

# ICCP NEWS



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# INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER



## ICCP WEBSITE

<https://www.iccop.org>

Please send any feedback, comments, and uploads to Stavros Kalaitzidis <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, Mária Hámor-Vidó [hamorvido@gmail.com](mailto:hamorvido@gmail.com)

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEXT ICCP NEWS BY MARCH 2020

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

# EDITORS COLUMN

Dear All,

Greetings from a rather dark South Africa – load shedding or rotational blackouts are back in town due to a multitude of problems with our state owned power utility. Wet coal, short coal supply, variable coal quality, and poor maintenance schedules plague the company and challenge us citizens. None-the-less, here is your Newsletter in time for Christmas / holiday reading for those who celebrate in December, and general tea-time reading for those who are still working.

This is a full edition – although my eternal plea for all students and supervisors and researchers to submit executive summaries of their research still stands - PLEASE! I was sorry to miss the ICCP meeting this year, but judging from the photographs and reading the minutes, it certainly was a successful meeting. Thank you George and the team at Shell for hosting!

The minutes from the ICCP Meeting held in September in The Hague are presented, as well as the *In Memoriam* for Prof Cornelia Panaitescu. The 2020 ICCP short course is advertised: <https://www.iccop.org/14th-iccop-short-course-general-coal-and-organic-petrology/>. The procedure and check-list for the Organic Petrology Award is explained - Dr. Paul Hackley was the recipient in 2019 – CONGRATULATIONS and well deserved, Paul. The 2020 accreditation program is now open: [www.iccop.org/accreditation/accreditation-form](http://www.iccop.org/accreditation/accreditation-form); please register before April 30, 2020. The ICCP are looking for a convenor of the CBAP accreditation program – thank you to Isabel for her years of hard work! And, members who can supply suitable bulk, single coal samples for SCAP, please contact Kimon: [christan@upatras.gr](mailto:christan@upatras.gr). The 2020 ICCP Meeting will take place in Xuzhou, China, 17-23 September, arranged by Prof Shifeng Dai and his team; I for one hope to make the (rather lengthy) trip there as my first visit to China.

Thanks to Peter Crosdale for all the photographs from The Hague meeting – credit is given to Peter for all the photographs used in this Newsletter. My colleague, Dr Marvin Moroeng attended the ICCP meeting for the first time, and returned with many stories and he really thrived on being surrounded by people who talk coal ALL THE TIME! One thing he did note, is that the ICCP attendees are a happy crown, and even happier after many pints of beer!

May I take this opportunity to wish all our members and readers all the very best for 2020; may it hold many adventures and fruitful times for all. Be the change you want to see.

Best wishes,  
nikki



**KNOW YOUR  
COAL  
PETROGRA-  
PHER.....  
(page 11)**



# PRESIDENTS COLUMN

The 71<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting took place this year in The Hague. We have been a number of times in The Netherlands and the first ICCP meeting was held in Geleen. I would like to thank Royal Dutch Shell for sponsoring the meeting and the team of Global Shell Solutions and Stavros Kalaitzidis headed by George Siavalas for making every effort to ensure a great success of the meeting. We enjoyed a venue with an unconventional arrangement that allowed us interaction during and in between the sessions. I would like to thank the commission officers, the conveners and participants of the working groups for every effort. Remember, through the ICCP membership, everybody is welcome to participate in the activities of the organization through the working groups. This call is particularly addressed to the many new members who joined us this year. I also would like to congratulate our Organic Petrology Awardee Paul C. Hackley for a very well deserved award. Mária Hamor-Vidó is the new General Secretary and will have to deal very soon with a vote to modify the statutes allowing electronic voting. Welcome Maria!! This election will involve only Full

Members. We thank Walter for all his efforts over the many years as General Secretary.

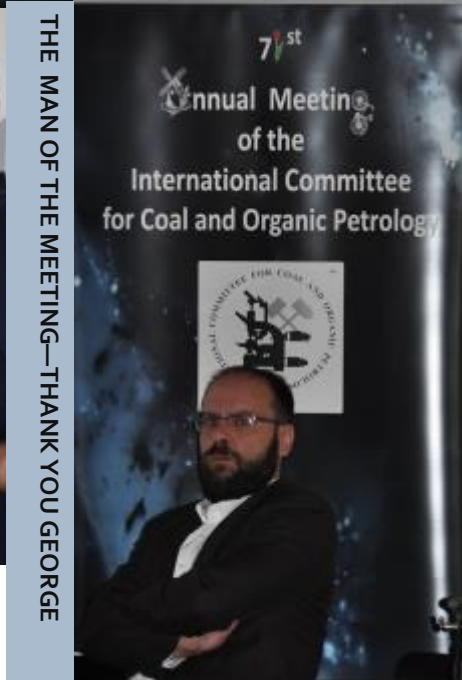
You will find the minutes of the meeting in the following pages of this newsletter. A new Accreditation Round will be launched soon with a new fee structure. The organizer for CBAP will change and I would like to thank Isabel Suárez-Ruiz for the many years of service since 2006 as organizer of this program.

We knew from Georgeta that Prof. Cornelia Panaitescu passed away. Cornelia has been an active member of the ICCP for many years.

She was already part of the Nomenclature Commission when the handbook was updated in 1963, and has attended tirelessly the ICCP meetings until very recently. She has made significant contributions to various WGs in Commission III, worth to mention that in Carbon Materials, and became Honorary member of the ICCP for her dedication. Those having attended ICCP meetings in the last 10 years will still remember her tiny frame and smile. We will always remember Cornelia.

I take this opportunity to wish you all the best for the starting 2020.

Best regards  
Angeles



THE MAN OF THE MEETING—THANK YOU GEORGE

Debates at the council meeting



# 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology

The 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology was held in The Hague, The Netherlands between 15 and 21 September 2019. The Meeting was sponsored by Royal Dutch Shell and the Shell's team headed by George Siavalas for the organization of the meeting. We know that they had to improvise and adapt to changes in the venue due to re-organization of Shell headquarters. The decisions taken proved to be the right ones and we had the chance to enjoy a venue with a very central location (Bleyenbergh at Grote Markt), with all the facilities at the hand and a charming atmosphere which facilitated interaction during and in between the sessions.

The meeting started the 15<sup>th</sup> of September with a Council meeting followed by the Icebreaker party at Café Restaurant Rootz where we all had the first chance to meet enjoying Dutch specialities.

The technical sessions started on the 16<sup>th</sup> September with excellent presentations from Martin Hulsebosch (Account Manager Energy of The Hague), who gave an overview of the local energy transition and energy business in the City of The Hague and Hemmo Bosscher (Lead of the Shell Global Solutions International-Integrated Charge Evaluation) who, under the title "The Organic Petrologist as the linchpin for Petroleum Systems Analysis – why every oil company (still) needs one", gave a vision of how relevant organic petrology can be for an oil companies. Both were followed by a presentation of the President dealing with "ICCP input in the International Standards for Coal and Organic Matter Petrographic Analyses" which will be soon available in the webpage.

## Plenary Session

After the coffee break the Opening Plenary Session of the General Assembly started with the following agenda:

1. Apologies for Non-attendance
2. Minutes of Brisbane Meeting
3. Arrangements for the The Hague Meeting
4. Future Meetings (short status at the opening session, continued at the closing session)
5. Awards (short status at the opening session, continued at the closing session)
6. Membership (continued at the closing session)
7. Elections (short status at the opening session, continued at the closing session)
8. Editor's Report
9. Financial matters (report from the Treasurer at the opening session, continued at the closing session)
10. Accreditation Programs (report from the Chair at the opening session, continued at the closing session)
11. Training courses
12. Change of the statutes to allow electronic voting
13. Registration
14. Short Report from Commission Meetings
15. Short Report from Council Meetings
16. 2020 Meeting
17. Thanks to Organizing Committee

## 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from the following members:

Nikki Wagner (ZA), Jen Pearson (CA), Dave Pearson (CA), Rich Pearson (CA), Lopo Vasconcelos (MZ), Elena Karmazina (AU), Alan Davis (US), Harold Smith (UK), Rosa Menéndez (ES), Diego Álvarez (ES), Javier G. Prado (ES), Barbara Kwiecinska (PO), Ray Smith (AU), Wayne Knowles (UK), Matt Todd (AU), Elena Karmazina (AU), Angelika Vieth (DE), Barbara Bielowicz (PO), Olga Patricia Gómez López (CO), Zuleika Carreta Correa da Silva (BR), Claus Diessel (AU), Vongani Prince Chabalala (ZA), Johan Joubert (ZA), Aivars Depers (AU), Heike Liszio (DE), Slawka Pusz (PO), Gorken Oskay (TU), Antonis Bouzinos (AU), Maria Hamor-Vidóm (HU).

## 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The President asked the Plenary Session for confirmation of the minutes of the 70<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting held in Brisbane as published in the ICCP News #72, which was approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

## 3. Arrangements for The Hague meeting

George Siavalas made an update of relevant issues regarding the meeting including safe and security issues.

## 4. Future meetings

Future Meetings approved will take place in Xuzhou, China, 2020, Prague, 2021, New Delhi, 2022. A presentation was received from Shifeng Dai regarding the Meeting in Xuzhou, China, scheduled for September 17-23, 2020; this was presented at the Closing Plenary Session.

Two proposals were received for the 2023 Meeting; from Henny Gerschel, Freiberg University, and Stavros Kalaitzidis, Patras University. After talking with the proponents both agreed to 2023 in Patras, and 2024 in Freiberg. This proposal was approved by the General Assembly.

## 5. Awards

This year nominations were accepted for the Organic Petrology Award. Nominations were sent to Walter Pickel as contact person, who is currently the chair of Thiessen Medal Award (TMA) Subcommittee. The nomination was run through this subcommittee which came with a recommendation to Council for awarding the OPA. This was approved by Council. It was noticed that the Award was run through the TMA Subcommittee as was done in the period 2004-2013 instead of through the OPA Subcommittee which was established in 2014 and only operated one time. Despite the procedural mistake both the TMA and OPA members supported the candidate and the laudation was jointly written by designated members of both Subcommittees. It was also explained to the General Assembly that Council was working on the documents to properly advertise the OPA Subcommittee and clarify the rules for nomination.

**The nomination selected was Dr Paul C. Hackley. This was revealed at the Closing Plenary Session where the President read the Laudation.**

## 6. Membership

### 6.1 New Members

Applications for Associate Membership were received during the year from Marvin Moroeng and Qingyong Luo and for re-admission from Hector Villar. They were presented and accepted at the opening plenary session. New applications were received during the meeting from Carolina Fonseca, Maya Hren, Evelyn Bieg, Lujza Medvecká, Maria-Elli Damoulianou and Constantinos Perleros. These were presented and accepted at the Closing Plenary Session. The promotion to Full Member of Keno Lünsdorf was also accepted.

### 6.2 Honorary Members

Lopo de Sousa Vasconcelos from Mozambique and Jennifer Pearson have been designated Honorary Members by Council.

### 6.3 Losses

Since the last meeting we have lost three long standing ICCP members (Dr. Jack Crelling, Prof. Cornelia Panaitescu, and Dr. Evamarie Wolff-Fischer) who will be always remembered.

A resignation from Dr. Isabel Suárez-Ruiz was received at the meeting.

### 6.4 Membership list:

The statistics of the ICCP membership list have been updated, and available in the ICCP website.

## 7. Elections

The positions open for elections were General Secretary, Chair of Commission I and Secretary of Commission I. Candidates proposed by Council were Mária Hamor-Vidór, Stavros Kalaitzidis and Dragana Zivotic, respectively. The two latter were suggested for re-election. An additional candidate, Keno Lünsdorf, was proposed from the floor for the Secretary of Commission I position.

### **8. Editor's report**

The Editor's report was presented by Peter Crosdale on behalf of Nikki Wagner and can be found on the website.

### **9. Financial matters – Treasurer's report**

The report from the treasurer was presented by Peter Crosdale and will be placed on the website (**Editor: and in the next Newsletter**).

Peter suggested a simplification of the current fee structure of the ICCP including elimination of the option for selecting hard copy for the Newsletter and the three years payment option. During the meeting, talking with the attendants revealed that the three years payment option was much preferred and therefore it will be maintained.

### **10. Accreditation Programmes**

Magda Misz-Kennan, as Chair of the Accreditation Subcommittee involving the three ICCP Accreditation Programmes, presented the report. Some of the fees do not cover even the cost of sample submission and therefore this needs to be revised. After discussion in the Accreditation subcommittee the new fee structure will remove the discount for participation in multiple programs except if the second program is CBAP. With this approach, it is expected to better approach to the actual costs and at the same time encourage the participation in CBAP, which is the one with less participants.

### **11. Training Activities**

A training course "Organic Petrology and its Applications" was held in Potsdam from July 15-19, 2019. It was very well organized and supported by Andreas Kueppers and Antje Treutler at the GFZ in Potsdam and held by Isabel Suárez-Ruiz and Walter Pickel. It had 9 participants. A summary was presented by Walter Pickel on behalf of the Vice-President.

Two persons were awarded the Student Grant this year enabling their attendance at the ICCP Course: Malek Radhwani. Student grant from 2018, Tunes and Ms. Lujza Medvecka, Student grant from 2019, Czech Republic.

The forthcoming courses will deal with 'General Organic Petrology' to be held in 2020 in May 25-30<sup>th</sup> taught by Stavros Kalaitzidis and Walter Pickel. In 2021, the course will deal with 'Dispersed Organic Matter' and the trainers will be João Graciano Mendonça Filho and Angeles Gómez Borrego. Venue availability for 2021 is to be confirmed with our hosts in Potsdam.

### **12. Change of the statutes to allow electronic voting**

The last modification of the statutes occurred many years ago when internet facilities were not available.

The present day wording refers to postal voting or just voting, in various locations of the text.

Given the average participation in ICCP votes and elections made by postal mail over the past years, it appears to be very difficult to receive the required majority for or against a change of statutes. Minor modifications of the statutes were presented to the General Assembly in which everybody could agree to allow electronic voting. These amendments to the text of the statutes will be put for vote during the year.

### **13. Registration**

Once electronic voting is accepted as a procedure any decision about registration can be put for a further vote.

### **14. Short Report from Commission Meetings**

Short reports from Commission meetings are found as Appendix N (on the website), and in the following pages.

### **15. Short Report from Council Meetings**

The main topics dealt with in Council have been already described in the corresponding topics above. The corresponding list of resolutions is listed below:

#### **2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

*Resolution ICCPC19/2/1. Council approves the Council minutes as printed in the ICCP Newsletter #72.*

*Resolution ICCPC19/2/2. Council approves the Plenary Ses-*

*sion minutes as printed in the ICCP Newsletter #72.*

#### **3. Arrangements for The Hague meeting**

*Resolution ICCPC19/3/1. Council thanks the organizers on their work in preparation of the meeting.*

#### **4. Future meetings**

*Resolution ICCPC19/4/1. Council thanks Shifeng Dai and China University of Mining and Technology for the arrangements.*

*Resolution ICCPC19/4/2. Council thanks the organizers for the invitation and approves the organization of the 2023 Meeting in Patras.*

*Resolution ICCPC19/4/3. Council thanks the organizers for the invitation and approves the organization of the 2024 Meeting in Freiberg.*

#### **5. Awards**

*Resolution ICCP 19/5/1: Council expects, from the Organic Petrology Award Subcommittee (OPAS), a list of members of this subcommittee, main contact person and rules for nomination; this will be widely advertised (Editor: see page 18).*

Dr Isabel Suárez-Ruiz wrote to Council complaining about how the OPAS was handled. Replies were sent detailing what had happened, apologising for the confusion and providing procedures for future implementation to prevent a similar occurrence. These actions were unanimously supported by Council in writing to Isabel Suárez-Ruiz.

*Resolution 19/5/2: Council rejects unanimously the accusations by Dr Isabel Suarez Ruiz regarding the nomination committees, both in content and style.*

#### **ICCP Student Grant**

*ICCP Resolution 19/6/1. Council thanks the student grant subcommittee on their work and congratulates the recipients.*

#### **7. Elections**

*Resolution ICCPC19/7/1. Council nominates the following candidates for election/re-election.*

Dr. Stavros Kalaitzidis (Chair Commission I),

Dr. Dragana Zivotic (Secretary of Commission I).

Dr Dr Mária Hamor-Vidór (General Secretary).

#### **8.Membership**

*Resolution ICCPC 19/8/1. Council has accepted the applications prior to (via e-mail) and at the meeting, and forwarded them to the Plenary Session for approval.*

*Resolution ICCPC 19/8/2. Council nominated Lopo de Sousa Vasconcelos and Jennifer Pearson as Honorary members in recognition for their outstanding contribution to the activities of the ICCP over the years.*

#### **9. Financial matters – Treasurer's report**

*Resolution ICCPC19/9/1. Council*

*i) receives the report presented by the Honorary Treasurer*

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

*iii) thanks Jen Pearson and Peter Crosdale for their outstanding contributions as treasurer and the successful transition of the accounts from Canada to Australia.*

*Resolution ICCPC19/9/2. Council forwards to the General Assembly the simplification of the membership fee structure to eliminate as an option the Newsletter hardcopy distribution.*

#### **10. Editor**

*Resolution ICCPC19/10/1. Council receives the report of the Editor and congratulates Nikki Wagner on her outstanding work.*

*Resolution ICCPC19/10/2. Council approves spending by the Editor in accordance with the budget estimates given in the Editors Report.*

#### **11. Accreditation Programme**

*Resolution ICCPC19/11/1 Council thanks the organizers of the three programs Kimon Christanis, Joao Graciano Mendonça Filho and Isabel Suárez-Ruiz for their work and congratulates*



them and Magdalena Misz-Kennan for their reports (contained in the Newsletter).

### 12. Training Activities

Resolution ICCPC19/12/1. Council acknowledges the large involvement of Andreas Küppers and Antje Treutler as course 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. Isabel Suarez-Ruiz and Dr. Walter Pickel for their work.

### 16. 2020 Meeting

A presentation provided by Shifeng Dai was shown to the General Assembly encouraging members to attend the 72<sup>nd</sup>

meeting next year. The meeting will be organized by China University of Mining and Technology in Xuzhou, Jiangsu Province, from 17-23 September.

### Thanking the Organizing Committee

The team from Shell Global Solutions International led by George Siavalas, included Euphrasia Wong and Amr El-Azhary. The Shell Events Team and Stavros Kalaitzidis, University of Patras completed the organizing committee. ICCP is in debt with all of them for a perfectly organized meeting.

## 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting Conference Dinner & Field Trip



The 71<sup>st</sup> ICCP Meeting Dinner was held on Thursday, September 19, in the Hague. During an evening of mild weather, the guests had the opportunity to "sightseeing Holland" within one hour walking through the miniature city of Madurodam located on the outskirts of The Hague. Historic buildings and entire neighborhoods of Amsterdam, Rotterdam and other major cities, together with traditional Dutch trademarks such as windmills, canals, tulips and cheese markets, were all in display in miniature size. Dinner was served in a meeting room with a view of the entire park at night, and, as the custom commands in ICCP meetings, the night ended with several willing guests demonstrating their

dancing skills, and George particularly as the host giving a sample of Greek folk dance.

The post-meeting field trip took place Saturday, September 21, on what was reportedly one of the warmest days of the year in the Netherlands with temperature being above 30°C throughout the day. It was attended by approximately 30 participants.



Albeit, the main destination was not in the Netherlands, but in the neighboring country of Belgium. In the outskirts of the city of Liege, a historic ICCP city, lies the Blegny Mine, one of the first un-

derground mines in Europe and perhaps the entire world with more than 200 years of mining history. Now an underground museum, the mine gave participants a glimpse of pioneering coal mining practices from the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century until the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The visit to the mine was concluded with a delicious lunch at the adjacent "Le Chalet" restaurant with participants tasting the "Briquet". The way back included a stop to the Mijnmuseum of Heerlen, another historic ICCP town, with the visit of surface facilities of another coal mine located on the Dutch side, concluding a day of travelling in the past of both coal-mining and ICCP. We would like to thank George for his

## 71st ICCP Meeting, The Hague





# HAPPY ICCP MEMBERS AT THE HAGUE, SAVOURING WHAT THE NETHERLANDS HAS TO OFFER



## MINUTES OF COMMISSION I GENERAL COAL AND ORGANIC PETROLOGY

71<sup>st</sup> ICCP Meeting – The Hague, Netherlands,  
17-18<sup>th</sup> September 2019

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

**Secretary:** Dragana Životić,  
[dragana.zivotic@rgf.bg.ac.rs](mailto:dragana.zivotic@rgf.bg.ac.rs)

### Opening remarks

The session of Commission I started at 14:00 on Tuesday September 17<sup>th</sup>, and was attended by 26 members. The Chair of Commission I gave a general description of COMMISSION I with the existing Working Groups, and outlined the programme for the WG's sessions, and presented the progress regarding the **SEM - TEM and Oxidation Editorial Groups**, as well as the publications of the *Application of electron microscopy TEM and SEM for analysis of coals, organic-rich shales and carbonaceous matter* in International Journal of Coal Geology 211, 103203. All publications can also be accessed from the ICCP website. The Chair of Commission I announced that during the year a proposal for a new Working Group was received, which was going to be discussed during the Meeting. Additionally a new task for Sample Preparation Techniques Working Group was proposed. Stavros pointed that lot of data are present on Commission I web site.

Among the data on the webpage is the database that was created within the **Temporal Variations in Coal WG**, convened by Lopo Vasconcelos. Although this WG is not active any more, Lopo continues to add new data into the database, which now reaches in total 16,943 maceral data entries from 81 countries and territories (23 "Gondwana" and 58 "North Atlantic" countries/territories). **ICCP Members are encouraged to use the Database that is loaded on the ICCP webpage (<http://www.iccop.org/workinggroup/temporal-variation-of-coals/>) and/or to add any new data that become available by contacting either Lopo or Committee I Chair/Secretary.**

Commission's I session for Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> continued with the included presentations of the following WG's:

SCAP - Single Coal Accreditation Program,  
ISO Standard  
Raman Spectroscopy EG  
Sample Preparation Technique WG

Commission I continued their work on 9:00 on Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup> September with the presentations of the following WG's and the Microscopy Session in the afternoon:

Xylite-rich Lithotype Classification WG,  
Suberinite Working Group,  
New Methodologies and Techniques in Organic

Petrology WG

Petrographic Image Database,  
Distinguishing Features of Macerals Editorial Group,  
Standardization Working Group,

Apologies for not attending were received by Thomas Gentzis.

### Single Coal Accreditation Program – Kimon Christianis

Kimon presented the activities, the results, and some challenges of the 2018 SCAP round. The 2018 SCAP exercise was announced in February 2018. Participants have electronically registered *via* the ICCP webpage from March till September 24<sup>th</sup> 2018. Unfortunately, due to late registrations the dispatch of the invoices, the fee payments, as well as posting the samples and the instructions has lasted from March till October 1<sup>st</sup> 2018. In the 2018 exercise all participants received bulk samples. The participants had to measure the following parameters:

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

In total 112 analysts were initially registered in the 2018 SCAP from 58 laboratories located in 26 countries; 108 analysts corresponded further, from whom 54 were ICCP members. The breakdown in continuation versus new entries is 82 to 26, respectively.

It is also interesting to note that half of the participants are ICCP Members, the other half were non-members. The geographic (concerning continents) distribution of the participants was: Oceania 29%, Europe 30%, America 23%, Africa 9% and Asia 9%.

Kimon acknowledged the contribution of the following persons: the former and the current chairs of the ASC, namely Deolinda Flores and Magdalena Misz-Kennan for their continuous support; particularly Deolinda along Álvaro for solving some minor problems and improving the SCAP database to electronically assess participants' results; the past and the current Honorary Treasurers Jen and Peter for handling the SCAP finances; Gisela and Gerd Bieg, Jolanta Kus, Stavros Kalaitzidis, Małgorzata Wojtaszek for sample supply; Deolinda Flores and Álvaro Figueira for the database; all the SCAP participants; MSc students Costantinou Perleros and Panagiotis Chrysochos for assistance in preparing the sample sets, sending the samples and the certificates.

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

After short discussion, Commission I thanked Deolinda, Magda and Kimon for their great work on the final checks and evaluation of the accreditation data.

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

### ISO Standard – Walter Pickel

Walter Pickel presented on the status of the ISO stand-



ard WG 14—Petrographic Analysis of Coal (working group 14 of ISO TC 27/SC5 - Solid mineral fuels-Methods of analysis). ISO Standards undergo a 5-year revision circle. The progress in recent developments on microscopes significantly affects petrographic work (i.e. new LED illumination rather than halogen lamps or mercury 'burners', replacement of photomultipliers, etc.). Walter pointed that Parts 1 and 4 of ISO 7404 (Methods for the petrographic analysis of coal) were updated in 2017-18, but parts 2, 3 to a lesser extent, and 5 need changes following the development in microscopy. Walter presented a list of suggested modifications and changes in ISO 7404 parts 2, 3 and 5, suggesting also that ICCP considers to take a more official approach to ISO work, for example by having a representative involved. Petra David pointed that the president of ICCP had to be actively involved in ISO standard Committee.

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

### **Raman Spectroscopy – Nils Keno Lünsdorf**

Nils Keno Lünsdorf gave a presentation regarding the "Development, applications and challenges in Raman spectroscopy of carbon material", within the *Raman Spectroscopy EG*. After introduction of Raman spectroscopy Keno showed correlations that have been previously reported in the literature between Raman bands (position, width, intensities, area ratio, peak distance) and some characteristics of the samples, e.g., maximum temperature of metamorphism, heat treatment temperature or deformation pressure, as well as correlation of the Raman fitting parameters to vitrinite reflectance. He mentioned that Raman spectroscopy has a lot of advantages but no standardized yet procedure for maturity estimation of organic matter. Keno made a proposal for a new Working Group with the Title **Standardize Maturity Estimation by Raman Spectroscopy of Organic Matter Working Group**. The main aim of the group will be to propose a standardized protocol to conduct maturity estimation using Raman spectroscopy. After the discussion Commission I thanked Keno for his efforts in this Editorial Group and accepted the proposal for the new Working Group, with Keno as a convenor.

### **Sample Preparation Technique – Peter Crosdale**

Peter Crosdale presented the state of the art concerning the polishing of shale samples and the problems rising with swelling clays. He expressed his interest to work on and establish a WG that will deal with **Dry Polishing Techniques**. The objective of the WG will be to establish methods of dry polishing and to investigate the effectiveness of dry polishing techniques, in terms mainly of reflectance measurements. Peter pointed that each participating lab could develop their own dry polishing protocols, using their own equipment and the published techniques as a starting point. Some participants made the point that in order to have comparable results the procedure for polishing has to be defined from the beginning. Walter proposed one polishing concept for all participating labs. Jolanta suggested that each participating lab could measure vitrinite reflectance on samples polished on both ways, meaning wet and dry-polishing. She pointed that existing differences could be established this way. Peter will circulate the objectives and the task for 2020 among the members who signed to participate.

Commission I thanked Peter for his efforts in this Working Group and his proposal for a new Working Group and wish him a successful run.

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

Giannis presented the activities of the WG that was established in 2015. The aim of this WG is to develop a Classification scheme for Xylite-rich lithotypes of low-rank coals. The objectives of the exercise are focused on macroscopic description of xylite. The exercise included 98 figures of xylitic material:

- 78 figures of hand specimens from Greece and Poland (exercise Part I).
- 20 figures from the field from Greek xylite dominated successions (exercise Part II).

The main goal of the exercise is to discuss and choose the valuable parameters applicable for classification of xylite-rich lithotype of lignite. In this round various parameters, which are used internationally in classification systems, were suggested to the participants to facilitate their description of the xylitic material, such as: color, gelification, layers, fibres, fusite, mineral matter, volume percent in xylite fragments, cracks and folds, roundness, fatigue and xylitic fragments >1 cm in size. Only five (5) participants accomplished the exercise till now. Giannis pointed that the used parameters are applicable for both Greek and Polish samples, and significant discrepancies were observed only for the "Vol.% contribution" parameter. Comparing the data between analysts, Giannis concluded that not all parameters are applicable for each sample. Participants commented that the definitions are too extensive, and they need to be simplified for being applicable universally.

The Exercise will continue next year (more participants will be involved and thus, more results will be included in the final evaluation). Discussion on the obtained results will follow. For the next activities Giannis suggested the creation of a map showing the occurrence of xylite-dominated deposits in Eastern Europe – western Asia, including the age of each deposit. Contribution to the ICCP database will be photomicrographs of woody materials, and a classification to the existing nomenclature (handbook?). Presentation of the new classification system to the ICCP for acceptance is planned for 3-4 years.

During the discussion the participants suggested that botanical origin and technological parameters could be included in exercises and classification.

**Anybody interested to participate in the activities of this WG please contact Giannis ([ioikonomopoulos@helpe.gr](mailto:ioikonomopoulos@helpe.gr)).**

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

### **Suberinite WG – Peter Crosdale**

Peter Crosdale presented the results of the 2018 Suberinite exercise. Participants got one polished block labelled "SUBWG 2018B" for analysis. The tasks of the exercise were: i. Mandatory – do a point count following ICCP Nomenclature, ii. Optional, vitrinite reflectance measurements provide annotated images, both in white and blue light with any additional comments on

suberinite occurrence.

The Comparison of data between analysts showed high level of agreement in reflectance measurement but poor agreement in maceral analysis. Discrepancies appeared because: i) participants did not use standard ICCP nomenclature, ii) split suberinite into multiple categories, iii) provide analysis on group level and not on maceral type, iv) used Low Rank Coal nomenclature (i.e. huminite group), instead of high rank (i.e. vitrinite group). Peter proposed some possible changes in the definition of the suberinite maceral. The work will continue with new sample but also recount of the existing ones.

Twelve members expressed their interest to participate in the 2020 Exercise, **however, anyone interested in participating please contact Peter ([peter.crosdale@energyrc.com.au](mailto:peter.crosdale@energyrc.com.au))**. All the relative documentation of the WG is available on the ICCP webpage (<http://www.iccop.org/workinggroup/suberinite>).

After short discussion Commission I thanked Peter for convening this very interesting WG.

### **New Methodologies and Techniques in Organic Petrology WG**- Lila Gurba

The WG was established at the 52<sup>nd</sup> ICCP meeting in Rio de Janeiro (2000) with the aim to provide an update on novel and new methods and techniques that can be applied to Coal and Organic Petrology. Lila Gurba outlined the most important topics from previous years including for example: A new optical technique for characterisation of coal/biomass blends (2003); Coal and Mineral Matter characterisation by QEMSCAN™ (2005); Fly-ash characterisation for advanced technologies (2009); Understanding Shale Microstructure (2011); or more recent the Handbook of Instrumental Techniques Applied in Coal and Organic Petrology focusing on Electron Microprobe (EMPA), X-ray Computed Tomography (Micro-CT) and Positron Annihilation Spectroscopy (PAS) Techniques.

This year Lila presented Inter-laboratory Comparison of Electron Microprobe Analyses of Carbon and Sulphur in Coal and Kerogen conducted at the UNSW in Sydney, and at the AGH UST, Cracow, Poland. The aim of the exercise was to assess the repeatability and reproducibility of the test results of the participating laboratories, to determine the characteristics of a carbon standard to be used as a reference material and to test and optimise operating procedures using new generation electron microprobe facilities through configuration of crystals, calibration standards, and other operating parameters. The results will be published in the relevant journals. Lila invited other labs to participate in this exercise, especially with JEOL's electron microprobe analysers.

Commission I encourage members to present research summaries in the broader field of coal science, in which organic petrography could be a significant input. Interested parties please contact Lila ([l.gurba@unsw.edu.au](mailto:l.gurba@unsw.edu.au)) during the year.

Commission I thanked Lila for her ideas and efforts in this WG.

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

Petra David reported on recent developments of the

ICCP Image Database. She presented several opportunities for low cost image database systems. During the discussion members pointed out that images from various WGs e.g. Qualifying WG, Concentration of Organic Matter WG, as well as from DOM Atlas could be incorporated. The members should decide whether or not they want a professional base that will be accessible to all or only to ICCP members. The group will prepare a final proposal to be voted upon in next meeting.

Commission I thanked a lot Petra for their efforts and dedication on this work.

### **Distinguishing Features of Macerals WG** – Walter Pickel

Walter Pickel continued with the progress of the WG on Distinguishing Features and presented the aim of the group. After brief description of maceral groups, sub-groups and macerals Walter plan to collect comments and suggestions of all participants who have signed in. **Comments should be returned to the convenor by Easter 2020**. The compiled replies will be distributed among those, who have contributed for further comments. A draft version of this compilation will be presented at the next ICCP meeting.

Commission I thanked Walter for his efforts in this Editorial Group.

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

Walter Pickel presented the 2017 Exercise for the Standardization WG. Two lignite samples from the Lausitz Lignite District, Open Cast Nochten, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lausitzer Main Seam, Miocene, kindly supplied by Claudia Niemtz from Vattenfall AB, was distributed to the members, for maceral analyses and reflectance measurements, along with a set of photomicrographs. Samples have been provided to participants crushed but not mounted. The objective of the round robin exercise is to perform maceral, maceral sub-group, or maceral group analyses on both samples. Analysts also asked to mark their level of experience in lignite analyses, e.g. high, low. **Deadline for submitting the result is Easter 2020**. Walter will provide a report of this exercise at the next meeting.

**Anyone interested to participate to the 2020 RIC please send an email to Walter Pickel ([walterpickel@optusnet.com.au](mailto:walterpickel@optusnet.com.au))**.

Commission I thanked and congratulated Walter for his dedication in conducting the Standardization round robin exercises.

### **Diskus Fossil** - Carl Hilgers

Carl Hilgers presented a short overview of a several decades lasting history behind the development of the Hilgers microscope systems; from the first steps of developing a software for petrographic analysis and replacing photomultipliers with sensitive photodiodes and digital cameras to the modern, complex Hilgers Systems. Several recent improvements in Diskus Fossil software were presented. Carl also announced that he will retire soon. The company will continue to operate and work on system development with Brita Hilgers.

Commission I expressed gratitude to Carl and Hilgers Technisches Büro for their long-lasting and continuous



support of the ICCP.

**Microscopy session**

At the afternoon microscopy session provided in the Shell laboratories, the attendees examined lignite samples presented by Walter Pickel, the Kimmeridge shale presented by Jolanta Kus, and Jurassic coal presented by Peter Crosdale.

Commission I would like to thank George Siavalas and Shell Company for providing the facilities for the Microscope sessions.

**Closing Remarks**

Stavros Kalaitzidis and Dragana Životić closed the Session of Commission I.

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

**Single Coal Accreditation Program, SCAP – Kimon**

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

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

**Commission I would like to encourage ICCP members to visit the webpage, since a lot of data and information from the WGs has been uploaded <http://www.iccop.org/commissions/commission-i/>. Also, the convenors of the various WGs are encouraged to check and update regularly the web material.**

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.

Finally, Commission I would like to thank George Siavalas and his team and all the participants of the sessions for their active participation resulting in well organised and productive Meeting.



**The Hilgers Family  
Ice-Breaker, The Hague  
ICCP Meeting**



**KNOW YOUR COAL PETROLOGIST (p.2)**

**Professor Kimon Christanis**

Based at the Department of Geology, University of Patras, Greece, Prof Kimon heads the geo-energy resources team, and is considered as “the founder of the organic petrology school” in Greece. His research focuses on low rank coals and peat. As the Convener of the Single Coal Accreditation program since 2005 (SCAP—refer to page 15.), Prof Kimon maintains an excellent database of accredited petrographers globally, for which the ICCP is extremely grateful. Prof Kimon has been involved with the ICCP since 1993 following the Crete meeting. He is on the Editorial Board of several international journals, supervises many postgraduate students, and is a prolific publisher of their research. His first degree was in mining engineering, and he received his PhD in 1982 from the University of Braunschweig, Germany, and has been at the University of Patras since 1989.



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

71<sup>st</sup> ICCP Meeting  
Royal Dutch Shell plc  
Den Haag, 15<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> September 2019

**Chair:** Jolanta Kus, [J.Kus@bgr.de](mailto:J.Kus@bgr.de)  
**Secretary:** George Siavalas,  
[Georgios.Siavalas@shell.com](mailto:Georgios.Siavalas@shell.com)

### Monday – 16<sup>th</sup> September

The Commission II meeting started on Monday September 16<sup>th</sup> at 14:30 in Bleyenbergh, Grote Markt 10, 2511 BG and was attended by over forty participants.

#### 14:30 – 15:00 - Opening address – Jolanta Kus & George Siavalas

The new Chair of Commission II opened the session describing structure of the Commission and recent changes. She welcomed the new Secretary of Commission II and thanked warmly her predecessor and the former Chair, Paul Hackley for his treasured cooperation and a good teamwork during the past years. The Chair also presented Commission's II Programme during the 71<sup>st</sup> ICCP Meeting and gave a short description of objectives and activities of the active working groups. The Chair also showed the available training material under Commission II. The material is accessible through the ICCP News Editor, Nikki Wagner. This information should be updated on the ICCP webpage.

#### 15:00 – 15:30- DOM VR Accreditation Program – João Graciano Mendonça Filho

The convenor presented the activities of the 7<sup>th</sup> round of the DOMVR Accreditation Programme. He presented an overview of the exercise from sample selection and distribution to result evaluation and reporting back to participants. All of the participants had success in their accreditation exercise and the convenor highlighted that this round was very successful. The organizer analysed the number of participants, distribution, and provided the historic participation overview through time and indicated a drop compared to the previous exercise. Out of the 46 participants, 42 returned results and all of them were accredited. The organizer also discussed the geographic distribution per country and continent and commented separately on continuation participants and new entries. A brief description of the distributed samples was shown, along with the description of the statistical method and the application of the database to evaluate the submitted results. The accreditation criteria were described and the efficiency of the database in evaluating the results was highlighted. **Finally, the organizer gave an overview of the status of the sample bank and indicated that its status is critical, because of the mass of sample that needs to be delivered to the participants. He asked for support and new samples for maintaining the health of the sample bank.** Conclusions from this exercise were: a) the excel database worked in an outstanding way, b) the round was concluded successfully, c) a large number of participants withdrew and only 83% submitted results, d) the round was a successful one since all participants were accredited, and e) additional samples are needed for future rounds. The convenor acknowledged the support of Jen Pearson, the accreditation sub-committee chaired by Magdalena Misz-Kennan and Deolinda Flores for the development of the database

and her support and coaching on how to use it.

#### **Discussion:**

Paul Hackley asked how much material is needed and João Graciano indicated that at least 500 gr are needed. Paul Hackley offered to provide outcrop samples from N. America. Jolanta Kus asked the organizer, if there is something that can be achieved to improve the DOMVR Accreditation Program and João Graciano highlighted again the urgent need for additional samples.

Commission II congratulates João Graciano for his immense and very significant work carried out within the DOMVR Accreditation Program.

#### 15:30 – 16:00 - Coffee break

#### 16:00 - 16:30 - Identification of Thermal maturity Relevant Organic Matter WG – convenor: Paul Hackley

The objective of the WG is to provide guidelines for identification of thermal maturity relevant organic matter population in sedimentary samples rich in dispersed organic matter. The Convenor gave a short summary of the problematics to be solved, the WG history, and 2012-2013 and 2015-2016 round robin exercises. The results of the 2015-2016 round robin exercise were presented in 2013 at the ICCP Meeting in Sosnowiec, Poland, and were compiled in a manuscript submitted in 2019 to Marine & Pet. Geol. Six high maturity samples with high TOC were selected for reflectance measurements according to D7708-11 Standard. The results displayed a rather poor reproducibility calling for a statistical method to discriminate outliers. It also showed that solid bitumen versus vitrinite identification is still an issue in North American shales. The reviewers' comments so far indicated that there is a need to further refine the results of precision and bias for DOM reflectance measurements and the convenor described a list of criteria on how to achieve that. The convenor emphasized on how to optimize reproducibility given the  $s.d. > 0.15 * Ro$  criterion, as one of the most robust one among others. Paul Hackley indicated that there is a continued need for standardization and that the improvement of reproducibility provides a realistic uncertainty in VRr% measurements. A photographic round robin with the sample samples among a pilot group of experienced analysts was agreed as the next step.

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

#### 16:30 – 17:00 – Confocal Laser Scanning Microscopy (CLSM) WG – convenor: Paul C. Hackley, Jolanta Kus

Paul Hackley gave a summary of the activities within the WG, described the CLSM technique and listed its various applications. The Convenor also presented the history of the CLSM WG. He indicated that in the 2017 study, a set of strewn slides, kerogen concentrates, whole rocks and chips from a Kimmeridge Clay sample was distributed to 13 participants and 4 returned data sets. The Convenor described the Kimmeridge Clay sample examined within the 2017 study and presented data acquired by the four participants. The set was intentionally sent without instructions to investigate how to use the technique. It was shown that most analysts apply it for the purpose of 2D and 3D imaging. **The convenor asked for ideas on which areas the techniques would be applicable and should be tested.**

Commission II thanks Paul C. Hackley and Jolanta Kus for their work carried out within the WG and congratulates them.



**The meeting of Commission II ended at 17.00 on September 16th. 2019.**

**Tuesday – 17<sup>th</sup> September**

The Commission II meeting resumed on Tuesday September 17<sup>th</sup> at 09:00 in Bleyenbergh, Grote Markt 10, 2511 BG and was attended by 44 participants.

**09:00 – 09:05 - Opening address – Jolanta Kus & George Siavalas**

The Chair of Commission II opened the session.

**09:05- 10:00 - Identification of Dispersed Organic Matter WG – convenor: Jolanta Kus**

The aim of this WG is: (1) to examine and assess the potential suitability of the ICCP-TSOP Classification System of DOM in identification of organic components in whole rock pellets, and (2) to modify, if necessary, the ICCP definitions of liptinite macerals (lamalginite, telalginite, and bituminite (ICCP, 1993)). Jolanta Kus gave a broad summary of past activities, publication of results of the 2006, 2009, and 2011 round robin exercises conducted within the WG, and a contribution of the WG to the publication of the “Liptinite Sheets” (Pickel et al., 2017). The convenor presented then the outline of the 2018 round robin exercise (sample, scope, analysts) performed on Kimmeridge Clay from Filey Bay and showed the VRr % measurement results of vitrinite, bituminite as well as bitumen, group means and standard deviations. The results of random vitrinite reflectance measurements revealed that by removing five outliers, the remaining 15 data sets display a well-acceptable group standard deviation of 0.06 and a group mean of 0.48% VRr. The compilation of all 20 data sets at the class of 0.025 results in discrimination of two vitrinite populations at median of 0.45 and 0.57% VRr. The convenor presented a histogram with differentiations of bitumen, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> vitrinite populations, recycled vitrinite and inertinite. She displayed photomicrographs of the measured components showing the transition in VRr % values from bitumen to vitrinite. The results of random bituminite reflectance measurements revealed that by removing one outlier, the remaining 19 data sets display a well-acceptable group standard deviation of 0.04 and a group mean of 0.20% VRr. The compilation of all 20 data sets at the class of 0.025 results in discrimination of two bituminite populations at median of 0.19 and 0.25% VRr. The convenor presented a histogram with differentiations of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> bituminite populations. She displayed photomicrographs of the measured bituminite macerals. The reported bituminite description sheets reveal the differentiation in: (1) Bituminite B representing the 1<sup>st</sup> population with translucent to lighter colours, sometimes faint reddish in RWL and intense yellow fluorescence with impurities; and (2) in Bituminite A representing the 2<sup>nd</sup> population with translucent, darker to black colours in RWL and dark orange to brownish or non-fluorescent with mineral impurities and organic impurities. In the discussion that followed it was agreed that the next step should involve a similar exercise with a core sample of high maturity from the Kimmeridge Clay and publish the data after this new exercise is completed. Commission II congratulates Jolanta Kus for her effort to finalize the past activities within the WG.

**10:00 - 10:25 - Correction Function for Fluorescence**

**lamps – convenors: Richárd Orbán, Ángeles Gomez Borrego**

The aim of the WG is to standardize spectral fluorescence measurements. Ángeles Gomez Borrego explained her reasons for not being able to progress further this year. She gave an overview of past activities and the development of fluorescence devices over the years. As already pointed out in 2017, the convenor indicated that age-associated deviations (irregular peaks in similar emission range between 600 and 700nm) are introduced in the emission spectra of the ICCP lamps nr. 3 (1997) and nr. 5, introducing at the same time artefacts in the calculated correction functions obtained for different calibration systems (photomultiplier, CDD camera). The artefacts in the calculated correction functions, even for the same calibration device but within five-year interval resulted in dissimilar uncorrected and corrected sample spectra. The convenor described also a different calibration standards such as the green 2941B007 standard or a halogen lamp. The need to revisit the background correction function of spectral measurements by measuring the spectrum of halogen lamps was demonstrated and the way forward was discussed. The convenor suggested she hands over to P. Hackley. It was agreed that P. Hackley and J. Hatcherian will distribute a questionnaire to investigate analysts' capacity for testing halogen lamps and do reproducibility tests in relevant USGS projects.

Commission II congratulates Ángeles Borrego for her efforts to raise these important issues related to fluorescence spectral analyses.

**10:25 – 10:40 - Dispersed Organic Matter White Paper WG – convenors: Isabel Suárez-Ruiz and Paula Alexandra Gonçalves**

Isabel Suárez-Ruiz has resigned this year from her position as a convenor of this WG. Jolanta Kus presented a short summary of the activities within the WG on behalf of the convenors. She showed a summary of historical developments and past activities that resulted in the 12<sup>th</sup> Version of the DOM White Paper. An urgent need to rearrange and update the entire document was highlighted as pointed out. It was proposed and agreed that the new Convenors will be J. Kus, P. Hackley and P.A. Goncalves. The way forward was discussed. Commission II thanks the new Convenors for their determination offered within this WG.

**10:40 – 11:00 - CBM and CO<sub>2</sub> gas storage WG – convenor: Lila Gurba**

Lila Gurba announced her intention to close down the activities of the WG over the next couple of years. The convenor gave a brief overview of the activities and techniques and factors that control the adsorption capacity. The importance of microstructure imaging and the shift from the study of coal to that of shale was highlighted. The convenor called for someone to take over. Balram Tiwari and Konrad Ziemianin volunteered to do so. Commission II thanks Lila Gurba for her work carried out within the WG and congratulates her.

**11:00 – 11:30 - Coffee break**

**11:30 – 12:00 - Shale Gas WG – convenor: Lila Gurba**

Lila Gurba displayed the present structure of the Shale Gas Handbook, highlighted chapters that need to be completed and asked for volunteers to contribute. She also suggested to review the structure of the handbook and convert certain chapters to review or original

research papers. Emphasis was given to the definition and classification of shale. Some of the chapters still require contributions, while others are in review process. The Chair asked the convener to rank the priorities of the WG. The convener indicated the priorities and explained that her plan is to have the Shale Handbook ready by the end of 2020.

Commission II thanks Lila Gurba for her significant work carried out within this WG.

**12:00 – 12:30 - Pseudovitrinite reappraisal WG WG – convenor: Lila Gurba**

Lila Gurba presented the history of the WG and paid tribute to J. Crelling and C. Ward, who passed away recently. She announced her intention to close the WG and presented a list of deliverables including bibliography (needs contribution), Atlas (completed and delivered to be uploaded on the website) and two scientific publications. The first is the PSV Handbook to be reviewed by the WG members and the second will be a paper de-

scribing the WG activities performed by former ICCP members. It was advised by the ICCP President and the Chair of Com. II that the MS should be reviewed by the members of Com. II emphasizing the PSV is a term and not a maceral.

Commission II thanks Lila Gurba for her valued work carried out within this WG.

**12:30-13:00 – Closing remarks – Jolanta Kus & George Siavalas**

Jolanta Kus congratulated all Conveners of the WGs as well as the numerous participants of the ICCP Commission II for their valued and inspiring work and productive discussions. The Chair also recognised ICCP members who have actively participated in a number of the round robin exercises and encouraged all Conveners to publish the acquired and obtained results in international journals and the ICCP News.

**The meeting of Commission II ended at 13.00 on September 17th. 2019.**

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

**NEW ICCP MEMBERS WELCOMED AT THE ICCP MEETING**

**Application for Full Membership**

Keno Lunsdorf, Gottingen, Germany



**Applications for Associate Membership**

**Carolina Fonseca, Toulouse, France**

**Maja Hren, Zagreb, Croatia**

**Maria-Elli Damoulianou, Patras, Greece**

**Constantinos Perleros, Patras, Greece**

**Evelyn Bieg, Roetgen, Germany**



Please encourage all active organic petrologists to apply for ICCP membership. And, if you are eligible, please apply for full membership. All membership information can be located on the webpage. Only Full Members may vote.





## Call for Participation in the ICCP Accreditation Programs 2020-2021 Exercise

The International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP) is pleased to invite you to participate in the 2020-2021 Accreditation round. The ICCP provides three Accreditation Programs:

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

**Organizer:** Kimon Christanis ([christan@upatras.gr](mailto:christan@upatras.gr))

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

**Organizer:** Joao Graciano Mendonca Filho ([graciano@geologia.ufri.br](mailto:graciano@geologia.ufri.br))

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

**Organizer: to be announced**

The ICCP has established a procedure to facilitate payments, in which a single invoice will be produced. This requires that participants fill in the **registration form**

available in the following link: [www.iccop.org/accreditation/accreditation-form](http://www.iccop.org/accreditation/accreditation-form) before

**April 30, 2020** in order to expedite the procedures. In addition, the detailed schedule of the Accreditation Programs has been established to provide reasonable distribution of workload from all activities and to accommodate the timelines for the evaluation process. The expected schedule is summarized in Table 1.

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

**No participation of automated systems will be allowed in any of the Accreditation Programs.**

The samples will be distributed shortly after registration. The evaluation of results and certificate of accreditation will be issued upon the reception of the corresponding fee. The fee structure for the 2020-2021 Accreditation Round is summarized in Table 2. In addition, for participation in CBAP Accreditation Program and any other of the Programs, there will be a **20% discount for CBAP Accreditation program only**. No additional discounts are applied to any other combination of the Accreditation Programs.

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

**Table 1. General schedule proposed for 2020-2021 ICCP Accreditation Programs.**

	SCAP	DOMVR	CBAP
Announcement and call for participation	February to April 30, 2020	February to April 30, 2020	February to April 30, 2020
Invoicing	till May 31, 2020	May 31, 2020	May 31, 2020
Sample distribution	April to June 2020	May to June	December 2020
Reception of results	September to October 2020	September to October 2020	January to March
Evaluation, Certificates and Web	November to December 2020	November to December 2020	April to June 2021
Certificates Validity	01.01.2021 to	01.01.2021 to 31.12.2022	01.07.2021 to 30.06.2023

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

Magdalena Misz-Kennan  
Chair of the Accreditation Subcommittee;  
email: [magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl](mailto:magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl)

**Table 2. Fee structure for the 2020-2021 ICCP Accreditation Programs.**

	SCAP		DOMVR		CBAP	
	Entry	Continuation	Entry	Continuation	Entry	Continuation
<b>Non-Members €</b>	126	84	100	66	200	168
<b>Members, €</b>	63	42	50	33	100	84

## COMMISSION III

### Minutes of the 71<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting, The Hague, The Netherlands

Chair: Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan  
[magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl](mailto:magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl)  
 Secretary: Dr. Sandra Rodrigues  
[s.rodrigues@uq.edu.au](mailto:s.rodrigues@uq.edu.au)

19<sup>th</sup> September 2019 Thursday

#### 9.00-9.20 – Opening address

The meeting of Commission III started at 9.00 with opening remarks given by the chair of the commission, Magdalena Misz-Kennan. She welcomed all the ICCP participants and presented the objectives of the Commission III, active WG and schedule of the meeting. 31 Participants attended the meeting.

#### 9.20 -10.00 - Self-heating of coal and coal wastes Working Group (SHWG)

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

Jolanta opened the session presenting the aims and a brief history of the SHWG. The 2018 Round Robin exercise was focused on the application of the classification of oxidatively and thermally affected organic matter in coal wastes to oxidatively and thermally affected coaly matter in coal seams and coal heaps. With a total of 12 participants, the results showed that only 4 parameters had a good level of agreement, whereas all the other parameters are below 50% of agreement between the participants. It was suggested that to increase the level of agreement that the recognition of the textures should be improved. There were some issues regarding the classification of altered or non-altered features, such as in particles with cracks and fissures, as raised by Stavros Kalaitzidis; or in the case of micrinite being considered an altered liptinite or a newly formed particle, as asked by Małgorzata Wojtaszek.

#### 10.00-10.45 - Carbon Materials Working Group

**Conveners: Georgeta Predeanu, Isabel Suárez-Ruiz**

Georgeta Predeanu gave a brief outline of the history and publications achieved by the WG. The 2019 exercise was based on pitch coke and biomass char and their activated carbon materials. Sequential technological steps for obtaining the activated carbon precursor and final products have been shown. It was highlighted how the utilised technologies (physical and chemical activation) influence the development of texture and structure of carbon materials, and it was presented images with the raw materials used, as well as the char and activated carbons obtained in the laboratory. The internal surface is one of the most important features in the applications of activated carbons, therefore, the exercise intended to demonstrate how petrography can assist in the recognition of the impact of the type of raw materials, heat treatment and activation agents in the development of porosity of raw material (coal/biomass). The development of porosity, except of temperature, is also related to chemical activation as commented by Keno Lünsdorf. Thirteen participants classified 62 photomicrographs of two raw materials treated at different temperatures. The results showed

an 85% level of overall agreement between the participants for the different components. For the next exercises other carbon types will be considered such as graphite intercalated compounds, carbon fibres, pyrolytic carbon, glassy carbon, carbon-carbon composites, carbon foams, etc. **The convener requested samples.**

#### 10.45-11.00 - Optimization of reflectance measurements on complex blends Working Group

**Conveners: Ashok Singh, Joan Esterle**

The report on the activities of Optimization of reflectance measurements on complex blends Working Group was given by the chair of the commission, Magda, on behalf of the conveners. The objective of this WG is to study the reflectance values of vitrinite macerals in complex blends of coal derived from diverse sources. During the last ICCP Meeting in 2018 in Brisbane sets of four samples containing coal blends were distributed among participants. They were asked to measure random reflectance in 100, 200, 300, 400, 500, 600, 700, 800, 900, and 1000 points on each sample. Only three analysts submitted their results and therefore no sufficient results/information was available to be presented this year.

**The conveners request to the other participants to submit their results by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019.**

#### 11.30 – 12.10 - Coke Petrography Working Group

**Convener: Małgorzata Wojtaszek**

After coffee break Małgorzata Wojtaszek presented the aims of the Coke Petrography WG and thanked for the support of Proficiency Testing. This year exercise implied measuring maximum ( $R_{max}\%$ ) and minimum ( $R_{min}\%$ ) reflectance values in a coke sample. There were significant differences within the  $R_{max}\%$  and  $R_{min}\%$  measurements, as well as, in the identification of the different textures (particularly with incipient and isotropic, and circular textures). The convener also observed that the lower values of reflectance measured came from participants using image analysis systems. It was advised that a standard of 5.4% should be used by the participants in this exercise. Giving the results of the Round Robin exercise the convener suggested to develop a new classification that would be simpler and more applicable to the industry than the current ASTM standard used for coke petrography. Angeles Borrego commented that the current classification has been working for the past 20 years, and therefore, should not be changed; instead, it would be better to try to understand what the new results comparatively to the ones obtained from previous exercises in the past. Paul Hackley suggested a revision of the ASTM standard instead. The convener is also planning to prepare a coke optical atlas. Magda Misz-Kennan suggested to the convener to go back to photomicrographs instead of pellets in the next exercise and to prepare a document with the description of the textures and photos to aid in the identification of the different coke textures. Gerd Bieg asked if the exercise could be focused on the stability of the coke, pore size, wall size, etc, instead of the optical textures. However, the convener explained that optical texture expresses the chemical nature of the coke. The convener requested to the other participants that received the coke pellets to send their results.



**12.10 – 12.25 - Environmental Applications of Organic Petrology Working Group**

**Conveners: George Siavalas, Stavros Kalaitzidis**

Georgios Siavalas presented the objectives and the previous activities of the WG, as well as the results of the questionnaire from the past 3 exercises. The major challenge was to define the optimal level of characterization of a single component (i.e. particle/grain characterization, organic matter category, microlithotype, maceral group, maceral subgroup, maceral, maceral variety), which will be related to what one wants to know from the sample or one needs to work with what we get, as suggested by Walter Pickel. Jarvi Hatcherian asked what type of particles the environmentalist would be interested, to which Georgios replied that usually are carbonized particles. The convener suggested the use of the Mentimeter application for a more interactive response to the questionnaire. An exercise for the 2020 will be prepared in which the participants will have to identify the given particles in photomicrographs.

**12.25 – 12.40 - Coal Blends Accreditation Program (CBAP)**

**Organizer: Isabel Suárez-Ruiz**

The report from the last accreditation exercise was given by Magda Misz-Kennan on behalf of Isabel Suárez-Ruiz. Magda presented the objectives and history of the CBAP, as well as, the evaluation procedure followed by the program. Twenty-eight participants (out of 35) sent their results. There were some delays in the delivery of the results by the participants. It also detected a problem in the software used for evaluation of the results. Three participants failed the CBAP due to misidentification of the number of coals in the blend. **The convener of the program advise the participants to read the instructions carefully.**

**12.40 – 13.10 Proposal for the new Working Group**

Zbigniew Jelonek, Iwona Jelonek and Magda Misz Kennan proposed a new Working Group called "Microscopic constituents in fly ash from biomass combustion".

Georgeta Predeanu suggested changing the name of the WG to "Microscopic constituents in solid residues from households combustion". The change was accepted by the conveners and the audience. The objective of this WG is to exercise is to optically identify the quality and quantity of components found in ashes obtained from household furnaces. Optical examination of ashes obtained from boilers and furnaces combined with their physical and chemical analysis will allow determining the quality of fuels used in domestic furnaces after their combustion. This will also allow identifying and eliminating contaminated fuels produced from biomass and used in household furnaces. The samples selected for this WG include: charcoal, charcoal briquettes and wood pellets. The round robin will adopt the procedures described in the ISO 7404-3 used for maceral analysis in coal, but only 250 will be counted. Rust, metal, plastic, slag, glass, petroleum products, mineral matter, coal, biomass, bark, coke are some of the type of residues that can be found in the samples. Given the variability of the particles Stavros Kalaitzidis asked what categories should be identified. Magda replied that the participants need to identify chars following the previous classification developed in the Fly Ash WG together with other categories. Regarding the type of particles Stavros Kalaitzidis asked if metal and mineral matter, and bark and biomass shouldn't be classified in the same category, to which the convener Magda replied that metal is a subcategory of minerals and bark a subcategory of biomass. Georgeta asked if there are residues from biomass why plastic is included? The conveners justified the presence of plastic as contaminants. The establishment of this new WG was accepted by the audience.

**13.10-13.20 - Closing remarks from the activities of Commission III**

Magda briefly summarized the activities of all working groups and thanked all conveners of working groups for their work and the attendees for their presence and contribution to the discussion.

**ICCP MEETING 2020**

**CHINA UNIVERSITY OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY**

**XUZHOU, JIANGSU PROVINCE, CHINA**

**Lead Organizer: Prof Shifeng Dai**

**Venue: New Century Grand Hotel**

**SEPTEMBER 17-23, 2020**



EDITOR: All the photographs in this Newsletter are courtesy of Peter Crosdale—MANY MANY thanks, Peter!



## Organic Petrology Award

The Organic Petrology Award was established in 2003 during the 55<sup>th</sup> ICCP Meeting in Utrecht, the Netherlands. The Award recognises significant contributions by coal and organic petrologists at an intermediate stage of their career. The Organic Petrology Award is limited to applicants under 50 years of age. The award can be conferred every two years. It consists of a bronze medal and the Organic Petrology Award certificate. Scientific contributions to consider include: scientific and/or practical contribution to various aspects of coal and organic petrology expressed, for example, in quality of the publication, their impact and significance, international recognition, scientific contribution.

Members submitting nominations should provide a letter of nomination, accompanied by any documents supporting the nomination, e.g. available or access to CV, web-based profile, list of publications etc..

The Organic Petrology Award Committee consists of the last five Awardees available. **The nominations should be sent to the Chair of the Subcommittee Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan ([magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl](mailto:magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl)),**  
University of Silesia in Katowice  
Faculty of Natural Sciences  
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Będzińska 60  
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Poland

The deadline for submission of nominations will be published in the ICCP Newsletter every year. **For the current round the deadline is April 30, 2021.**

**Nominations should be kept strictly confidential.** Nominators of unsuccessful candidates would not be notified about the result. Letters of nomination will be kept on file for consideration in subsequent years. It will not be necessary for sponsors to resubmit their applications unless they wish to update their candidate's CV.

The Organic Petrology Award Committee shall send the recommendation to the ICCP Council for approval along with the check list and the laudation.

### Organic Petrology Awardees

- 2019 Dr. Paul Hackley
- 2014 Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan
- 2012 Prof. Dr. Joao Graciano Mendonça Filho
- 2008 Dr. Ángeles G. Borrego
- 2006 Dr. Isabel Suárez-Ruiz
- 2004 Dr. Maria Mastalerz

## Check list to Council for Organic Petrology Award.

### Subcommittee Members (2020)

Magdalena Misz-Kennan (Chair)  
Maria Mastalerz  
Angeles G. Borrego  
João Graciano Mendonça Filho  
Paul Hackley

Year of Nomination:

How many candidates for Award?

External referees?

Reports received? yes/no

Recommendations received yes/no - number?

Feed back:

**The next deadline is April 30, 2021**



**CONGRATULATIONS TO**

**DR PAUL HACKLEY, USGS, USA**

**Paul receives the 2019 Organic Petrology Award from Angeles at the 2019 ICCP, The Hague Meeting.**

**CONGRATULATIONS PAUL, WELL DESERVED**



# ICCP Course feedback

## Lujza Medvecka

I am a PhD student at the Masaryk University in the Department of Geology in Brno, and I work at the Institute of Rock Structure and Mechanics of The Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague under the supervision of Dr Ivana Sýkorová. The course was located at the Geo Forschungs Zentrum, Potsdam, from 15 – 19 July 2019, where the theoretical part was led by Dr Walter Pickel and Dr Isabel Suárez Ruiz. The practical part was led by Dr Carl Hilgers, where all of the student could use their own samples for analysis on the microscope and received Hilgers Fossil software called FOSSIL STUDENT which we could bring home with us and practice on it on our laptops. During the day, the students were very well taken care of. Food and drinks for the coffee, tea and lunch breaks were provided by the canteen.

I am very grateful to ICCP Student Travel Grant for providing me with financial support and giving me the opportunity to attend the 13<sup>th</sup> ICCP Course on Organic Petrology. The course had helped me to improve my knowledge in organic petrology which will be of great use for my future development. Not only that. Thanks to the great location, I was able to learn more about Potsdam and Berlin.



## Malek Radhwani

Ph.D. Student  
Department of Geology, Faculty of Sciences of Tunis

The ICCP training course has been a great opportunity to enhance my knowledge and to clarify ambiguities related to several coal and dispersed organic matter analytical approaches.

Dr. Küppers started the course with a historical overview of the city of Potsdam and the Telegrafenberg. As a young researcher, I have been fascinated by the great scientific achievements of this research institution for more than 125 years.

Later, a complementary course was animated by Dr. Pickel and Dr. Suarez, who shared with us their knowledge and experience and replied generously to all our questions.

The training course has entwined both theoretical and practical parts.

The fundamentals of the organic petrology were treated in details and supported by practical exercises and the manipulation of the reflected light microscope, provided by Mr. Hilgers.

For a fundamentalist researcher like me, the applied organic petrology part introduced several new research horizons and might answered that much talked about question “what am I going to do with my Ph.D. degree”. Further, the discussion of the environmentalist issues related to coal exploitation had an enormous role in spreading awareness among us and create researchers who will considerate the environment protection in their future works.

Finally, I would like to thank the ICCP for giving me the opportunity to assist this training course by affording me the student travel award. I would like also to thank the trainers and my colleague students for their devotion, the friendly ambiance, and positive vibes during the course.

**EDITORS NOTE: THANK YOU TO THE ICCP TRAVEL GRANT RECIPIENTS FOR THE POSITIVE FEEDBACK. THE STUDENTS ATTENDED THE 13TH ICCP COURSE RUN IN 2019. THE COURSES OFFERED BY THE ICCP ARE A TREMENDOUS WAY FOR YOUNG AND OLD PETROLOGISTS TO GAIN CONSOLIDATED GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE IN ORGANIC PETROLOGY.**

**WE ARE VERY PRIVALEGGED TO HAVE ICCP MEMBERS PREPARED TO DONATE THEIR TIME TO THE ICCP FOR THE TEACHING AND RUNNING OF THESE COURSE—THANK YOU TO ISABEL AND WALTER!**

**PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON THE WEBSITE FOR FUTURE TRAVEL GRANTS**

*In Memoriam*

**CORNELIA PANAITESCU**

**15 July 1930 – 5 November 2019**



Born at Mircești, Iași County, Romania, in the house of the poet Vasile Alecsandri, as the second daughter of a family in which father was a well known judge and mother belonged to an illustrious family of music critics.

**It is very difficult, if not impossible, to summarize in a few words the professional activity of Professor Cornelia PANAITESCU, so only a few aspects will be highlighted.**

Initially she acted as a scientific researcher at the Institute of Energy Research of the Romanian Academy (1952-1965). In this period she participated with a team of elite engineers and technicians from the Institute of Energy Research of the Romanian Academy, Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest and Metallurgical Research Institute of Bucharest (ICEM) to the achievement, after a Romanian patent of the first worldwide installation of fluidization “CARBOFLUID” to obtain semicoke (80 tons/day) from non-coking coals of Jiu Valley (PLDL). The plant was commissioned in 1957 in Călan, Hunedoara County, the team receiving the State Prize in 1958 and subsequently the Romanian Academy Award.

As teacher and later Professor Emeritus at the Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest now University Politehnica of Bucharest (since 1965) at the Faculty of Industrial Chemistry, at present Faculty of Applied Chemistry and Materials Science, Department of Fuels, she trained dozens of generations of students and PhD students, in the field of the Technology of Pyrogenetic Processing of Fuels, Carbochemistry and Applied Petrography.

Among main preoccupations and achievements can be mentioned: Romanian coal use in the metallurgical and energy purpose; study of Romanian coals rank; evaluation of the quality of coal blends for the coking process; coke quality prediction models based on coal petrographic characteristics; imported coal quality assessment and evaluation of directions for their use in Romania; xylite using for making activated carbon; petrographic evaluation of fly ash and bottom ash; kerogen quality assessment, etc.

**She was a full member of the International Committee of Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP) since 1971 and was elected Honorary Member of the ICCP in 2010.**

Professor Cornelia Panaitescu devoted all her energy to implementation and development in Romania of the microscopic methods of coal and organic petrology, creating the Romanian school of applied petrography in the Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest after 1970.

Due to her professionalism, outstanding passion for this field of which she made even a way of life, her competence and personal endeavor not interrupted over six decades, Professor Cornelia Panaitescu placed and kept Romania on the map of achievements in coal microscopic research, with former students, PhD students and close collaborators participating in numer-

ous annual meetings of the ICCP.

Continuous activity as a member of the ICCP may be noted by her participation in all the three ICCP committees and some of working groups, but especially in that of industrial applications. She participated alongside leading personalities from around the world within the ICCP in developing microscopic methods subsequently standardized worldwide as e.g. classification of inertinite/inertodetrinite, char classification, others.

To capitalize the Romanian experience in the field of carbon materials she proposed in 2007 (ICCP meeting in Victoria, Canada) the Microscopy of Carbon Materials Working Group, and participated as co-convenor of this Working Group until 2015. She coordinated several series of PhD students in industrial applications of petrographic research.

In this sense, her activity was extremely complex and fruitful being author and co-author of over 200 publications and research studies in the field of coal and organic petrology, starting with her PhD thesis: *Physical-chemical changes in the structure of coal's petrographical constituents during coalification and carbonization*” part of it being made into Bergbauforschung having Prof. Dr. Marie Th. Mackowsky as professor coordinator.

Among most representative publications as author stands: Monography of **Petrography of coal, coke and carbon products**, Encyclopedic Publishing House, 1991, p. 420; **Carbopetrographic Atlas** published by the Romanian Academy Publishing House, (English-Romanian version) in 1999, p. 263 which was awarded by Association of Engineers in Romania (AGIR) for scientific books in 1999; **Pyrogenic Technology of Coal Processing**, Printech Press Publishing House, 2004, p. 338.

Her outstanding achievements as creator of the Romanian school of applied petrography, have received a special chapter in the volume of **Coal Geology in History of Geosciences of Romania, Geological Sciences**, published in 2019 for the celebration of the Centenary of the Romanian Great Union by the Romanian Academy Publishing House.

Engineer and Professor Cornelia Panaitescu was accompanied by a person with a great heart, a devoted and understanding friend. During her long-standing and valuable activity, for her understanding of people, she knew how to be close to the collaborators who loved and respected her deeply.

Professor Cornelia Panaitescu will always remain in the memory of her collaborators and those who knew her. It was a great honor for us to be her students, PhD students, colleagues, and close friends. She was a wonderful person that we will always keep alive in our minds and souls.

Dr. Georgeta Predeanu, University Politehnica of Bucharest

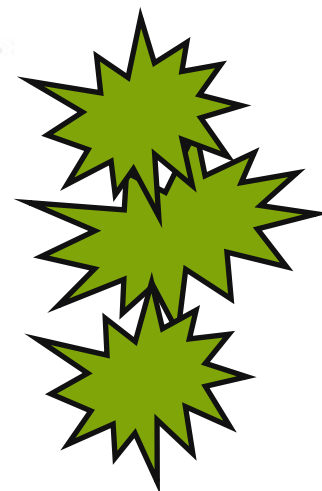
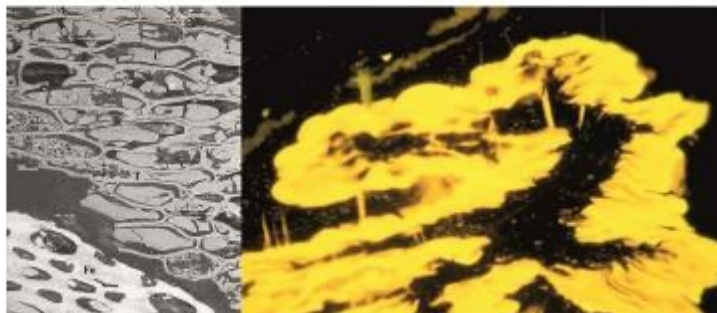
**Annual Meeting of the ICCP, Heerlen, The Netherlands, 1981**







## 14<sup>th</sup> ICCP Training Course – General Organic Petrology Potsdam, May 25 – 29, 2020



### 1. Introduction

The International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP), in conjunction with DGGV (Deutsche Geologische Gesellschaft – Geologische Vereinigung e.V.), the Teichmüller Foundation and GFZ (the German Research Centre for Geosciences), is pleased to announce a training course in **general organic petrology** to be held in Potsdam between 25-29<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

The course is designed for professionals and students, and is not exclusively targeting organic petrologists but also those, who use petrographic data. Instructors will be Dr Walter Pickel and Dr Stavros Kalaitzidis.

### 2. Course outline

The course will be held daily from 09:00 a.m. until 05:00 p.m., with breaks for morning and afternoon coffee/tea and lunch.

#### Theory:

Coal and other fossil organic matter genesis (geology, petrology and geochemistry), composition, type, rank/maturity and rank parameters. Petrographic analyses: fundamentals of the optical microscope and sample preparation, maceral and microlithotype analyses, vitrinite reflectance analysis and the use of fluorescence. Basic factors controlling quality and technological behaviour of coal, oil shales, source rocks. Overview of industrial and environmental applications of organic petrology.

#### Practical:

Practical exercises form a significant part of the course. They include macroscopic and microscopic characterisation of components of fossil particulate organic matter, their quantification and the assessment and the interpretation of data. Microscopic identification of fossil organic matter components, point-counting analysis, reflectance analysis, the use of fluorescence on various samples of different type and rank/maturity and grade will be exercised on images of pre-scanned samples on screen with the group or on the participant's laptops – Windows only. Analysis software will be provided to the participants). A practical session on the use of a reflected light microscope will be held with at a research microscope.

### 3. Registration and fees

Costs for the course include course notes, lunches and coffee-breaks. Cost for the course excludes travel, accommodation and meals other than during the course. The number of participants is limited to 20.

**Registration is now open:** <https://www.iccop.org/registration-form-for-the-14th-iccp-course-in-potsdam-2020/>

Due date for registration and payment is **April 30th**, 2020.

Company / Professional	1300 €
Government / Non-Profit	750 €
Student	250 €

Pay either by Bank Transfer to:

Bank Name: Commonwealth Bank of Australia  
Address: 48 Martin Place, Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia  
Account Name: International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology

BSB: 064107

Account Number: 10409339

Swift Code: CTBAU2S

**Reference: your surname and 14th ICCP Course.**

for Credit Or Contact ICCP's Treasurer Dr. Peter Crosdale at [peter.crosdale@energyrc.com.au](mailto:peter.crosdale@energyrc.com.au) card payments.

Receipt will be sent upon payment.

### 4. Accommodation

Please visit: <https://www.potsdam.de/kategorie/hotels> or any accommodation web-site that suits your needs and budget.

### 5. Venue

Geoforschungszentrum (GFZ – The German Geoscience Research Center) Potsdam.

### 6. Trainers



Dr Walter Pickel received his PhD from the Rheinisch Westfälische Technische Hochschule (RWTH) Aachen, Germany in 1991. Apart from teaching at Aachen University, he has been giving classes and workshops at Cologne University, in Chile, Indonesia, Iran and Australia. He is author/co-author of some 80 reviewed papers and abstracts. He is a member of the ICCP since 1991.



Dr Stavros Kalaitzidis received his PhD degree in the scientific field of "Peatlands and Peatification Processes" from the Department of Geology, University of Patras, Greece, in 2007. Currently he holds an Assistant Professor position in the field of Economic Geology at the University of Patras. He is a member of the ICCP since 1999.

For further Information please contact

Dr. João Graciano Mendonça Filho at

[graciano@geologia.ufrj.br](mailto:graciano@geologia.ufrj.br)

or Dr. Walter Pickel at [walter.pickel@organicpetrology.com](mailto:walter.pickel@organicpetrology.com)

**A detailed outline of the course will be available on the website closer to the course.** <https://www.iccop.org/14th-iccp-short-course-general-coal-and-organic-petrology/>

# Members Corner

## Honorary Members



**Jen Pearson (past ICCP Treasurer)** was nominated as an Honorary Member of the ICCP in recognition for the many years of service to the organization as Honorary treasurer taking care of the finances of the Institution and providing on time reliable reports. We will be always in debt.



**Lopo Vasconcelos (past Vice President)** was nominated by Council as an Honorary Member of the ICCP for the service to this organization as Vice-president promoting the institutionalization of the training courses, and the revision of the statutes, as convener of working groups, organizer of an amazing meeting and our single one in Africa. And for keeping a regular attendance over many years under not always easy conditions.



### New Contact Details

**Henrik Ingermann Petersen, D.Sc., Ph.D.**  
**Petroleum Geochemistry Senior Specialist**  
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## Applications for Associate Membership



**Com I, II**  
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Dr Moroeng graduated with a PhD in 2019, from the University of Pretoria, South Africa, The thesis title was: Geochemistry of a South African coal: Insights into the formation of certain inertinite macerals. Dr Moroeng is currently a **lecturer in the Geology department at the** University of Johannesburg. He has a number of peer review publications.



**Com I, II, III**  
**Dr. Qingyong Luo**  
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Dr. Qingyong Luo received his PhD from China University of Petroleum, Beijing, 2014, The thesis title was: The characteristics and origin of organic-rich sediments in the Hongshuizhuang Formation, Northern North China and. Dr Luo is an Associate Professor at the College of Geosciences at China University of Petroleum, Beijing, focusing on organic petrology of the macerals in the pre-Devonian sediments. His last paper in the International J. of Coal Geology (Optical characteristics of graptolite-bearing sediments and its implication for thermal maturity assessment) was selected as the best paper by the members of the TSOP Ralph Gray Award Committee.



**Com I, II, III**  
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Ms Medvecká is a PhD candidate at the Department of Geological Sciences, Faculty of Sciences, Masaryk University, Brno (Czechia). Ms Medvecká had an Erasmus+ traineeship grant at the RWTH Aachen University, Aachen (Germany), and completed her MSc at Geological Sciences, Faculty of Sciences, Masaryk University, Brno (Czechia). In 2019 Ms Medvecká received the ICCP Student Travel Grant and attended the ICCP training Course.





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

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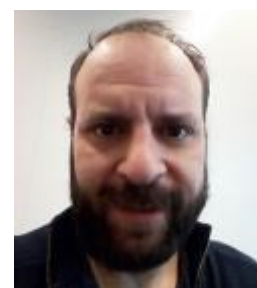
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**Returning Officer:** ..... Dr Rudi Schwab ..... mailto: [r.m.schwab@btinternet.com](mailto:r.m.schwab@btinternet.com)

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**Organic Petrology Award Committee:** Magdalena Misz-Kennan ..... mailto: [magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl](mailto:magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl)

**Webmaster** (<http://www.iccop.org>): .....Contact Dr Stavros Kalaitzidis, ..... mailto: [skalait@upatras.gr](mailto:skalait@upatras.gr)

**Archives:** .....Contact Dr Deolinda Flores, ... mailto: [dflores@fc.up.pt](mailto:dflores@fc.up.pt)

**Membership Enquiries:** ..... General Secretary .Dr Mária Hamor-Vidó mailto: [hamorvido@gmail.com](mailto:hamorvido@gmail.com)

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

**ICCP Publications & Training Material:**... Dr Nikki Wagner ..... mailto: [nwagner@uj.ac.za](mailto:nwagner@uj.ac.za)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**2—8 March 2020.** 36th International Geological Congress. Delhi, India. [36igc.org](http://36igc.org).

**10—15 May 2020.** 10th International Freiberg Conference. Shanghai, China. [www.gasification-freiberg.com](http://www.gasification-freiberg.com) **Abstract Submission.**

**21—26 June 2020.** Goldschmidt 2020, Honolulu, Hawaii. <https://goldschmidt.info>

**8-11 September 2020.** Thirty Seventh Annual International Pittsburgh Coal Conference, Pittsburgh, USA. Abstracts by 1 March 2020. email: [ipcc@pitt.edu](mailto:ipcc@pitt.edu); [www.pccpitt.org](http://www.pccpitt.org)

**17—23 September 2020.** 72<sup>nd</sup> ICCP Meeting, China University of Mining and Technology, Xuzhou, China. Please refer to the ICCP website and future Newsletters


**16—23 September 2020.** 37th TSOP Meeting, Xuzhou, China.

**14-16 September 2020.** 1<sup>st</sup> FERIA Conference, The European Conference on Fuel and Energy Research and its Applications (ECCRIA). Nottingham, UK. <https://cathyhillevents.co.uk/feria/index.html>

ANNOUNCING

**THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL  
INTERNATIONAL  
PITTSBURGH COAL CONFERENCE**

Hosted by:



University of Pittsburgh  
Location: Westin Convention Center Hotel,  
Pittsburgh PA, USA  
Date: September 8-11, 2020

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**FROM 2019 ALL MEMBERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING THEIR CONTACT DETAILS ON THE WEBSITE**

Should you wish for new contact details to be published in the newsletter, please do forward these to the Editor ([nwagner@uj.ac.za](mailto:nwagner@uj.ac.za)). Should you require your login details, please contact the General Secretary ([hamorvido@gmail.com](mailto:hamorvido@gmail.com)).

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