CLSM) WG – Paul C. Hackley & Jolanta Kus**

Paul presented the history and the progress of this WG, and the various applications of CLSM in several branches of sciences including biological ones. With this technique, the acquisition of 3D images at high resolution can be achieved, as was shown by the various images Paul showed.

For 2018, an exercise based on a Kimmeridge sample was circulated and 13 participants received the samples to perform CLSM study without predefined instructions. Only 4 participants conducted the exercise till now, Paul Hackley, Jolanta Kus, Angeles Borrego, Andy Czaja. Paul presented the images and the data they received, in terms of relief and fluorescence characteristics, as well as reflectance measurements.

The presentation focused on the relief and fluorescence intensities of various macerals in polished blocks treated conventionally and/or using ion milling. The initial comparison between the polishing techniques showed that ion milling increased significantly the reflectance of the macerals, by applying ion milling. AFM application showed that this is caused due to flattening of the surface. Jolanta Kus provided data on bituminite, Botryococcus as well as pyrites displaying a halo. In general, the CLSM technique has advantages in providing high-resolution spectra analyses and can discriminate the internal variations of fluorescence intensity within macerals. The conveners will wait to receive more data prior the final reporting. During the discussion, the main topic was the effect of ion milling in reflectance measurements and what this could mean

for comparing the various reflectance results obtained by ion milling and “conventional grinding-polishing”. Walter Pickel asked whether any temperature effects could be responsible for the reflectance increase, with Paul responding that if voltage is kept low the temperature is not a factor. In addition, the AFM study showed that the reflectance is increasing due to a better flattening process. Angeles Borrego also commented that a similar effect is observed when using finer grid paper or fine alumina grain size. Peter Crosdale commented that it will be useful to check the effect of ion milling and the application parameters and how they affect the reflectance measurements in more detail.

Commission II thanks Paul C. Hackley and Jolanta Kus for their work carried out in 2018 and congratulates them.

#### **DOMVR Accreditation Program – João Graciano Mendonça Filho**

Angeles Borrego presented the activities of the DOMVR Accreditation program for 2018 on behalf of João. This year the transition of the Program between Angeles and João was completed and the Program was announced in early 2018. Two changes took place this year: participants from the same laboratory received different samples for analysis; and, for the first time, all the participants received ground samples and not polished blocks. The distribution of samples took place in June 2018 with the deadline for submitting results being set on 15<sup>th</sup> of October.

Angeles showed an overview of the participation from 2006 till 2018, as well as of the country distribution. In this program, the vast majority of the participants are ICCP Members, and for 2018 Round 38 ICCP members and 17 non-members were registered. However, in previous rounds it has been noticed that non-members participating in this Program apply for ICCP membership soon after their accreditation. For the first time, the Program had registrations from China and India, whereas the highest number of participants was recorded from USA followed by Australia, Columbia, and Brazil, with participants from the European countries being the minority.

For 2018 Round the samples represented Continental Carboniferous from Spain and USA, as well as Mesozoic Marine Sequences from Spain and Portugal. Each continuing participant received a sample of marine origin and a sample of terrestrial origin, and each entry or re-entering participant received 6 samples analysed. The standards relevant for the exercise are ISO 7404-5 (2009) and ASTM D7708 – 11 and the details about the program and the statistics involved can be found at <http://www.iccop.org/accreditation/>. A main point is that results with PSD>Rr\*0.15 will not be accepted.

Angeles also commented on the experiences accumulated the previous years with the main points being:

- Samples are expected to be difficult since the scarcity of particles do not always show the largest scatter of results (GSD).

- Organic rich samples, especially multicomponent-rich samples, typically show difficulties for analysis because of the variety of criteria to select the rank population.

- Some moderate rank samples with abundant vitrinite particles have shown large GSD, which cannot be related with any specific difficulty. (Except maybe thinking that “*I cannot believe it would be so easy*”).

- Large GSD makes the test easier and also increases the individual UMSD. Overall it shows that we are able to analyze the sample with low precision.

The consequences of the above can be summarized as:

- Accredited participants may have failed in picking the vitrinite in a sample.

- Typically precise analysts have lower precision values when the GSD are large.

Also it has been noticed that participants from the same laboratory tend to report very similar results.

Concluding, Angeles referred to the suitability of the samples used in the Program, mentioning that additional rules and checking procedures should be established in order to establish the degree of heterogeneity participants are going to encounter

while analyzing the samples. Therefore, for this year, a guideline has been established to prevent the practice of measuring everything organic in the rock and averaging by applying the  $PSD < Rr \cdot 0.15\%$  threshold.

Members were also asked to provide João ([graciano@geologia.ufri.br](mailto:graciano@geologia.ufri.br)) with suitable samples that will cover the following requirements.

Natural (not treated in any way), unblended samples.

Should have around 50 particles to be measured during the analysis.

Ideally 2 kg. If you can get around 500 g, contact the convener

Any maturity between  $R_o = 0.2$  and  $2.0\%$ . If you have samples exceeding these limits, contact the convener.

Finally, João acknowledges the assistance of the following parties in the successful run of the Program:

Original Organizers: Alan C. Cook, Angeles G. Borrego.

Treasurer: Jen Pearson who has dealt with the economic and administrative affairs.

Technical Developers: Paddy Ranasinghe developed the 1st database, Interrelate Lda developed the last one; Ralph Delzepich who implemented the online registration in the web page, Silktech is doing the present day update.

Chairs of Accreditation Subcommittee: Angeles G. Borrego, Deolinda Flores Magda Misz-Kennan and members of the ASC.

Sample providers: P. Crosdale, D. Flores, I. Suárez-Ruiz, Oscar Merino, Lopo Vasconcelos, Paul Hackley, Jolanta Kus, Atul Varma, Kuili Jin, Maria Hamor-Vidó

Supporting laboratories: INCAR-CSIC and LAFO.

Participants who are committed to return the blocks and perform the analysis according to the rules and providing feedback to the organizer.

Commission II congratulates João Graciano Mendonça Filho for his efforts and very valuable work carried out within the DOMVR Accreditation Program. Commission II also thanks Angeles for presenting the Program.

#### Identification of Primary Vitrinite WG – Paul Hackley

Paul presented the progress of the Identification of primary vitrinite WG and an overview of the 2016 exercise. He outlined the problems that the WG tries to solve and the main objective, which is to provide guidelines for the identification of the primary vitrinite population in dispersed organic matter. In 2016, six high maturity samples with high TOC were circulated, representing current USA shale gas/tight oil plays (Eagle Ford, Marcellus, Haynesville, Barnett, Bakken, Woodford).

51 people expressed interest to participate in the exercise and 37 sent back results, out of whom 28 are DOMVR accredited. However, the results were not satisfactory; hence it was decided to use statistical methods to eliminate outliers and refine results.

The application of various limitations revealed the following:

By removing values of  $AUSMD > 1.5$ : consistent improvement observed.

By removing values of  $IUSMD > 1.0$ : the best results obtained.

By removing data non-compliant to D7708 standard: no improvement was observed.

By removing  $s.d. > 0.15 \cdot R_o$ : consistent improvement observed.

By removing data where  $n < 20$ : inconsistent conclusions were obtained.

By removing data that were reported by not following the D7708 template: inconsistent conclusions were obtained.

Paul is preparing a new exercise, in order to optimize the results and the reproducibility obtained. In 2019, a series of photomicrographs from the same samples will be circulated to check what people identify as vitrinite vs solid bitumen. In 2020, a new round robin will be performed with different samples and

instead of vitrinite, solid bitumens reflectance will be measured. Additionally, in the new exercises, a limitations will be enforced, such as insisting in following the ASTM standard.

During the discussion, Angeles Borrego suggested that participants of 2016 exercise might want to revisit their data and apply the  $s.d. > 0.15 \cdot R_o$  rule to exclude their outliers. Peter Crosdale commented that perhaps a sample with known vitrinite or solid bitumen reflectance can be circulated and used for calibration purposes. Angeles proposed to distribute a series of calibrated scanned images using the "FOSSIL Student" software and participants can work with this file as an exercise. She also commented that it will be useful to include the Rock-Eval data with the samples. Paul will consider the proposed ideas.

Finally, it was agreed to change the title of the WG to: **Identification of Thermal Maturity Relevant Organic Matter.**

Paul expressed his acknowledgments to Owen Scholl, Javin Hatcherian, Brett Valentine (USGS) Thomas Gentzis, Humberto Carvajal (Core Laboratories). He also thanked James Donnelly, Steve Ruppel (BEG), Terry Huber, John Repetski (USGS) for providing samples, as well as the USGS Energy Resources Program and all the Participants in the ICCP inter-laboratory study.

Commission II thanks Paul Hackley for his dedication and efforts within this WG.

#### DOMVR Accreditation Program 2006-2017: lessons learned

- Angeles G. Borrego

Angeles presented the historical development of the DOMVR accreditation program, its administrative and organizational challenges, the evolution of the participants and the evaluation processes of the results throughout the last 10 plus years.

It is well known that the Program initiated in 2006 with Alan Cook as Organizer, before Angeles took over in 2011 to 2017; now João Graciano Mendonça Filho is the convener. In the first two rounds, data was evaluated using a database designed by Paddy Ranasinghe; the following 3 rounds were evaluated with an excel sheet; and the last round with an excel designed database by Interrelate Lda (Porto) (common to the three ICCP Accreditation Programs). Briefly, the conditions of analysis in this program are to provide mean random vitrinite reflectance and standard deviation values, after measuring 50 points, following ISO 7404-5 (2009) and ASTM D7708 – 11. The participation in the program has significantly increased through the years, from 26 participants in the first year to being constantly above 60.

Main observations made during the years include:

Participants from the same laboratory communicate to each other and/or have similar criteria when selecting the vitrinite population. This has been resolved by sending different samples in every participant within the same lab. However, this is increasing the requirements for more samples and there is a constant need to find more suitable samples.

The positive implications of the feedback from the convener: by observing the results of 2014 and 2016 rounds it is evident that the comments of Angeles to the participants after receiving their results resulted in significant improvement ( $>60\%$ ) of the data.

Terrestrial or lacustrine samples are easier to measure than of marine origin.

Using statistical parameters like the coefficient of variation (CV) and/or scatter index (SI) the suitability of some samples can be checked, and hence to remove from the sample bank the ones that seem to be problematic.

Accredited people may have failed in picking the vitrinite in a sample.

Statistical evaluation of all the data pointed to the implementation of  $PSD > Rr \cdot 0.15$  ( $PSD$ : participant standard deviation) as a function of rejecting/accepting data.

Angeles showed photomicrographs of the four most problematic samples, which have various vitrinite populations, hence causing large scattering of the obtained values.



During the discussion, Walter Pickel pointed out that probably, as the guidelines are now, the analysts will always report all the particles they measure and not only what they think is a vitrinite. He also commented that perhaps by following the ASTM D7708 –11 and reporting the reflectance along with macerals, the problem will be reduced. Paul asked whether the CV or SI parameters could be used to exclude participants, but Angeles pointed that they are used only to remove unsuitable samples. Commission II thanks Angeles for her enormous efforts and dedication all these years to improve the DOMVR Program.

#### Closing remarks – Paul Hackley

Paul closed Commission II session with an overview of the activities of Com II during his terms as both Secretary and Chair, as it is his last term as Chair of the Commission. Four papers were published **Mendonca Filho et al. 2010, IJCG, Araujo et al. 2014, IJCG, Hackley et al. 2015, JMPG, Kus et al. 2017, IJCG** ;and two new working groups were established: Paly-

nofacies and CLSM. However, Paul will be active in the years to come in the Identification of primary vitrinite and Confocal laser scanning microscopy WGs.

Paul Hackley congratulated all the conveners of the WGs, the participants of the ICCP Commission II sessions for their motivating discussions and all the participants in the various exercises conducted all these years. He also encouraged all conveners to publish the results in international journals and the ICCP News, as well as to send their presentations and updates for the ICCP Commission II website to Jolanta Kus. Stavros Kalaitzidis also thanked Paul for working with him during the 70<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting.

Finally all the participants in the session expressed their thanks and congratulated Paul for his dedicating, professional and friendly chairing of Commission II all these years.

**Thank you Paul!!!**

## Commission III Minutes of the 70<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting, Brisbane, Australia

Chair: Magdalena Misz-Kennan

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

Secretary: Sandra Rodrigues

[s.rodrigues@uq.edu.au](mailto:s.rodrigues@uq.edu.au)

### 25 September, 2018 (Tuesday)

15.00-15.15 Opening remarks

The Chair of Commission III, opened the session with a brief introduction of the active working groups (WG).

#### 15.15-15.30 Liquefaction Residues Classification WG

Convenor: Henny Gerschel

Magda Misz-Kennan presented the activities of this WG on Henny Gerschel's behalf. Only three participants delivered results for this year exercise, therefore, no conclusions could be drawn. The convener asked for more participants, as well as more samples, or if this is not possible, photomicrographs of this type of materials. Magda suggested to add those requests in the Newsletter so reach more potential participants.

#### 11.30-12.30 Fly Ash WG

Conveners: Isabel Suárez-Ruiz and Bruno Valentim

Isabel gave a brief introduction about the WG established in 2005. In 2016-2018 two exercises were done using fly ashes pellets instead of photomicrographs, with the objective of applying the classification established in previous years and published in the International Journal of Coal Geology in 2017. There were 15 participants this year, with a great scatter in the results in several qualifiers. Comparing also with the exercise from the last year, the results showed that there is no reproducibility when point-counting the pellets. The problem was if and how this can be improved. The convener asked the participants to improve the polishing of the samples for a better optical characterization. Stavros Kalaitzidis suggested a round robin using the same pellet. However, time wise, that would not be possible. He also suggested for the participants to send the conveners the analysis conditions, type of microscope system (ocular or screen), and investigate if those high standard deviations can be related to that. Nikki Wagner suggested for the participants to send photos of how they categorise the particles in the different qualifiers. Isabel said that the next round robin will be done using photomicrographs instead of pellets.

#### 13.30-14.00 Gasification WG

Convenor: Nikki Wagner

In this year exercise 55 images were sent to the participants to be classified using the ICCP Combustion Char Classification. Some level of disagreement was found in the results using this

classification system. The convener proposed to reissue the round robin exercise with less images but more diverse gasification samples, and also questioning the participants regarding their background using the char or fly ash classification systems. Nikki asked the audience if it would be better to use the entire particles or mark a square onto the particle for classification, to which Stavros Kalaitzidis replied that taking in consideration the Char Classification it should be the entire particle. However, Angeles Borrego argued that it should be classified what is relevant for the WG, either, texture, porosity, etc. The convener will do a preliminary assessment of the WG and perhaps include it in the Newsletter.

#### 14.00-15.00 Self-heating WG (SHWG)

Conveners: Magdalena Misz-Kennan, Jolanta Kus, Deolinda Flores

The conveners are preparing a publication from the results from the WG during 2009-2016, and draft will be sent soon to the participants for revision. Although the classification changed a bit over the years, Ivana Šýkorová and Isabel Suárez-Ruiz argued that condensed hydrocarbons should be added to the classification and a note should be made in that regard in the manuscript in preparation, though they just may occur in specific locations as Magda pointed out. Stavros Kalaitzidis suggested that tars and other hydrocarbons can be included in the bitumen field in the classification. This system was created to coal waste dumps, therefore, the next step of this WG will be to apply this classification to self-heating coals occurring in coal seams and coal heaps.

### 26 September (Wednesday)

#### 14.00-14.20 Organic Matter Oxidation WG

Conveners: Isabel Suárez-Ruiz and Magdalena Misz-Kennan

To set this WG in motion, Isabel requested samples, and asked if any of the participants was able to perform FTIR analysis to test oxidation degree in the samples. Antonis Bouzinos offered oxidised coal samples. Joan Esterle also offer samples and said that she could use the FTIR at Queensland University of Technology (QUT). She also suggested contacting Jim Hower in the USA as they also have a FTIR instrument. Stavros Kalaitzidis said that some colleagues in China may also be interested in participate in the WG and run FTIR analysis. Nikki Wagner suggested to run other tests for oxidation, and add the convener's requests in the Newsletter.

#### 14.20-14.40 Environmental Applications WG

Conveners: George Siavalas and Stavros Kalaitzidis

This year a questionnaire with 37 question was sent to the participants, only 8 sent the results back. The results will be used to set up the WG either using samples or photomicrographs. Coal dust was suggested to be integrated in the classification. Graham O'Brien is running an ACARP project on the same type of particles using the Coal Grain Analysis system. Graham O'Brien pointed out the absence of a category for the inorganic

material which is important during quantification, solubility of some of the materials and particle size. Other ICCP classifications can be used in this WG, but only at a high level, such as classification of fly ash, as suggested by Angeles Borrego.

#### 14.40-15.00 Optimization of the reflectance measurements on complex blends WG

**Convenors:** Ashok Sigh and Joan Esterle

Five sets of coal blends (India, Mozambique, and US) were distributed to the participants (see list below). Given the difficulties of shipping the samples from India to other countries the samples were distributed through different countries to be shared between different participants, as below:

Nikki Wagner – South Africa

Magda Misz-Kennan – Poland

Angeles Borrego – Spain and potentially Portugal

Heike – Germany

Ashok will send another set of coal blends to Australia to be shared between the participants.

It is intended for the participants to do maceral analysis to the group level and mean maximum reflectance up to 1000 points. Instructions will be sent to the participants. Joan Esterle and Sandra Rodrigues will be helping with metrics of the results. Magda Misz-Kennan suggested random reflectance instead, while Angeles Borrego suggested to measure reflectance only in 500 points, with strong agreement from the audience. Ashok requested to G. O'Brien to perform Coal Grain Analysis on the blends, request supported by Graham O'Brien.

#### 15.30-16.10 Coke Petrography WG

**Convenor:** Małgorzata Wojtaszek

The activities of this WG were presented by the convenor, Małgorzata, via Skype. She used 55 photomicrographs and asked the participants to identify the coke textures using the coke classification system. Eleven participants delivered the results. In general, each identification field got 3 to 4 different answers, showing scatter and low level of agreement of results. Some participants requested the use of higher magnification in the smaller textures. The identification of the filler phase (organic or inorganic) was also an issue. The final report of this round robin will be uploaded to the website. Pellets will be used in the second round robin, although problems with homogeneity of the coke samples may rise. The convenor will also request the participants to measure maximum and minimum reflectance, using ISO standard, but starting only with 250 measurements in this round robin instead of 1000. Regarding the reflectance measurements Heike asked which calibration standards to use, which the convenor advised 5.4% or higher.

#### 16.10-16.45 Closing remarks of Commission III – Chair of the Commission

There were no proposals for new working groups. The chair of the commissions thanked to all the convenors and participants for their work and commitment over the year.

## Treasurer's Report: August 1, 2017 – July 31, 2018

*J. S. Pearson*



The balances of each ICCP account as of July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018, are shown on the Balance Sheet and are compared with those from 2017.

Jennifer Pearson, ICCP Honorary Treasurer

The total of all accounts is 91,944.56 euros, up by 7,695.98 euros from the previous year.

As can be seen on the Activity Statement the income received includes membership fees, donations from Dr. Geoff Taylor and Dr. Alan Davies, and the accreditation fees (a total of 13,959 euros), and interest from our Savings account. The Accreditation Program, once again, accounts for most of the income received this year.

Expenses include bank and credit card charges, administration, newsletter costs, web site management, expenses incurred by the working groups, legal costs, SCAP expenses and the ICCP meetings at Bucharest and Brisbane. There were no Training courses during this fiscal year, but we do have one in Brisbane this September and another in Potsdam at the end of October.

I apologize for not being at this meeting in Brisbane, especially for my last meeting as treasurer, thank you all for your support throughout my term, it has been a pleasure working for you. I would like to wish Peter all the very best for his duties as treasurer in the coming years.

ICCP		
Table 2: Balance Sheet		
Assets & Liabilities	July 2017	July 2018
<b>Canadian Account</b>		
Chequing Account	\$ 66,621.14	\$81,653.37
Savings Account	53,739.72	54,063.62
Cash	159.29	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$120,520.15</b>	<b>\$135,716.99</b>
<b>Exchange rate at year end</b>	<b>\$1 = €0.6836</b> <b>=€82,387.57</b>	<b>\$1 = €0.65159</b> <b>=€88,431.83</b>
<b>Euro Account</b>		
Cash	688.20	787.20
SCAP Float	-36.70	950.16
General Secretary/President	1,209.51	1,775.37
<b>Total</b>	<b>€1,861.01</b>	<b>€3,512.73</b>
<b>Total Balance in Euros</b>	<b>€84,248.58</b>	<b>€91,944.56</b>



# ICCP

Activity Statement as of July 31, 2018 in Euros.

<u>Opening Balance – July 31/2017</u>	€78,529.72
Canadian Accounts	€1,861.01
Euro Accounts	€80,390.73
<b>TOTAL</b>	
<u>Receipts:</u>	
Membership Dues	€1,425.02
Prepaid Membership	€1,391.31
Donation	€75.30
Accreditation : SCAP	€8,614.59
DOMVR	€2,387.74
CBAP	€2,957.91
Transfer from Canadian	€2,320.00
Bank Interest	€211.05
<b>Totals</b>	<b>€19,382.92</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>€99,773.65</b>
<u>Expenses:</u>	
Bank Charges	€811.21
Credit Card Charges	€1,297.62
Transfer to Secretary	€222.48
Transfer to Brisbane Meeting	€619.20
Transfer to Euro Cash	€2,347.20
Legal	€97.99
Costs at Bucharest Meeting	€640.00
Web Site Maintenance	€156.75
Newsletter costs	€472.59
Working Group costs	€233.00
Administration	€71.64
SCAP	€859.41
<b>EXPENSE TOTALS</b>	<b>€7,829.09</b>
<b>Final Balance</b>	<b>€91,944.56</b>

*Thank you Jen for all your years of hard work!*

*And welcome Peter to your new role in the ICCP Council!*

## EDITORS REPORT TO THE ICCP COUNCIL MEETING, BRISBANE, SEPT 2018

Prepared by: Nikki Wagner (18 Sept 2018)

The third year as Editor of the ICCP Newsletter has been very rewarding, and the positive feedback from the Council and ICCP members is encouraging. Three great (in my opinion) Newsletters have been published since the Bucharest meeting – No. 69 (Dec 2017), 70 (March 2018), and 71 (July 2018). No. 72 will be produced following the 2018 Brisbane ICCP Meeting. Obviously the Newsletter immediately following the Meeting is the biggest as the minutes are included. Overall, the number of pages has decreased per Newsletter compared to 2017 (28, 24, 20). Approximately 1/3 of members still receive the hard copy. The email distribution is variable as we have been tidying up the distribution list. The Newsletter copies are still sent to the Serials Processing Unit, National Library of Australia for record purposes, as well as the ICCP Archives in Portugal. Each edition is available on the open access part of the ICCP website. It may be interesting to track how many people actually access the Newsletter via the website. Fortunately for the ICCP, the South

African Rand (ZAR) value is extremely low against other currencies. The costs are invoiced in ZAR and paid across from the ICCP in Canadian Dollars. For ease of reference, I have provided the costs in several currencies below. The total costs for 2017/8 was R7090 / EU427.59. (For comparison: Total costs in 2015/6 were R8986 (ZAR), EU 558.91; 2016/7 R9616.77, EU618.80). The ICCP continues to attract new members. In 2015/6, 17 new associate member applications were introduced, 8 in 2016/7, and 3 were introduced in 2017/8. Only 1 application was noted for full membership. The ICCP Newsletter continues to be a useful medium of information sharing for the organization. I am still concerned about the lack of articles submitted for inclusion, such as student project findings or research summaries. 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. All ICCP student travel awardees should be contributing. The Website has to be used for information distribution as it takes too long between newsletters to communicate; but the Newsletter should still capture all the required communication.

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 welcomed.**

## 2019 ICCP Meeting in the Hague, the Netherlands

71<sup>st</sup> meeting of the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP)  
September 16-20 2019.

### Welcome note

The Netherlands has long been among the cradles of both organic petrology and the ICCP itself having hosted an ICCP meeting 5 times in the past, including the very first one held in Geleen, back in 1953. Heerlen, the very place where the Stopes-Heerlen system was established, Hoensbruck and Utrecht were the other locations, with the former hosting the meeting twice and the latter being the last location in the Netherlands to have an ICCP meeting, 16 years ago. It is therefore a great pleasure and big honor to have the Netherlands carry on this long tradition.

This year, the honor comes to the Hague (Den Haag), being both the World's Peace Capital and base to the Dutch Government. The meeting will be supported by Royal Dutch Shell one of the world's oil majors and will be followed by a one-day symposium. Despite the fact, that governments, organizations and companies have agreed and committed to significantly reduce their carbon footprint over the next decades it is still conventional "fossil" fuels that most of world's energy demand relies on. And the Netherlands is no exception to this trend. On top of the routine annual ICCP activities, the meeting will offer an excellent opportunity to professionals from both research and industry to exchange views into discussing ICCP's and organic petrology's role in the energy transition.



One year after the centennial anniversary from the publication of Marie Stopes' pioneering work "*On the Four Visible Ingredients in Banded Bituminous Coal: Studies in the Composition of Coal*" that set the foundations to what would later become the Stopes-Heerlen System, I warmly invite you to attend the 71<sup>st</sup> ICCP meeting in September.

Dr. George Siavalas  
Chair of the organizing committee

### Meeting Venue

Bleyenburg (Plenary and Commission sessions, Symposium)\*.\*\*  
The venue is located in the Hague city centre. Grote Markt 10, 2511 BG, Den Haag. It is within 10 minutes walking distance from the Central Station and can be accessed through trams #2, 3, 4, 6 (stop: Grote Markt-1 minute walking distance).

\*: Microscope sessions will be hosted in Shell Projects & Technology, Alaska Building, Lange Kleiweg 40, 2288 GK, Rijswijk

\*\*: At this point in time it is possible that there will be modifications in the final venue place. Please check the ICCP website regularly for updates.

### Preliminary Schedule

Sessions and break times and duration are subject to modification.

### Symposium

A single-day symposium including oral and poster presentations will follow the activities of the ICCP meeting, on Friday 20 September 2019. The main theme of the oral presentations will focus around oil-prone coals.

A Call for Abstracts and guidelines for abstract submission will follow in January 2019.

### Field Trip

A single-day field trip to South Limburg (Province to the south of Netherlands) on Saturday September 21 will follow the ICCP meeting. Field trip will include among others visit to underground coal mines and a stop at Heerlen.

### Registration

Online registration will open in January 2019.

Provisional registration fees (\$USD) are as follows\*:

Early bird\*\* full registration (ICCP meeting, Symposium, Dinner and Field Trip): 520 \$USD

Early bird full registration-No field trip (ICCP meeting, Symposium, Dinner): 445 \$USD

Early bird ICCP meeting and Symposium: 360 \$USD

Early bird One-day (Symposium only): 120 \$USD

Student (ICCP meeting and Symposium): 170 \$USD

Icebreaker only: 40 \$USD

Dinner only: 90 \$USD

Field trip: 100 \$USD

\*: Subject to micro adjustments. Finalized fees will be announced when registration platform opens.

\*\*: An extra fee of 50 \$USD to the meeting fee applies to registrations made after July 31 2019. Dinner and field trip fees remain unchanged after July 31.

No pre-registration required. If desired so, delegates can express their interest in attending the meeting an e-mail to [georgios.siavalas@shell.com](mailto:georgios.siavalas@shell.com).

### Accommodation

The Hague offers a number of accommodation options over a wide range of prices and amenities. Several hotels are located around the city centre within 5-10 minutes walking distance to the meeting venue. Alternative accommodation options can also be found in nearby cities and towns such as Delft, Leiden and Rotterdam, all within less than 30 min train-ride to the Hague city centre.

No special arrangements will be made on an individual basis and accommodation arrangements will be each delegate's responsibility. However, we will be happy to provide advice on accommodation options and if you seek such, please contact [georgios.siavalas@shell.com](mailto:georgios.siavalas@shell.com).

### Getting there and transportation options within the Netherlands

#### Schiphol Airport

Schiphol International Airport (AMS) is a major global transportation hub with direct flights to and from 196 European and 145 Intercontinental destinations. Nearly every capital and most major cities in Europe, Africa, America and Asia are connected to Schiphol airport with direct flights. There are also several daily flights to other major European airports such London Heathrow, Frankfurt, Paris and Madrid. Delegates from Australia and New Zealand can fly to Schiphol through one of the major SE Asia or Middle East hubs such as Singapore, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur and Dubai. More information on flights and destinations can be found on <https://schiphol.nl>.

#### By train

Schiphol International airport is connected to the Dutch railway network and a station is located within the airport (Schiphol Plaza) with 24 hr train service. Train connections to the Hague run every 15 min daily, between 07:00AM-00:00 hrs. Travel time is approximately 28 min with the Intercity trains and 50 min with the Sprinter trains. Arrivals between 00:00-07:00AM are better served through The Hague HS Station. One-way ticket price is 9.50 EUR. For further information on travel times and prices from Schiphol airport to The Hague and other cities consult the journeyplanner on <https://www.ns.nl>. Train is the recommended transport means since it is the safest, cheapest and fastest way of moving around in the Netherlands.

#### By taxi

Taxis in general are expensive in the Netherlands and the distance from Schiphol airport to the Hague city centre is 44 km. Therefore, it is



not the recommended transport means to and from the airport. If however, some delegates still prefer a taxi, one can be found outside the airport's terminal. It is recommended to hire taxis from the designated taxi stands and not through strangers who offer taxi services just outside the airport's exit. It is also recommended to negotiate the trip fee in advance or book online before arrival.

#### By bus

Schiphol airport also offers numerous bus routes to and from the terminal. For more information on routes and prices visit <https://9292.nl>.

#### Other airports

Certain European cities may have better or cheaper connections to other Dutch international airports such as The Hague/Rotterdam and Eindhoven airports. The Hague/Rotterdam airport is located between The Hague and Rotterdam and from there delegates can travel to the Hague through a shuttle bus and a metro line (approximately 30 min). Eindhoven is also connected to the Hague through train (approximate travel time 2.5 hrs).

#### Train

The Netherlands railway is connected to the broader European railway network and major stations such as Rotterdam and Amsterdam have train connections to Brussels, Paris and recently London. Time travel and fees vary depending on train type and company. Delegates are advised to book their tickets online and check travel requirements for each country they are about to cross.

#### Visa Requirements

The Netherlands is part of the Schengen Area countries. Foreign nationals from certain countries might need a short-term visa to visit the Netherlands. For more information on visa types, a list of countries whose nationals need a visa to the Netherlands and visa application process visit <https://www.netherlandsandyou.nl/travel-and-residence/visas-for-the-netherlands/short-stay-schengen-visa>.

**For queries and requests about the meeting, please contact**

**Dr. George Siavalas**

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

Time	Sunday 15-Sep	Monday 16-Sep	Tuesday 17-Sep	Wednesday 18-Sep	Thursday 19-Sep	Friday 20-Sep	Saturday 21-Sep
07:00-07:30							
07:30-08:00							
08:00-08:30		Registration				Registration	
08:30-09:00							
09:00-09:30		Opening session	ICCP Commission meeting	ICCP Commission meeting	ICCP Commission meeting	Symposium	
09:30-10:00			Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break		
10:00-10:30		Coffee break				Coffee break	
10:30-11:00			ICCP Commission meeting	ICCP Commission meeting	ICCP Commission meeting	Symposium	
11:00-11:30		ICCP General Assembly					
11:30-12:00			Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
12:00-12:30		Lunch	ICCP Commission meeting	ICCP Commission meeting		Symposium	
12:30-13:00			Coffee break	Coffee break	Closing ICCP plenary session	Coffee break	
13:00-13:30		ICCP Commission meeting	ICCP Commission meeting	ICCP Commission meeting		Symposium	
13:30-14:00							
14:00-14:30	ICCP Council Meeting		ICCP Council Meeting				
14:30-15:00							
15:00-15:30							
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18:00-18:30							
18:30-19:00							
19:00-19:30							
19:30-20:00	Ice-breaker and registration						
20:00-20:30							
20:30-21:00							
21:00-21:30							
21:30-22:00							
22:00-22:30							
22:30-23:00							

## ICCP TRAINING COURSES 2019

The GFZ in Potsdam has invited ICCP to hold two courses in their centre.

From July 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019, a course on Organic Petrology and its Applications will be held by I. Suárez-Ruiz and W. Pickel.

From May 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020, a course on basics, General Organic Petrology will be held by S. Kalaitzidis and W. Pickel.

Details on the courses will be published on the ICCP website. Advertisement for the 2019 course will begin shortly.

**Reinhardt Thiessen Medal:** This is the highest award offered by the ICCP. The award consists of a bronze medal and a certificate, and is presented at the Annual ICCP Meeting. The award committee consists of the five most recent medalists who are available. Awards are made from time to time but applications are called for every 2 years. Please visit the ICCP website for further information. At the ICCP Meeting in Brisbane, the Thiessen Medal was awarded to Professor Kuili Jin (2017) and Professor Reinhard Sachsenhofer (2018) in recognition of their outstanding achievements in and to organic petrography.



**The ICCP Organic Petrology Award:** This award recognizes outstanding contributions by coal and organic petrologists at an intermediate stage of their career, limited to applicants under the age of 50. No award was made in 2018 as no nominations were received. Please contact the ICCP General Secretary (Dr Walter Pickel, [walterpickel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:walterpickel@optusnet.com.au)) should you wish to submit a nomination. The previous awardee was Dr Magdalena Misz-Kennan (2014).



Join the ICCP they said, but they didn't tell me how exhausting fun was !



**Welcome all!**

## Special Issue of International Journal of Coal Geology in Memory / Honour of Professor Colin R Ward

We are planning a special issue of the International Journal of Coal Geology (IJCG) in Honour and Memory of Professor Colin R Ward from the University of New South Wales Sydney and China University of Mining and Technology, who passed away on 18 September, 2018.

Colin was instrumental in our understanding of the inorganic chemistry and mineralogy of coal and coal-bearing sequences throughout the world. He also taught, trained and supervised generations of Australian and international undergraduate and postgraduate students, especially those from Asia, in the fields of sedimentology, coal geology, petroleum geology and quantitative X-ray diffraction. Colin was also instrumental in applying new analytical techniques to geological problems such as Siroquant and more recently, XRF core scanning. He dedicated a large part of his life to research, and was still working on research papers up until a few days of his passing. He truly was a world-leading researcher in coal geology and coal-bearing sequences.

We therefore invite any contributions related to coal geology and coal-bearing sequences, especially those from his colleagues and former students for this special issue. Review articles are very welcome and will help to make this issue a crucial resource in the field of coal geology.

If you would like to contribute paper/s to the SI, please provide us the tentative titles of manuscript/s and the potential author list by 10 October 2018; after that we will provide you details of manuscript submission.

Colin greatly inspired many of us and we intend to make this special issue one that Colin would be proud of. Please feel free to forward this message.

Regards, Shifeng Dai, David French and Ian Graham (Guest Editors)

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUBMIT ADVERTS FOR CLASSIFIEDS, OBITUARIES FOR ICCP MEMBERS, SNIPPETS OF INFORMATION, OR ANYTHING THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST TO THE MEMBERS.**

**KNOW YOUR COAL PETROLOGISTS p.2** — From Left: Marlies Teichmuller, Alan Cook, and Geoff Taylor, 1990 ICCP Meeting Wollangong, Australia. Alan Cook was a past ICCP President.



# Members Corner

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

## New Applications for Associate Member



**Ms Priya Kumari (I, II, III)**

CSIR-CIMFR

C/O Dr AK Singh

Dhanbad, Jharkhand-828108

Phone: 09430757934

Email: [priyasinghcfri@gmail.com](mailto:priyasinghcfri@gmail.com)

Ms Kumari is undertaking her PhD degree under the guidance of Dr AK Singh at CSIR-CIMFR, Dhanbad, where she is a AcSIR Research Fellow. Her PhD title is: 'Chemical and petrographic characterization of selected indigenous and imported coals and their blends for use in steel industry in India'. Prior to that she worked at CIMFR.

**WARM WELCOME**



**Dr Vinod Mendhe (I, II, III)**

CSIR-CIMFR, Dhanbad

Ministry of Science and Technology,  
Govt. of India

Room No. 80, Main Building, CSIR-  
CIMFR, Dhanbad

Email: [vamendhe@gmail.com](mailto:vamendhe@gmail.com)

Phone: 3262296003

Dr Mende obtained his PhD from the Indian School of Mines in 2008; his topic: 'Geologic and petrographic controls on coalbed methane from the coal seams of the northern part of Cambay Basin'. He has 21 years of experience as Research Scientist/ Field Geologist, and has undertaken extensive studies of Indian coal, lignite, and shale deposits for reservoir characterization, gasification, and other utilities. Currently Dr Mendhe is the Project Leader of the National Shale Gas project funded by the Ministry of Coal, Govt. of India.

**WARM WELCOME**



**Mr Javin Hatcherian (I, III)**

USGS

US Geological Survey, 12201 Sunrise  
Valley Dr, MS956 National Centre,  
Reston VA

Phone: 07274601504

Email: [javin.hatcherian@gmail.com](mailto:javin.hatcherian@gmail.com)

Javin is a Physical Technician in the General Coal and Organic Petrology Laboratory at the USGS Eastern Energy Science Centre. Prior to joining the USGS in 2016, he worked for Arehna Engineering. He has a BSc in Geology from Texas A&M. Javin has attended several ICCP training courses

## Application for Full Membership

Dr. Henny Gerschel was accepted as Full Member of the ICCP. Dr Gerschel is a team leader of the Department of Organic Petrology and geochemistry at the Institute of Geology, Technical University of Freiberg.

### Updated Contact Details:

Dragana Zivotic new email address: mailto: [dragana.zivotic@rgf.bg.ac.rs](mailto:dragana.zivotic@rgf.bg.ac.rs)

**PLEASE NOTE, FROM 2019 ALL MEMBERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING THEIR CONTACT DETAILS ON THE WEBSITE.** IT WILL NO LONGER BE THE Council members duty to ensure that the details are updated. Should you wish for new contact details to be published in the newsletter, please do forward these to the Editor. Should you require your login details, please contact the General Secretary.

**CHECK OUT THE NEW ICCP FACEBOOK PAGE—PLEASE GO AND LIKE IT, AND START CONTRIBUTING TODAY!**

<https://www.facebook.com/International-Committee-for-Coal-and-Organic-Petrology-ICCP-301670160628781/>

## 11th Short Course, Brisbane, Australia



From Left: 1. Walter Pickel (lecturer); 2. Nicole Phillips; 3. Dean Monteiro; 4. Daniel Goldstein; 5. Erin Cafferley; 6. Lauren Stanton; 7. Katelin-Rose Morrison; 8. James L.; 9. Zak Brearley; 10. Duwagne Rossouw; 11. Jessica Gray; 12. Daniel Revie; 13. Clint Caldwell; 14. Javin Hatchevian; 15. Scott Fredericks; 16. Edwina Williamson; 17. Ealeonor Gow; 18. Stavros Kalaitzidis (lecturer); 19. Peter Crosdale (organizer); 20. Joe Faulkner; 21. Sandra Atkinson.



### Laudation for the ICCP Reinhardt Thiessen Award 2017

Univ.-Prof. Mag. Dr. Reinhard F. Sachsenhofer is the Chair of Petroleum Geology at the Department of Applied Geosciences & Geophysics in the University of Leoben, Austria.

He was born the 14<sup>th</sup> of August of 1960 in Linz, Austria and studied Geology, Paleontology, Mineralogy and Petrography at the University of Graz (1979-1983), followed by two years more of studies of Economic geology at the Montanuniversität Leoben. His Master Thesis was dedicated to "Petrographic studies of the coal of the lower seam of well Wöfling 18 (Trimmelkam, Austria)". For his Ph.D. studies, also at the Leoben University, Reinhard enlarged the scope of his research to "Facies and degree of coalification of Mesozoic coals from the Austrian Alps", obtaining his PhD degree in 1987 and his habilitation in 1994 with an Overview study of the Styrian Basins based on basin analysis, organic geochemistry and hydrocarbon potential focusing on the West Alps Thermal history.

For a short period Reinhard worked as Engineer in the coke plant of VOEST-ALPINE in Linz, before his engagement as Lecturer to the Dep. of Geological Sciences (Montanuniversität Leoben). Simultaneously to his teaching at Leoben University, he continued his career as Humboldt-Fellow at the Institute of Petroleum and Organic Geochemistry at the Research Center Jülich (Germany) under the guidance of Prof. Welte and also at the Institute of Earth Sciences, Tectonics/Structural Geology group of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, working with Prof. Cloetingh. In 2008 Reinhard was promoted to the position of Chair in Petroleum Geology at the Department of Applied Geosciences & Geophysics (Montanuniversität Leoben).

Strong international links date back to 2003, when Reinhard initiated a relationship with the Donetsk National Technical University (Ukraine) as visiting professor that showed to be very productive and since 2010, he is Honorary Guest Professor at Jilin University (China).

In his extensive research career his main research interests have been basin analysis, (unconventional) hydrocarbon systems, source rocks, coal, and organic petrology. His work has been recognized with awards such as "Rektor-Platzer-Ring" (Montanuniversität Leoben) in 1985, "Otto Ampferer-Preis" (Austrian Geological Society) in 1990 and "Erzherzog-Johann-Forschungspreis" of the Regional Government of Styria

in 1996.

Beside several studies using maceral analyses to assess facies variations and rank of coal deposits, Reinhard Sachsenhofer included organic petrography into studies about thermal evolution of sedimentary basins. He addressed basin evolution and the hydrocarbon potential of sediments using numerical models of subsidence and tectonic evolution, which are summarized in the chapter about "Thermal history of Sedimentary Basins" in the book highlighting fundamental aspects of "Petroleum and Basin Evolution", edited by Welte et al. (1997).

He also applied concepts of organic petrology together with palynology and organic geochemistry to decipher changes in paleo-vegetation and climate. Fundamental studies about the influence of sedimentary facies, maceral composition and climate on the stable isotope composition of plant remains and coal have been published during the last 10 years.

Reinhard Sachsenhofer was active in the education of scientists and students, nationally and internationally. As visiting scientist in Donetsk (Ukraine) he was teaching aspects of organic petrology. He further incorporated organic petrographic methods into studies addressing shale gas potential, and cooperated with major oil companies (OMV, RAG, Shell) in exploration studies and oil - source rock correlation.

He is member Österreichische Geologische Gesellschaft (member of the board since 1999); International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology; European Association of Petroleum Geoscientists (EAPG); American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG).

From a less formal point of view, Reinhard has 3 kids and loves long riding trips with them having cycled Denmark and the States as more recent achievements.

For the quality of the work developed in particular contributing to the organic petrography knowledge of Balkan lignite deposits, Ukrainian coals and more recently Chinese oil shales, the impact of his publications, and for being the reference for Organic Petrology in Austria, the Thiessen Medal Committee has decided to award Reinhard Sachsenhofer with the Thiessen Medal 2018.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Unfortunately Prof. Sachsenhofer was unable to travel to Brisbane; he will receive the Medal after the meeting.



## Laudation for the ICCP Reinhardt Thiessen Award 2018

by: Shifeng Dai

The ICCP selected **Professor Jin Kuili** to receive the 2018 Reinhardt Thiessen Award for his exceptional work in the field of organic petrology. The Reinhardt Thiessen is the highest award offered by ICCP and it recognizes significant achievements and outstanding contributions in the fields of coal and organic petrology.

Prof. Jin was born in Liaoning Province, China, on April 26, 1926, and now is at the age of 92 years. At his beginning of his studies, he learned electrical engineering and German in Tongji University in Shanghai, China, and then studied geology in Geology Department in Peking University and graduated in 1950.

After his graduation from Peking University, graduate schools in Chinese universities were all closed due to the [Great Culture Revolution](#). He was then assigned to work at Geology Department of China University of Mining and Technology. Based on his more than 50-years working, he became the famous professor in coal geology and organic petrology in China. In addition to his regular work, he had done lots of work for National Committee of Resources of China and had been a councilor of Chinese Geological Society for a number of years before and after Great Culture Revolution.

In the early 1950s he was mainly engaged in coal petrology. From the early 1980s, because of strong requirement of oil and gas in China, he has begun investigating source rocks not only using optical microscopy but also using geochemistry and other modern techniques. He has taught Organic Petrology in several universities and research institutes in China, and has led a number of key projects related to oil and gas geology. Prof. Jin ran a training class of microscope photometry for scientific researchers from China in 1984. In 1986, he ran a training class of petroleum geology over which he presented his teaching materials of organic petrology.

Professor Jin is a founder of modern organic petrology research in China, with innovative publications in both Chinese journals and international journals. His work includes fundamental studies of coal/organic petrology, coal-bearing sedimentology, oil and gas geology, as well as classification of organic matter, coal metamorphism, new techniques in coal/organic petrology, and the application of organic petrology to both coal utilization and petroleum industries.

He is a highly respected professor of coal geology and organic petrology in China, and has supervised more than 50

Master and Ph.D. students. He has published more than 200 papers both in Chinese and inter-



national journals. He has received a number of national awards of China for his scientific achievements. As one of the major organizers, Professor Jin has organized two international conferences in Beijing: the ICCP conference in 1987 and the TSOP conference in 2006.

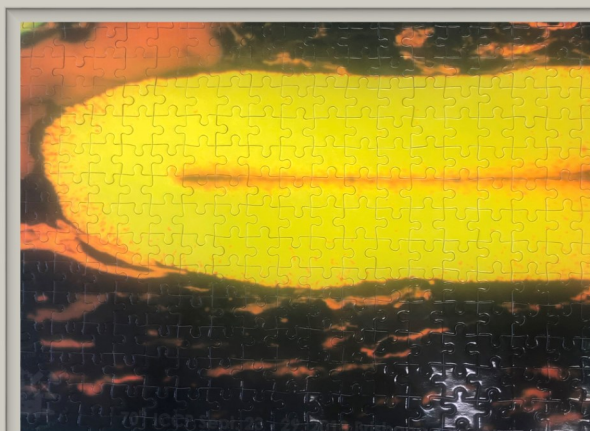
Prof. Jin has tremendous optimism and passion, and has profound knowledge in coal and organic petrology. ICCP honors Professor Jin's significant contributions in research and education over a period of more than 50 years.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Unfortunately Prof. Jin was unable to travel to Brisbane; he will receive the Medal after the meeting.



The blast at the Jeebropilly Mine, Queensland, observed during the ICCP field trip.



The Brisbane Meeting gift was a novel idea! A puzzle, where the reference picture is in white light, but the puzzle pieces in fluorescing light. This sure created some interesting discussions around our lunch table. **Who else has built their puzzle?**





Paul Hackley has completed his term(s) on the ICCP Council and as Chair of Commission II. Thank you for all your efforts Paul—you did a hopping good job! Paul is the current TSOP VP. Thus, continuing to foster close relationships between the two organizations.

The Inaugural Hackley—the 1st ICCP Park Run, Brisbane, 29 Sept, 2018. Paul, Javin, Angeles, Magda, Nikki, and the instigator,



The ICCP Newsletter provides a forum for students, young and advanced researchers, petrologists, 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@ui.ac.za](mailto:nwagner@ui.ac.za) as soon as possible. The ICCP Newsletters are freely available on the website.

## 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](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 (CCP/TSOP members); 90€ (non members).



# Council of the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP)

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(2019— 2023)

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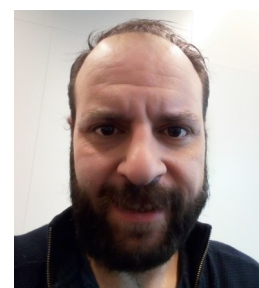
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.....or visit the website <http://www.iccop.org>

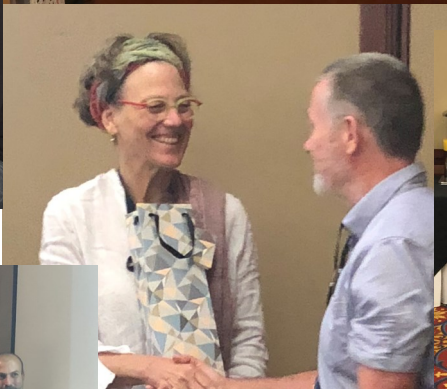
**ICCP Publications & Training Material:**...Dr Peter Crosdale ..... mailto: [peter.crosdale@energyrc.com.au](mailto:peter.crosdale@energyrc.com.au)



## Ice-breaker



## Sausage Sizzle



## ICCP Meeting

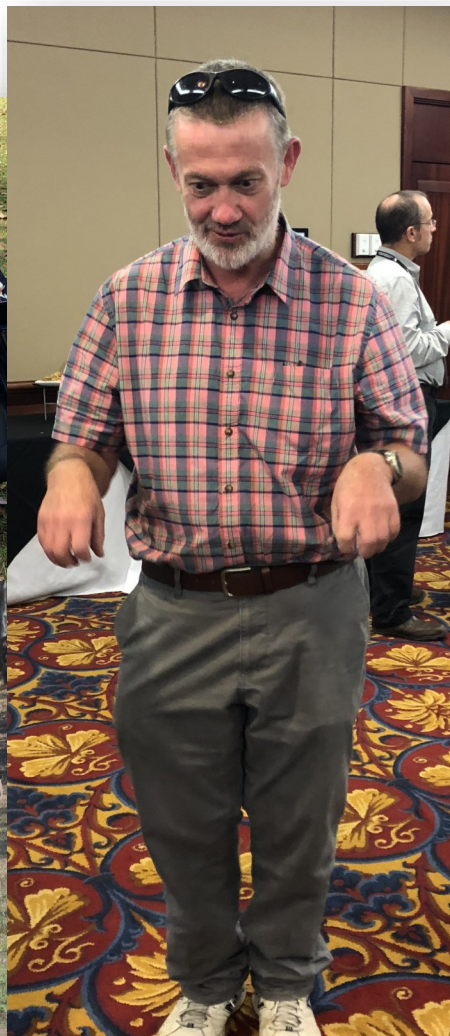


## Field trip





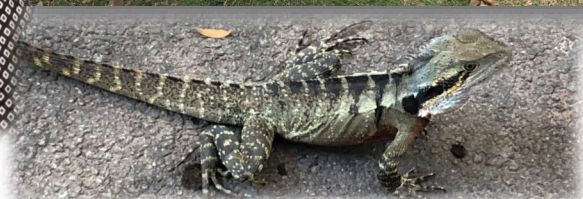
## Australia's furry friends



What is Peter so excited about?  
Seeing kangaroos? Perhaps not ..  
See back page.



Furry friends, Stavros and Ivana





# UPCOMING EVENTS

**18-19 February 2019. 8th Annual International Conference on Sustainable Energy and Environmental Sciences (SEES 2019)**, Singapore. <http://www.env-energy.org/PriorYearsPaper.html>.

**20—22 February 2019. ENCO-2019. International Conference and Exhibition Energy and Environment: Challenges and Opportunities.** New Dehlo, India. [www.enco2019.org](http://www.enco2019.org).

**14-15 March 2019. International Conference on Innovative Applied Energy (IAPE'19)**, St Cross College, University of Oxford, United Kingdom. [contact@iape-conference.org](mailto:contact@iape-conference.org); <http://iape-conference.org>

**13—16 May 2019. World of Coal Ash**, St. Louis, USA. <http://worldofcoalah.org/>

**19—22 May 2019. American Association of Petroleum Geologists Annual Convention and Exhibition**, San Antonio, USA. <http://www.aapg.org/events/conferences/ace/announcement/articleid/12088/aapg-2019-annual-convention-exhibition>

**3—7 June 2019. The IEA CCC 9th International Clean Coal Technology Conference CCT**, Houston, Texas. <https://www.cct-conferences.org/> . Abstracts close 18 December 2018, early bird registration until 1 May 2019.

**18—23 August 2019. Goldschmidt**, Barcelona, Spain. <https://goldschmidt.info/2019/>

**7-11 September 2019. TSOP**, Bloomington, USA. [https://www.tsop.org/annual\\_meetings.html](https://www.tsop.org/annual_meetings.html)

**16—20 September 2019. 71st ICCP Meeting**, The Hague, Netherlands. [www.iccop.org/meetings/2019-iccp-meeting-in-the-hague-the-netherlands/](http://www.iccop.org/meetings/2019-iccp-meeting-in-the-hague-the-netherlands/). Registration opens January 2019.

**23—27 September 2019. 14th International Congress on Applied Mineralogy**, Belgorod, Russia. <http://www.geo.komisc.ru/icom2019/en/>

**13 - 15 November 2019. 19th International Coal Preparation Congress**, New Delhi, India. <http://showsbee.com/fairs/53691-International-Coal-Preparation-Congress-2019.html>

**16—23 September 2020. 72nd ICCP Meeting combined with TSOP**, Xuzhu, China

**12—18 September 2021. 73rd ICCP Meeting**, Prague



Peter Crosdale 's greatest achievement during the ICCP Brisbane Meeting was the receipt of his new Ducati motorbike! Dirk joined Peter for a bike tour after the Meeting. Happy, safe biking, Peter

## Membership Enquiries

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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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TO THE NEXT  
ICCP NEWS:  
MARCH 2019**