

# ICCP NEWS



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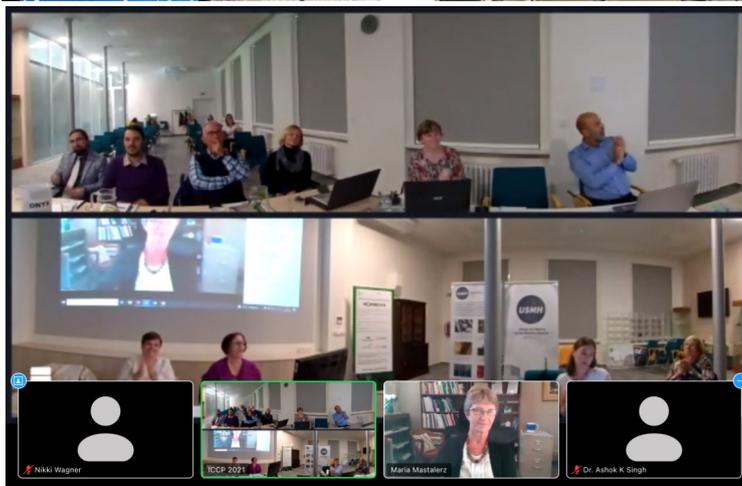
Newsletter of the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP). Founded 1953. <http://www.iccop.org>

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## 72nd Annual Meeting Prague Czech Republic, 2021

### 1ST BLENDED ICOP MEETING—AND WHAT A SUCCESS!

# Thank you Ivana and team



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# EDITORS COLUMN

Dear All,

December greetings once again. And what a year this has been and continues to be these last few days of 2021. Unfortunately, Europe has imposed strict lockdown rules again as Omicron COVID cases soar. In South Africa, having been the first country to report the Omicron variant, our cases are not as high as predicted. The vaccination programs globally have not been as successful as anticipated, possibly due to the large number of antivaxxers in all countries. I do hope this December Newsletter finds you in good health and able to celebrate the holiday season with family and friends.

The 72<sup>nd</sup> ICCP Annual Meeting held in Prague was fantastic! As the first hybrid (online and in-person) meeting ever organized by the ICCP, the Council were nervous at the start. But very quickly we realized that the Prague Organizing Committee had done an incredible job in ensuring that the online and in-person meeting would progress well. And what an incredible success it was! I do not think there was one technical hitch, and I felt completely part of the meeting despite being 10 000 km away (an advantage being that I live in the same time zone as Prague). The livestreaming of the audience made the event feel 'real'. I can categorically state that the Prague ICCP hybrid meeting was the most efficiently run of any online event I attended this year. Well done and thank you to Ivana and her incredible team.

Magda Misz-Kennan set the tone of the professional ICCP meeting with her very interesting keynote address. Online attendees spanned many time zones, from Brisbane to Brazil. As usual, the greatest number of attendees were recorded for the Symposium, indicating the ongoing need for this event in the ICCP Meeting agenda.

I was extremely sad to miss the opportunity to visit the beautiful city of Prague, and to partake of local beers and cuisine. The photographs in the Newsletter were provided by Stavros Kalaitzidis— thank you. Some photographs of the field trip to a very large coal mine and the conference dinner are included in the Newsletter. Please do read through the Minutes from the General Assembly and the three ICCP Commissions herein. Should you wish to participate in the Working Groups, please contact the Convenor directly.

The electronic voting exercise run by Maria Hamor-Vidor, General Secretary of the ICCP, was a necessary requirement due to postal issues in many countries (a result of COVID lockdowns). 144 members were eligible to vote, and 70 replies were received for the election of Secretary for Commission I. A good response was received, but many full ICCP members missed out the opportunity to vote as their email addresses are not up to date. Please can you ensure you details are up to date on the website and inform the Editor and General Secretary. For the time-being (until the global pandemic is lifted), the ICCP will be using electronic voting. If you are eligible to become a Full Member, please do contact the General Secretary.

We welcome Joan Esterle and Paul Hackley as new Council

members (Honorary Treasurer and General Secretary respectively). And congratulations to Jolanta Kus for being the 2021 recipient of the Organic Petrology Award – excellent achievement! The Organic Petrology Award is given in recognition of the achievements of a mid-career petrologist. Please refer to the website for further information and nomination process.

The 2022 73<sup>rd</sup> ICCP Annual Meeting is scheduled as a hybrid event organized by Ashok Singh and his team in New Delhi, India, 18-25 September 2022 – do diarize these dates. Stavros confirmed that Patras are still on track to host the ICCP in 2023.

It is interesting to note recent reports that coal use grew in 2021 and is expected to rise in 2022 due to global demand and high gas process.

I wish you all well and hope to meet up with some of you in 2022.

Best wishes,  
Nikki Wagner

**ICCP WEBSITE**  
<https://www.iccop.org>  
**Please send any feedback, comments, and uploads to Stavros Kalaitzidis**  
<mailto:skalait@upatras.gr>

## INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER



**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 Paul Hackley [hackley\\_paul@yahoo.com](mailto:hackley_paul@yahoo.com).**

# PRESIDENTS COLUMN

Dear ICCP Members,

We are approaching again to a season of celebration and joy without having left behind the pandemic which have been impacting our lives in the last two years. In this time we have got used to platforms to video-connections, intermittent access to our laboratories and telework, which have represented a challenge in our professional and personal lives.

Despite this situation significant achievements have occurred in the ICCP. We held our first hybrid meeting that went fantastically and we are very grateful to Ivana and the organizing committee for willing to take this challenge, which has opened a door to a possibility to be considered in the future. We have also completed successfully an additional accreditation round of the three programs with the added difficulties of asynchro-

nous attendance to the labs. Thanks so much to the three organizers of the programs, Jolanta and BGR for distributing the samples and Magda at the front of the Accreditation Subcommittee for having taken care of the whole process. We have also run an election through electronic voting and here Maria, the General Secretary and Stavros, Chair of Commission I, have been major actors.

The activities of the working groups have continued during the year with significant progress. As a community we have to be proud of the achievements of the year. I would like to finish by congratulating our awardees Maria Mastalerz and Jolanta Kus and thanking the years of service of Maria Hamor Vidó as General Secretary and peter Crosdale as Honorary treasurer. For all our members all the best during this season of festivity and my best wishes for the starting year in which we really hope and wish to leave behind this pandemic. Keep safe and healthy.

Best wishes,  
Ángeles.

## CONGRATULATIONS—PROF MARIA MASTALERZ FINALLY RECEIVES HER REINHARDT THIESSEN MEDAL 2020



### REMINDER: HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMBERSHIP DUES?

Update your details online—but please let the Editor have your new email address—otherwise you will miss the next edition of the ICCP Newsletter. Contact Joan Esterle for all membership payments ([j.esterle@uq.edu.au](mailto:j.esterle@uq.edu.au)).

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

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE  
NEXT  
ICCP NEWS BY  
**30 MARCH 2022**



Doing what ICCP members do best after the Meeting day!  
Savoring beer and wine in Prague.



# Minutes of the 72nd Annual Meeting of the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology, September 19-25th 2021 Prague, Czech Republic

As Compiled by the General Secretary.

The 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology was held in Prague, in Czech Republic from 19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September 2021. The Meeting was sponsored and organized by the Institute of Rock Structure and Mechanics, IRSM Czech Academy of Sciences. The chair of the Organizing Committee was Dr. Ivana Sykorova. Secretary Dr. Martina Havlečková provided information about the technical arrangement of the hybrid meeting. Due to the pandemic situation the Annual Meeting was organized in hybrid way. All together 56 participants registered to the Meeting from five continents; 17 participants were in person at the venue, in the conference room of the IRSM and enjoyed the hospitality and assistance of the organizers.

Council meetings took place on-line and in person, before the Prague Meeting on-line on 15th September; the second Council meeting was held 22th September during the lunch break in an hybrid form considering the different time zones of Council members.

The technical meeting started on the 20th September with the welcome speech by Ivana Sýkorová and followed by a very interesting and informative presentation by Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan who introduced the mining, and cultural history, developments and changes of the Lower and Upper Silesian Coal Basins in the Czech Republic and Poland during the last 250 years.

## Plenary Session I (II), 20<sup>th</sup> September 11:00 – 15:00h:

After the coffee break the Opening Plenary Session the General Assembly started with the following agenda chaired by Dr. M. Angeles Gomez Borrego and Dr. Maria Hamor-Vido:

1. Apologies for non-attendance – Dr. Maria Hamor-Vido
2. Acceptance of the minutes of The Hague Meeting – Dr. M. Angeles Gomez Borrego
3. Report and Minutes of the previous Council meetings in 2020 and 2021 spring time – Dr. M. Angeles Gomez Borrego
4. Future Meetings (short status at the opening session, continued at the closing session) – Dr. Maria Hamor-Vido
5. Awards (short status at the opening session, continued at the closing session) – Dr. M. Angeles Gomez Borrego
6. Membership, new members losses (continued at the closing session) – Dr. Maria Hamor-Vido
7. Elections (short status at the opening session) – Dr. Maria Hamor-Vido
8. Financial matters, treasurer's information – Dr. M. Angeles Gomez Borrego on behalf of Dr. Peter Crosdale
9. Editor's report – Dr. Nicola Wagner

## Plenary Session II 23<sup>rd</sup> September 13:00 – 15:00h:

10. Accreditation program (closing session) – Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan
11. ICCP training activities
12. Revision of the Statutes (closing session) – Dr. Maria Hamor-Vido
13. Registration of ICCP, status report (closing session) – Dr. Maria Hamor-Vido
14. Relation with TSOP (closing session) – Dr. M. Angeles Gomez Borrego
15. Feedback from Members (closing session)
16. Closing ceremony (closing session) – Dr. M. Angeles Gomez Borrego
17. Presentation of the next ICCP Meeting, New-Delhi, India 2022 – Dr. Ashok Singh

### 1. Apologies of non-attendance

Apologies were received from the following members: Prof. Barbara Kwiecinska (PL), Dr. Diego Alvarez (E), Dr. Rosa Menendez (E), Dr.

Alan Davis (USA), Dr. Harold Smith (UK), Dr. Dave Pearson (CAN), Mrs. Jen Pearson (CAN), Mr. Rich Pearson (CAN), Dr. Peter Crosdale (AUS), Mr. Paddy Ranasinghe (AUS), Dr. Antonis Bouzinos (GR), Dr. Ioannis Oikonomopoulos (GR), Dr. Maria-Elli Damoulianou (RO), Dr. Slawka Pusz (PL)

### 2. Acceptance of the Minutes of The Hague Meeting

Short minutes of the Council Minutes and minutes of the Plenary Sessions were published in the ICCP Newsletter # 75 and a correction in #76.

*Resolution ICCPC21/2/1. Council approves the Council minutes as printed in the ICCP Newsletter #75 & correction in #76.*

*Resolution ICCPC21/2/2. Council approves the Plenary Session minutes as printed in the ICCP Newsletter #75 & correction in #76.*

The President asked the Plenary Session for confirmation of the minutes of the 71st ICCP Meeting held in The Hague, Netherlands, as published in the ICCP Newsletter #75 and correction in #76, which was approved.

### 3. Report and Minutes of the previous Council meetings in 2020 and 2021

Two interim Council meetings were held on-line:

-10<sup>th</sup> July 2020. Notice of the Meeting published in the ICCP Newsletter # 78.

-14<sup>th</sup> April 2021. Minutes of the Meeting published in the ICCP Newsletter # 79.

*Resolution ICCPC21/2/3. Council approves the Council minutes of the on-line Meeting as printed in the ICCP Newsletter #79.*

The President asked the Plenary Session for confirmation of the interim Minutes as published in the ICCP Newsletter #78 and #79, which was approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

### 4. Future meetings

Future Meetings have been approved. They will take place in New Delhi, 2022; Patras, 2023; Freiberg, 2024; and China (Xuzhou) 2025 (postponed from 2020). A presentation was received from Dr Alok Singh regarding the Meeting in India next year (September 2022). The date of the 2023 Patras Meeting has not been presented yet because the organizers want to discuss it with TSOP. A new invitation for the 2026 Annual Meeting has not yet been received.

### 5. Awards

Prof. Dr. Maria Mastalerz was nominated by the Reinhardt Thiessen Medal Award Sub-committee and the Council unanimously supported her selection in 2020, which was published in the ICCP Newsletter #77/2020.

The official award ceremony took place at the Closing Plenary Session on 23<sup>th</sup> September. Prof. Maria Mastalerz thanked the TM awarding Committee and Council for her selection and read her response letter to the Plenary Session.

This year nominations were accepted for the Organic Petrology Award. Nominations were sent to the Council during the Prague Meeting. The nomination was run through the Organic Petrology Award Sub-committee which came with a recommendation to Council for awarding the OPA to Dr. Jolanta Kus. OPA members and Council supported the candidate. The laudation was provided by Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan.

Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan read the Laudation at the Closing Plenary Session. Dr. Jolanta Kus thanked the OPA Sub-committee and Council for her selection and read her response letter to the Plenary Session.

### 6. Membership

#### 6.1 New Members

Applications for Associate Membership were received in 2020 and 2021 from Ms. Emilie Loustaunu, Mr. Taole Rets, Ms. Adiya Tsolmon, and Mr. Ranjin Ganzorig. Ms. Emilie Loustaunu was introduced in the ICCP Newsletter #77/2020. The three other applicants were introduced in the ICCP Newsletter #79/2021. All applications were accepted at the Opening Plenary session.

Prof. Dr. Joao G. Mendonca Filho nominated Dr. Carolina Fonseca for Full Membership. She is an invited Assistant Professor at the University of Minho. Council and the General Assembly supported and accepted her nomination at the Closing Plenary Session.

Congratulations to the new Associate and Full Members.

## 6.2 Losses

Since the last meeting we have lost two long standing ICCP members: Prof. Dr. Cornelia Panaitescu, and Dr. Jose Javier Gonzalez Prado. They will be always remembered. Their obituaries are published in the ICCP Newsletters #75 and ICCP Newsletters #76, respectively.

A resignation from Dr. Peter Crosdale was received at the Prague meeting (personal reasons).

## 6.3 Membership directory update, Expiring Membership documentation

The statistics of the ICCP membership list have been updated, a copy of the update was sent to the President and the data was placed on the ICCP website. During the electronic election for the Commission I Secretary position it became clear that there is a need for confirmation of e-mails because discrepancies occurred between the actual data and the membership list. Some of the members have changed workplace, e-mail address or lost their membership. Council ask members to contact the General Secretary if there is data change.

## 7. Election

In the Council Meeting held on-line in April 2021 it was decided to run the election of the Commission Secretary on-line to keep the organization in operation since the standard postal mail systems are not working properly in many countries. „The same electronic voting practice will be applied for those positions which are due in the actual year until the WHO does not declare the pandemic over.” Council minutes ICCP Newsletter #79

The first electronic election due was for the Secretary of Commission I. After a search of platforms to allow electronic voting maintaining the integrity and privacy of the personal data the Zeus academic ballot system of the Greece Academy of Sciences was selected. The General Secretary studied the procedures and organized the first on-line elections of the ICCP, which can be considered a great success.

*Resolution ICCPC21/7/1. Council acknowledges the contribution of Stavros Kalaitzidis in selecting the platform to allow electronic voting and the extraordinary work of the General Secretary Maria Hamor-Vido running the first on-line election in the history of the ICCP.*

### 7.1 Elections for Secretary of Comm I

The on-line election took place from 9<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Candidates were: Dr. Dragana Zivotic & Dr. Keno Lünsdorf. The total number of members of Commission I who were eligible to vote were 144 persons. In the 2021 electronic election 70 members participated and the valid votes were 69.

A participation of 48.6% has been reached in the first on-line election, which is very good. Congratulation to Dr. Dragana Zivotic for the continuation of her office in the next 4 years.

*Resolution ICCPC21/7/2. Council congratulates Dragana Zivotic for being elected Secretary of Commission I for a new term and thanks Keno Lünsdorf for standing for elections.*

### 7.2 Forthcoming elections in 2022

Dr. Peter Crosdale has indicated his wish of leaving the position of Honorary Treasurer.

Dr. Maria Hamor-Vido resigned as General Secretary in 2021.

Refer to table below for period of service of Council members.

## 8. Financial matters—Treasure’s report

The report was presented by Dr. M. Angeles Gomez Borrego on behalf of Dr. Peter Crosdale.

Notes to Accompany Financial Records of ICCP, 17 Sept 2021:

1. All amounts shown are in AUD
2. Profit / loss statement is for a 2 year period and uses an

Australian financial year i.e. the year ending on June 30.

3. Bank statements have not been reconciled against records maintained using accounting software such that final balances shown on the balance sheet do not precisely correspond to the bank statements

4. Four financial records are attached:

- a. Profit - Loss statement 2019 - 2021.pdf – this file is generated from my (PC) accounting software
  - b. Balance Sheet as at 17 Sept 2021.pdf – this file is generated from my (PC) accounting software
  - c. Statement 20210701.pdf – the latest available official bank statement showing details of transactions for the quarter ending June 30, 2021
  - d. NetBank - Accounts.pdf – printed from the bank’s web site on Sept. 17, 2021 showing cash at hand
5. Two new petty cash floats have been instigated during the year of 1000 euro each:
- a. To Magda Misz-Kennan for general accreditation expenses – this account is not noted on the balance sheet as I have not entered it into my accounting software
  - b. To Malgorzata Wojtaszek for CBAP expenses – new on the balance sheet

*Resolution ICCPC21/10/1. Council*

- i) receives the information provided by the Honorary Treasurer
- ii) agrees that the report represents a fair statement of the financial affairs of the ICCP and thanks the Honorary Treasurer on the report.

## 9. Editor’s report

Prof. Nicola Wagner presented her report on published volumes of the ICCP Newsletters #75, #76, #77, #78, #79 and #80, which were distributed in the last two years.

*Resolution ICCPC21/9/1. Council receives the report of the Editor and congratulates her on her outstanding work.*

## 10. Accreditation Program

Accreditation Round Robins 2019-2021.

SCAP and DOMVR accreditation programs have been concluded after the extension proposed by the organizers due to the pandemic. Results of the evaluations were circulated to participants by June 2021. CBAP database is still under development. Reports from the SCAP, DOMVR, CBAP are available below. A report from the Chair of the Accreditation Sub-Committee, Magdalena Misz-Kennan, was presented at the Closing Plenary Session.

## 11. ICCP training activities

### 11.1 Training Courses 2020 & 2021

No training activities were carried out during the two years. A proposal was received and discussed in the Council Meeting held in April 2021 regarding online training. Pros and cons were quite balanced and no decision of going ahead was taken.

Training courses in Potsdam as scheduled:

“General Organic Petrology” taught by Dr. Stavros Kalaitzidis and Dr. Walter Pickel;

“Dispersed Organic Matter” taught by Joao Graciano Mendonça Filho and Dr. Angeles G. Borrego in 2021.

Both has been postponed

### 11.2 Forthcoming courses 2022

A brief conversation was held about offering a short course in India before the ICCP Annual Meeting. Topic and details have not been decided. Further information will be reported in the First Circular of the 2022 Meeting.

## 12. Revision of the Statutes

### 12.1 Council report on the status

Amendment procedure of the Statutes to allow electronic voting was initiated at the Hague Meeting in 2019. Due to the subsequent pandemic situation, Council decided in April 2021 the following: „The registration will be postponed until a change in the statutes would allow electronic voting for the modification of the

statutes.” ICCP Newsletter #79. Council and members are encouraged to search for possibilities to join ICCP as an associate organization to other National or International Earth Science Scientific organizations, or find a National organization who can host ICCP and manage legal and administrative issues.

A SWOT analysis will be performed:

- Dr. M. Angeles Gomez Borrego : EC, European Commission related hosting unlocal organizations
- Dr. Jolanta Kus: German Geological Society
- Dr. Stavros Kalaitzidis: UN,
- Dr. Maria Hamor-Vido: EFG, European Federation of Geologists

Review and update of the Membership list will be controlled by the Commission Chairs before starting the ballot on this topic because of very rigorous conditions of the amendment procedure, to be sure in the success.

**„ALTERATION OF STATUTES (ICCP Statutes, 1999)**  
The Statutes may be altered by resolution proposed at a General Assembly provided that the resolution is carried by a majority of at least two-thirds of all Full and Honorary Members voting by postal ballot.”

**13. Registration of ICCP: status report**

**13.1 Progress on Registration**

„The registration will be postponed until a change in the Statutes would allow electronic voting for the modification of the Statutes.” ICCP Newsletter #79

General Secretary proposed looking for possibilities for the association of ICCP with one of the international scientific organizations, i.e. EFG, IUGS, IAS, IMA, instead of looking for an institution in a given country.  
Further investigations are necessary as well as the overview

and override of Council decision is necessary: April/2021 ICCP Newsletter #79.

**14. Relations with TSOP**

Dr. Paul Hackley sent a presentation about TSOP-ICCP communication and action plan, which was supported by the General Assembly.

**15. Feedback from members** – There were no specific points raised.

**16. Other businesses – Closing ceremony**

The President thanked the organizers for the very successful and fluent management of the hybrid Meeting. It was recommended for the future organizers to keep this hybrid format because it can be easier for those who cannot travel to the venue to participate.

The President expressed special thanks to Ivana Sýkorová for the program and editing of the proceedings, Martina Havelcova for the meeting organization, Lenka Borecka for website and proceedings creation, Daniela Řimnacova and Dominik Voros helping the Meeting by services, for Lujza Medvecka managing the online meeting and moderated it, for Jakub Stemberk with IT support, Lenka Kofronova economist for administrative issues, and for Karel Mach who organized and supported the field trip with a guide book.

**17. Presentation of the next ICCP Meeting, New Delhi, India 2022 – Dr. Ashok Singh**

Dr. Ashok Singh presented the first information on the 2022 Meeting in New Delhi. Organizers will keep the dates in September; however the final date will be defined as soon as they discuss with other important international conference organizers to avoid conflicts.

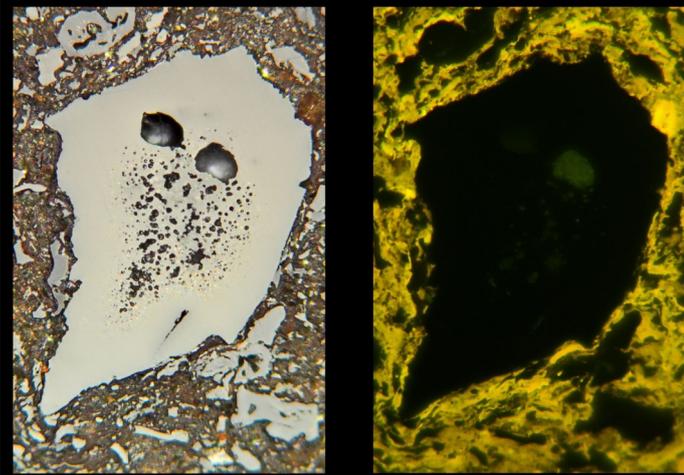
**Table: Council Members Terms of Office. And election year.**

	Year of election	1st year office	2nd year office	3rd year of- fice	4th year office	Year of nominations
<b>President</b>	2018	2020	2021	2022	2023	<b>2022</b>
<b>Gen Sec</b>	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	<b>2021</b>
<b>Hon Treas*</b>	2017	2019	2020	2021	2022	<b>2021</b>
<b>Editor*</b>	2018	2020	2021	2022	2023	<b>2022</b>
<b>V-President</b>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	<b>2021</b>
<b>Ch Com I</b>	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	<b>2023</b>
<b>Sec Com I</b>	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	<b>2024</b>
<b>Ch Com II</b>	2017	2019	2020	2021	2022	<b>2021</b>
<b>Sec Com II</b>	2018	2020	2021	2022	2023	<b>2022</b>
<b>Ch Com III</b>	2018	2020	2021	2022	2023	<b>2022</b>
<b>Sec Com III</b>	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	<b>2021</b>

**CLOSE OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THANK YOU.**

# LET'S SHARE PETROGRAPHIC IMAGES!

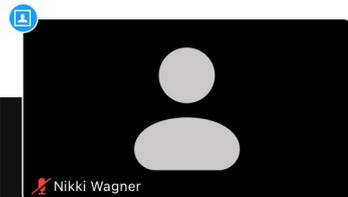
Happy Halloween from "Casper", the friendly ghost secretinite!



Halloween fun supplied by Cortland Eble, Kentucky Geological Survey

CONGRATULATIONS TO  
DR JOLANTA KUS,  
RECIPIENT OF THE 2021  
ORGANIC PETROLOGY  
AWARD.

## Jolanta Kus Organic Petrology Award 2021



Some sites in Prague enjoyed by ICCP physical attendees. Kimon, his wife Liana, Angeles, and Margo.

# MINUTES OF COMMISSION I GENERAL COAL AND ORGANIC PETROLOGY

72<sup>nd</sup> ICCP Meeting – Prague 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2021

**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 9:30 on Thursday September 23<sup>rd</sup> and was attended by 40 members (30 on-line and 10 in person). Stavros first congratulated Dragana for her re-election as Secretary of Com I as well as Nils Keno Lünsdorf for standing in the elections, and he further mentioned that it is important that the new generation is willing to be involved in the official affairs of the ICCP. General description of the COMMISSION I and the active Working Groups and an outline of the programme were given by the Chair of Commission. Due to the Covid 19 Pandemia the activities of several WGs were limited and hence only progress within the Single Coal Accreditation Program, ISO standard and Raman Spectroscopy Working Groups, as well as in QUEMSCAN and Distinguishing Features Editorial Groups, will be presented.

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

- ◆ SCAP -Single Coal Accreditation Program
- ◆ [ISO Standard](#).
- ◆ Distinguishing Features of Macerals Editorial Group,
- ◆ Standardization Working Group,
- ◆ QUEMSCAN Editorial Group,
- ◆ Raman Spectroscopy WG.

Apologies for not attending were received by Petra David and Peter Crosdale.

## 1. Temporal Variations in Coal WG – Lopo Vasconcelos

This WG is not active anymore, but Lopo is constantly updating the database with new data, which now reaches in total 17,256 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 Com I Chair/Secretary.

## 2. Single Coal Accreditation Program – Kimon Christianis

Kimon presented the activities, the results, and challenges of the 2020 SCAP round. The 2020 SCAP exercise was announced in February 2020. The deadline for registration of participants and invoicing was planned for April 30<sup>th</sup>, as well as fee payments and delivery of samples at the end of August 2020. The deadline for result submission was planned for October 14<sup>th</sup> and assessment sheets for the end of December 2020. Unfortunately, due to the conditions caused by the Covid 19 pandemic, many participants could not receive their sample sets on time, although they have been sent registered. Sample

sets were sent until November from Greece and Germany. Until closing of the round (February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021) thirteen participants could not reply in time (four participants had not received the samples, and nine could not have access to laboratories). For these participants only, a supplementary round was organized and the new deadline for result submission was set on 28<sup>th</sup> of September 2021. 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 105 analysts were initially registered for the 2020 SCAP from 59 laboratories located in 27 countries; 101 analysts corresponded further, from whom 54 were ICCP members. The breakdown in continuation *versus* new entries is 79 to 22, respectively. The geographic distribution of the participants was: America 29% (South America 10%, North America 19%), Oceania 27%, Europe 26%, Asia 15%, and Africa 3%.

Kimon pointed some remarks and asked participants to pay attention during registration, entering data into excel sheet and counting VC. Kimon highly acknowledged the contribution of the following persons: the current chair of the ASC, Magdalena Misz-Kennan for her continuous support and valuable contribution in the exercise; members of ASC Deolinda Flores, Jolanta Kus, Paddy Ranasinghe, Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi, Stavros Kalaitzidis and João Graciano Mendonça Filho; the Honorary Treasurer Peter Crosdale for handling the SCAP finances; Jolanta Kus for delivering the samples to America and Africa; Deolinda Flores and Álvaro Figueira for the database; Gisela & Gerd Bieg, Iwona Jelonek for sample supply; all the SCAP participants; PhD student Konstantis Perleros, and MSc students George Droukas & Apostolos Papanikolopoulos for assistance in preparing the sample sets, sending the samples and the certificates.

Regarding the samples databank, since only bulk samples will be distributed, **members who can supply suitable bulk, single coal samples** (2-3 kg, vitrinite-rich, low ash coal with reflectance between 0.5 to 1.8% R<sub>r</sub>, even higher), **have to contact Kimon:** [christan@upatras.gr](mailto:christan@upatras.gr).

After short discussion Commission I thanked Kimon and Magda for their great work on the final checks and evaluation of the accreditation data. It was a successful exercise despite the Covid 19 situation.

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

## 3. ISO Standard – Walter Pickel

Walter Pickel presented the status of the ISO standard WG and some modified texts that will be circulated to the national committees. Walter pointed that Part 1 and 4 of ISO 7407 were updated in 2017-18, while recent modifications were conducted for Parts 2 (Sample Preparation), 3 (Maceral Group Analysis) and 5 (Vitrinite Reflectance) following the technical developments in microscopes. Changes in Part 2 were related to polishing abrasives for the final polishing stage, while in Part 3

changes deal mainly with technical update on the microscopes used. Part 5 is updated with technical characteristics of LEDs as a light source and of high-resolution cameras in addition to photomultiplier.

Commission I thanked Walter for their efforts in discussing the ISO Standard.

#### 4. [Distinguishing Features of Macerals EG – Walter Pickel](#)

Walter Pickel continued with the progress of the EG on Distinguishing Features and presented the aim and concept of the preliminary work conducted in the WG. The questionnaire sent by Walter will be circulated soon to interested members to collect suggestions, which will be edited and added to a compilation. A draft version will be presented at the next ICCP meeting.

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

#### 5. [Standardization WG – Walter Pickel](#)

Walter Pickel showed a short description of the Standardization WG in a chronological order. He pointed out than most working groups run their own round robin exercises and expressed concern for the future of this WG. Aldo, he posted the question if the Standardization WG still should be active, closed or stay dormant until the need for it arises again. Regardless of the answer, Walter plans to summarize all RIC exercises from 1992 till now in one comprehensive summary.

Commission I would like to thank Walter for his presentation.

#### 6. [QEMSCAN Editorial Group - Sandra Rodrigues & Joan Esterle](#)

Sandra Rodrigues presented the status of the draft manuscript: "Quantitative Evaluation of Minerals by Scanning Electron Microscopy (QEMSCAN)" by Sandra Rodrigues, Joan Esterle, Rogério Kwitko-Ribeiro, Leonardo Salazar, and Patricio Jaime. QEMSCAN is a fully automated microanalysis system that allows quantitative chemical analysis of materials and generation of high-resolution mineral maps and images as well as porosity structure. It can be applied in coal studies, particularly for mineral matter. A draft version of the manuscript was sent to late Prof. Colin Ward for review in 2015. During the followed discussion it was proposed and accepted to update the text according to reviewer suggestions and to add description and uses of similar techniques like: Mineral Liberation Analyser (MLA) and Tescan Integrated Mineral Analyses (TIMA).

After short discussion Commission I thanked Sandra and Joan for convening this very interesting EG.

#### 7. [Raman Spectroscopy – Nils Keno Lünsdorf](#)

Nils Keno Lünsdorf presented the activities of the Raman Spectroscopy WG and the results of the first Round-Robin Exercise. After introduction Keno pointed out the importance of applying Raman spectroscopy in Geosciences, but also the absence of standardized procedures for the thermal maturity estimation of organic matter. Eight samples of marls and marly shales of different maturity were distributed to 16 laboratories for Round-Robin exercises. Each laboratory prepared polished blocks from

raw material to measure the Raman spectrum of vitrinite or vitrinite-like particles, as well as kerogen concentrate glass slide according to proposed procedure. Each laboratory should report raw spectral data, reduced data and order of maturity, details on the data reduction, details on the sample preparation and details on the Raman system. Results were sent from six laboratories, while two have not completed the exercise yet. Comparing data between laboratories Keno tried to find the reason for the discrepancy in the results. As possible reasons for the discrepancies Keno concluded to: a) sample heterogeneity, b) insufficient enrichment of C<sub>org</sub> in kerogen concentrate after acid treatment, c) fluorescing particles (unsuitable for measurements), and d) intensity correction of spectral data, especially for luminescent samples. According to all relevant data, some suggestions for reduced scatter were proposed by Keno. During the discussion the importance of this work became evident, and several ideas by Bruno, George, Stavros, Paul and Jolanta were proposed to simplify the work, add coal vitrinite-rich samples and to reach more evident conclusions.

Anyone interested in participating in the new exercise may contact Keno ([kluensd@gwdg.de](mailto:kluensd@gwdg.de)).

Commission I would like to thank and congratulates Keno for his dedication conducting the first Raman Spectroscopy round robin exercises and for convening this Working Group. Also, we would like to thank the WG participants for their efforts in exercises.

#### 8. [Correlation of MMR and MRR WG - Ashok Singh](#)

Ashok Singh proposed a new WG under Commission I, dealing with determination of Multiplication factors for evaluating Mean Maximum Reflectance (MMR) value from Mean Random Reflectance (MRR) value of Vitrinite and their correlation. The objective of the proposed WG group would be to evaluate the multiplication factors among MMR and MRR for different rank of coals – ranging from sub-bituminous, high volatile, medium volatile to low volatile bituminous coal. The proposed plan included preparation of coal samples of different rank, from R: 0.40 to 1.80% and distribution to the interested analysts for determination of MMR and MRR values of different rank of coals will evaluate separately in reflectance range. Correlation curves will be plotted for each mentioned reflectance range and multiplication factors will be suggested after statistical analyses. However, after the discussion Ashok will revise the proposal, and will be discussed during the meeting in India.

### Microscopy session

Commission I would like to thank Ivana Sýkorová and her team, as well as the Czech Academy of Sciences, Institute of Rock Structure and Mechanics. At the session on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> the participants had the chance to observe lignite and environmental samples **Closing Remarks**

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

Commission I would like to thank the conveners and all the members and participants of the WGs for their dedication and efforts to the scopes of ICCP.

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).

As per final remarks Commission I would like to encourage

ICCP members to visit the webpage. A lot of data and information from the WGs has been uploaded <http://www.iccop.org/commissions/commission-i/>. The convenors of the various WGs are encouraged to check and regularly update the web material.

Commission I would like to thank the convenors for their dedication and efforts to run the WGs and encourage ICCP members to participate in Commissions Exercises.

At the end, Commission I would like to thank Ivana Sýkorová and her team and all the participants of the sessions for their active participation resulting in well organised and productive Meeting.



### DOMVR Accreditation Program

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE  
AND ASSIST IF  
POSSIBLE**

The status of the sample bank used for the development of the DOMVR Accreditation Program can be considered critical today. Therefore, there is a need to add new samples from both marine and terrestrial settings of varying ranks to prepare homogeneous sets of samples for the next rounds. So, I kindly ask those colleagues who can contribute by donating samples to this program to get in touch with me at [graciano@geologia.ufrj.br](mailto:graciano@geologia.ufrj.br). The required amount of sample for this destination is only 500 grams. Thank you in advance for any contribution.

João Graciano Mendonça Filho  
DOMVR Accreditation Program Organizer

Hi ICCP Colleagues,  
I wondered if you could help me. I am trying to find out information of VR equivalent scales for liptinite fluorescence colours. I know there is a difference in observed fluorescence colour according to the filter cube set that a microscopist uses. For example a yellow fluorescing Tasmanites observed using a UV filter cube will look much different, possibly intense greenish yellow, using a blue light filter cube.

Is there any way I can reach out to the ICCP community to ascertain which scales people tend to use and with which filter cube?

Many thanks,

Wayne

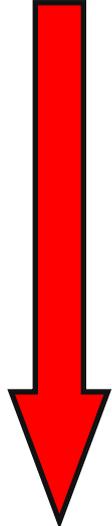
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**CAN ANYONE  
ASSIST WAYNE  
PLEASE?**

### MICROSCOPE SESSION AT THE PRAGUE ICCP MEETING. THANK YOU IVANA!



## Minutes of ICCP Commission II Geological Applications of Coal and Organic Petrology 72<sup>nd</sup> ICCP Meeting Prague, 20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> September 2021

**Chair:** Jolanta Kus, [J.Kus@bgr.de](mailto:J.Kus@bgr.de)

**Secretary:** George Siavalas, [Georgios.Siavalas@shell.com](mailto:Georgios.Siavalas@shell.com)

**Wednesday – 22<sup>nd</sup> September**

The Commission II meeting started on Tuesday September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 09:00am (local time) both at the facilities of the Czech Academy of Sciences in Prague and virtually through a zoom call. Both the Chair and Secretary of the Commission were connected to the meeting online. The meeting was attended by a total of 36 persons, 11 of whom were in the meeting room and 25 were connected online.

### 09:00 – 09:30 - Opening address – Jolanta Kus & George Siavalas

The Chair of Commission II opened the session describing the structure, objectives and deliverables from the activities of the Commission. The Chair also presented Commission's II Programme during the 72<sup>nd</sup> ICCP Meeting and gave a short description of objectives and activities of the active working groups. Jolanta Kus also encouraged members to actively join the existing Working Groups and made a call for proposal of new Working Groups. The Chair demonstrated an update of Commission II webpage, where a new section including the full minutes of Commission II meetings over the past 10 years was added. Another section containing personal information on new members of Commission II was also intended to be added but it was eventually decided to be put on hold until it is decided if and how the information of new member is posted in a different part of the ICCP webpage. The Chair also showed the available training material under Commission II and stated that the material sits with Nikki Wagner, the ICCP editor and requests should be submitted to her through email.

### 09:30 – 09:45- Pseudovitrinite WG – Jolanta Kus on behalf of Lila Gurba

Lila Gurba was not able to join the online session and communicated a short memo to report a progress update to the Commission. Jolanta Kus presented the main points of the document focusing around the three main deliverables of the WG. 1. Bibliography of published papers and unpublished reports and data. The 1<sup>st</sup> draft is completed and will be accessible from the ICCP website. 2. Atlas of pseudovitrinite photomicrographs. The Atlas is completed and will be uploaded to the ICCP website. 3. Scientific publications. a) A paper titled "Pseudovitrinite - An appraisal of the work carried-out by the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP)" co-authored by Gurba, Smith, Kwiecińska and others to be submitted for publication in Int. Journal of Coal Geology. The 1<sup>st</sup> draft is completed and following a review from ICCP members it is planned to be submitted before the end of 2021. b) ICCP Handbook (White Paper). The 1<sup>st</sup> draft co-authored by Gurba, Kus and Misch-Kennan is completed and will be circulated among the WG members for input and review. It will be

submitted to the Int. J. of Coal Geology for publication.

The convenor also provided a summary of activities during 2020-2021, which included an update of the ICCP website of Commission II activities to include Pseudovitrinite WG, the preparation of a document containing a historical record of all activities in this WG, and uploading of all progress reports and historical documents to the WG website. Tasks expected to be completed in 2021 include uploading of the Atlas and circulation of draft papers for review.

### *Discussion:*

Angeles Gomez Borrego acknowledged the convenor's hard work and efforts in preparing a large volume of documents. She also commented that the term pseudovitrinite is not an approved term by the ICCP and that should be taken into consideration when approaching the review of the Pseudovitrinite Handbook (White Paper). In the absence of the convenor the discussion did not continue. The chair and secretary agreed to organize a call to debrief the convenor on what was discussed and agree on the next steps.

Commission II thanks Lila for her hard efforts in compiling the material for the Pseudovitrinite WG.

### 09:45 - 10:10 – Confocal Laser Scanning Microscopy WG– Convenors: Paul Hackley & Jolanta Kus

Paul Hackley presented the Final Report of this WG during the Meeting. The convenor presented the history of the WG and stated that after video meetings between the convenors and no interest from the members of the WG to carry on with further activity a decision was made to finalize all activities and close the WG after the end of 2021. He then presented the details of the sample used for the last exercise, which is a sample from the Kimmeridge Clay Formation (KCF, UK) with 44 wt.% TOC and 0.42% VRo. The sample is rich in bituminite and solid bitumen, also containing vitrinite, inertinite and micrinite together with sulphides. Before the application of CLSM the sample was characterized applying Atomic Force Microscopy after broad ion beam-milling. Results showed that BIB-milling increased the reflectance of components and also induced surface roughening because of differential milling based on hardness of organic matter, nano-sulphides and quartz. More work is required to understand the distribution of post-milling properties on the surface of the specimen. The demonstration of 3-channel false colour images acquired applying CLSM assisted in the identification of *Botryococcus* alginite in a rock formed in the marine domain as well as replacement of Fe by U in sulphides. An observed red-shift of both reflectance and fluorescence was attributed to below surface sulphides and blue-shift of reflectance was attributed to photooxidation of amorphous organic matter. Spectroscopy results revealed that the empirical relationship proposed by Stasiuk (1994) matches  $\lambda_{max}$  with solid bitumen %Ro but the relationship between  $\lambda_{max}$  and %Ro requires standardization. The convenor highlighted the need for the compilation of calibration sets towards this direction.

In conclusion, Paul Hackley indicated that he intends to provide a report paper and update the webpage of the WG, and provide a short notice for the ICCP newsletter announcing that the activities of the WG are finalized. It is also the intention of

the convenors to publish a peer-reviewed article summarizing the results from this WG.

*Discussion:*

During the discussion, the convenor answered technical questions around CLSM and no further action or suggestion was advised from the floor.

Commission II thanks Paul and Jolanta for their time and effort in convening this WG and congratulates them.

**10:10 – 10:30 – DOMVR and Component Identification on microscopy samples in Com.II. – Convenor: Angeles Gomez Borrego**

The objective of the WG is the compilation of all information related to microscopy samples that were and are worked in the various WGs of Com.II. Angeles G. Borrego demonstrated the online inventory that has been created in the WG webpage. It contains a list of samples matched with the related WG and the objectives of analysis of each sample. The list contains 65 samples, 35 of which have already complete information associated with them and another 10 samples have the compilation of their information in progress. Both published and unpublished documents related to these samples have also been uploaded with part of those documents being open and part of them being restricted. The convenor stated that at the moment all documents are located in the restricted part of the webpage but the intention is to split the documents among those that can be published on the free part of the website and those that cannot. The convenor also demonstrated examples of sample sheets with complete information and navigated through the various entries to show which type of information is available per sample. This information includes sample origin, years that it was analysed, WG, convenors, age, depositional environment, sample owner and history, thermal maturity, reflectance histograms, representative photomicrographs and specific remarks. The convenor acknowledged the contribution of Deolinda Flores for providing DOMVR reports, Carla Araujo for compiling information from the Thermal Indices WG, and João Graciano Mendonça Filho and Paul Hackley for providing both sample sheets and reports of the OMCWG and IPVWG, respectively.

*Discussion:*

Angeles G. Borrego stated that this inventory and individual sample sheets are a valuable ICCP asset and new members should get familiar with the record and archive of ICCP and the past activities. She also suggested that it would be beneficial and helpful for young professionals to assist with the compilation of information and sample sheet and asked for volunteers from the floor to carry on with this task. Konstantis Perleros offered to assist.

Commission II thanks Angeles for her dedicated efforts in coordinating this WG and welcomes and encourages Konstantis to assist her with the same amount of dedication.

**10:30 – 11:00 – Coffee Break**

**11:00 – 11:10 – Dispersed Organic Matter in Sedimentary Rocks, Classification, Identification and Thermal Maturity –**

**Convenors: Jolanta Kus, Paul C. Hackley, Paula A. Gonçalves**

Jolanta Kus gave credit to all former contributors to the White Paper between 1995-2019 and presented a short overview of activities between 2019-2021 and future plans. The 2019-2021 activities, also impacted by COVID-related issues, included re-viewing of structure and content of the 12<sup>th</sup> version of the draft, familiarizing with suggestions made by the previous Convenor, make proposals on the structure of each sub-paragraph and circulation among all contributors for feedback and approval. Defining deliverables for each of the contributors was an outstanding item from the list of these first-step activities which is yet to be accomplished. The plan for 2022 activities includes preparation of the first updated contributions for selected sub-paragraphs and discussion of the workflow and subsequent activities or tasks among the contributors.

*Discussion:*

Maria Hámor-Vidó congratulated Jolanta for progressing with the White Paper and expressed her satisfaction to see the task fulfilled.

Commission II thanks Jolanta, Paul and Paula for their contribution to the White Paper.

**11:10 – 11:50 – Identification of Dispersed Organic Matter – Convenor: Jolanta Kus**

The aims of this WG are to test and assess a potential suitability of the ICCP-TSOP Classification System of DOM in identification of organic components in whole rock pellets and to modify, if necessary, the ICCP definitions of liptinite macerals (lamalginitite, telalginitite and bituminite-ICCP, 1993). Jolanta Kus presented the preliminary results of the 2020-2021 round robin exercise of this WG after briefly mentioning the history of past activities of the WG and thanking all participants for doing the exercise during a period with many restrictions and difficulties in accessing laboratory facilities. She then presented an overview of the sample distributed to the participants with regards to sampling location, geological formation and age (Kimmeridge Clay Formation), as well as lithology and depositional environment. The sample was taken from mudstones interbedded with sandstones belonging to the Brae Member penetrated by the 16/17-14 exploration well. At this point the convenor acknowledged the contribution and assistance of Tracy Gallagher from the British Geological Survey for assisting with access to the core and sampling. The results presented in the Prague Meeting were preliminary since not all participants had submitted their results yet. The ultimate deadline for submission of results is set on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2021. For this reason, the Convenor did not disclose the group average %Ro and standard deviation for vitrinite, solid bitumen and bituminite, respectively and showed only the comparison of these values among them highlighting the presence of outliers for each of the measured macerals. She also made a comparison to the previous exercise that was performed on a sample of lower thermal maturity from the same geological formation. In the case of vitrinite, a single population was identified by most of the analysts as indigenous as opposed to the 2018 exercise, where two populations had been identified by most of the analysts. The outliers in this year's exercise were attributed to the inclusion of either recycled vitrinite or impreg-

nated vitrinite in the final set of results. The convenor also requested the individual sets of measurements from each analyst and constructed histograms with 0.025% bins. The histograms revealed that there is an overlap between the lower reflecting-vitrinite and the reflectance of solid bitumen but also that two distinct populations of bituminite reflectance were reported by the participants. This was not similar to what was observed in the 2018 exercise, where bituminite reflectance had a unimodal distribution. The convenor asked for comments on this trend and stated that she expects this distribution to become smoother as more participants submit their results. In an attempt to explain outliers and high personal standard deviations observed by some analysts the Convenor commented on the nature of the sample, which has limited amount of well-discernible vitrinite particles and difficulties with polishing resulting in uneven particle surface or sloping impacting the quality of the measurement. The Convenor concluded the presentation showing photomicrographs containing examples of individual macerals without disclosing further information and she acknowledged the contribution of all participants, Tracy Gallagher of BGS for granting sampling access and Stavros Kalaitzidis for updating the WG webpage.

*Discussion:*

Several comments were made from the audience on the excellent quality of the photomicrographs presented. The convenor replied that this was the result of dry-polishing. A suggestion by Stavros Kalaitzidis was made to circulate pellets polished with the same technique to all participants so a common starting point would be achieved overcoming polishing difficulties. The convenor agreed to try and do this in the next round robin exercise.

Commission II congratulates Jolanta for the hard work in organizing this year's round robin exercise and her continuous dedication in this WG.

**11:50 – 12:10 – 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 2012-2013 round robin exercise were presented in 2013 at the ICCP Meeting in Sosnowiec, Poland, and were compiled in a manuscript submitted in 2015 to Marine & Pet. Geol. The 2015-2016 round robin exercise included six high maturity samples with high TOC that selected for reflectance measurements according to D7708-11 Standard. The results were presented in the Houston Meeting in 2016 and after two rounds of processing and discussion in 2017-2018 were published in Marine & Pet. Geology in April 2020. The results displayed a rather poor reproducibility calling for a statistical method to discriminate outliers. They also showed that solid bitumen versus vitrinite identification is still an issue in North American shales.. 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 to investigate what the analysts identify as vitrinite and solid bitumen is proposed for 2021-2022. The exercise will be carried out either on PowerPoint marked photomicrographs with an excel template to report results and/or use the Hilgers Fossil Student version to perform measurements on calibrated images. It is intended that this exercise will be primarily targeted to analysts with high experience to obtain a less divergent set of results.

*Discussion:*

Maria Mastalerz indicated that identification of vitrinite vs. solid bitumen is a complex issue in N. American Shales and even with a statistical approach, it is very difficult to pinpoint what the problem in the identification is.

Angeles G. Borrego suggested to run the photomicrograph-based exercise in two rounds, one with an image alone without annotation and a second round with the annotated image and observe the difference in the measurement. Paul Hackley found this idea good and agreed to adopt it for the next exercise.

George Siavalas asked what the criteria will be for selecting the more experience analysts. Paul Hackley responded that he does not want to exclude anyone from doing the exercise but intends to do an evaluation of the results in different groups.

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

**12:10 – 12:15 – Coal-bed Methane and CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration WG – Convenor: Lila Gurba**

Jolanta Kus presented a brief note received by e-mail on behalf of Lila Gurba who was unable to attend the meeting. The note summarized all past activities of the WG and repeated that in the Hague Meeting it was agreed that Balam Tiwari and Konrad Ziemanin would gradually take over the Convenor roles. It also gave a short plan of 2021-2022 activities, which included updating the ICCP website with past activities, finalising the "Factors controlling adsorption capacities of coal seams – Review & Database" document, reviewing of current R&D and identify (priority) issues and problems related to coal and organic petrology, and decide on potential (review) publication(s).

*Discussion:*

Jolanta Kus asked Konrad to provide a status update on the takeover process. Konrad responded that little progress has been made and that it is still at a preliminary stage due to COVID-related delays. It was agreed that a video call among Lila, Balam, Konrad, Chair & Secretary of Com.II will be organized to discuss the future of the WG.

Commission II thanks Lila for her ongoing work in this WG and encourages Konrad and Balam to continue her work in the future.

**12:15 – 12:20 – Out of Programme request: Henny Gerschel**

Henny Gerschel enquired whether somebody has experience working with bitumen-rich coals and if suggestions for similar

coal deposits could be given to her. Some feedback was provided by the audience and Jolanta Kus suggested Henny to post the question in the ICCP Newsletter to receive feedback from the broader community of organic petrology and coal geology.

**12:20 – 14:50 – Lunch Break and ICCP Council Meeting**

**14:45 – 14:50 - Shale Gas WG – Convenor: Lila Gurba**

No update was received on behalf of the convenor for this WG and the presentation and discussion were removed from the programme of Commission II meeting.

**14:50 – 15:40 – Palynofacies WG – Convenor: João Graciano Mendonça Filho**

The objective of this WG is the correlation of palynofacies with macerals. The Convenor presented an overview of the history of the WG with focus on results of past exercises. After a short overview of organic matter groups and criteria for the classification of organic matter in transmitted light, the Convenor showed the sequence of the 5 exercises performed so far in this WG and of two more exercises planned to be executed in the next few years. The exercises were performed on both whole-rock (WR) samples and kerogen concentrates (KC) in reflected (RWL) and transmitted white light (TWL), respectively. The first two exercises focused on the identification of phytoclasts, the third exercise focused on the identification of marine palynomorphs, the fourth on the identification of continental (both aquatic and terrigenous) palynomorphs and the 5<sup>th</sup> exercise on amorphous organic matter (AOM) originated from phytoclasts. A detailed analysis of points of agreement and disagreement among the analysts and the main conclusions from each exercise were presented. The convenor proposed the execution of a 6<sup>th</sup> exercise in 2022 that will focus on marine and bacterial amorphous organic matter. The exercise will be performed on two samples, both originated from Brazil. The first sample is of Aptian age, has low content in carbonate minerals and a TOC of 3.46 wt.% and the second is of Cenomanian-Turonian age, is rich in carbonate minerals and has a TOC of 0.58 wt.%. The Convenor asked from analysts who are interested in participating to this exercise to register to the WG.

*Discussion:*

Angeles G. Borrego made the remark that participants in the previous rounds did not have to register again and should be by default considered as participants in this new exercise. The remark was adopted.

Commission II thanks João Graciano for his hard work and willingness to continue with the activities of this WG.

**15:40 – 16:30 – Dispersed Organic Matter Vitrinite Reflectance Accreditation Programme – Chair - João Graciano Mendonça Filho**

The Chair presented the report of the 2020 DOMVR accreditation round. The report was structured in chapters including the description of the distributed samples, the distribution of participants per geographic regions and their ICCP member vs. non-member status, the evaluation of the results, the timeline of the accreditation programme with regards to call for participation,

application, sample distribution, submission of results, feedback to participants and issuing of certificates. The organizer also gave an summary of the final number of participants who submitted results compared to those who initially applied, showed the success rate of participants and gave an overview of the samples delivered this round to continuing participants describing their depositional environment and general characteristics. He also explained the statistical evaluation process and highlighted the outstanding performance of the accreditation database. At the end of the presentation the organizer showed an overview of the sample bank demonstrating its critical status and highlighting the urgency and desperate need for replenishment with new samples. He stated that the samples currently available in the sample bank are not enough for running the 2022 accreditation round. João Graciano acknowledged the significant contribution and help of Jolanta Kus, Peter Crosdale, Magdalena Misz-Kennan and Deolinda Flores in the successful execution of the DOMVR 2020 exercise.

*Discussion:*

There was a general consensus that action must be taken to add new samples to the sample bank with some members stating that they will try and secure samples. Jolanta Kus suggested that an announcement should also be placed in the ICCP Newsletter asking for supply of suitable samples for this accreditation programme. The suggestion was accepted by the Chair.

Commission II congratulates João Graciano for running another successful DOMVR exercise and thanks him for his dedication and determination to continue carrying out this very important ICCP activity.

**16:30-17:00 – Closing remarks – Jolanta Kus & George Siavalas**

Jolanta Kus opened the closing session of Commission II asking for proposals from the floor for new WGs in Commission II. George Siavalas stated that he wants to propose the formation of a new WG that will focus on the study of solid bitumen in sedimentary rocks. He presented the current understanding of the term solid bitumen among different geoscience disciplines, an overview of existing classification schemes and current understanding on processes that result in bitumen formation, and demonstrated the need for the study and classification of these components based on optical properties only. A list of anticipated deliverables was also presented. The proposal was supported by the audience and it was agreed to create the proposed WG. The new WG will be titled “Identification of Secondary Organic Matter in Sedimentary Rocks” to be co-convened by George Siavalas and Paul Hackley. The convenors also agreed to contact Hamed Sanei and ask him to join the convenor team. A call for partic

Jolanta Kus congratulated all Convenors 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 Convenors to publish the acquired and obtained results in international journals and the ICCP News.

**The meeting of Commission II ended at 17.00 on 22 Sept.**

## MEMBER'S CORNER

Carolina Flores was accepted as a Full member of the ICCP at the Prague Meeting.

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| Fly Ash        | Gasification Residues       |
| Bottom Ash     | Mining and Reclamation      |
| Boiler Slag    | Cement and Concrete         |
| Geotech        | Construction Materials      |
| FGD Products   | Disposal                    |
| Ponds          | Aggregates                  |
| Beneficial Use | Chemical Classification     |
| Landfills      | Rare Earth Elements         |
| Chemistry      | Coal-Fuel Blend By-Products |
| Regulations    | Groundwater and Environment |

[ccgpjournal.org](http://ccgpjournal.org)

Extended abstracts of all accepted papers are published in the ACAA online magazine Ash at Work:  
<https://www.acaa-usa.org/Publications/Ash-at-Work>



**CONGRATULATIONS: OUR VERY OWN  
 STUNNING ICCP COUPLE FINALLY TIED THE  
 KNOT!**

13 February 2021 Dr Stavros Kalaitzidis  
 married Dr Malgorzata Wojtaszek.

We wish you both all of the very best!



**Minutes from Commission III**  
**Monday, September 20<sup>th</sup> 2021 14.30**  
**Commission III Opening Session**  
**Chair: Dr Magdalena Misz-Kennan**  
**Secretary: Dr Sandra Rodrigues**

The Chair of Commission III greeted all the participants attending the ICCP meeting, both in presence and online. The chair recalled the objectives of Commission III and presented the currently active working groups (WG) within the commission. Magda, also requested for proposals for new WG to step forward during the meeting.

**14:45 – Carbon Materials WG**

Convener: Dr Georgeta Predeanu (online)

Dr. Georgeta Predeanu started with a brief introduction to the WG main objectives since the establishing of the WG in 60th ICCP Meeting in Oviedo, Spain 2008. Dr. Predeanu presented the outcomes of the previous exercises which includes a publication in the International Journal of Coal Geology in 2015 covering the activity between 2009 - 2013. During the period 2016 - 2019 three Round Robin exercises were performed on activated carbons and precursors (chars) of coal and lignocellulosic origin as well as materials in the stages undergoing pyrogenetic and activating reactions, with an overall good agreement between the analysts for the different categories. The convener is preparing a new exercise with new types of carbon materials used for high tech products that can be characterised by optical microscopy.

Currently, Dr. Predeanu is the only convener, and, therefore, she invited other participants with experience and capable of arranging samples to be co-conveners of the WG. She pointed out that the good collaboration between the past conveners allowed a good selection of samples and targets for the exercises performed by this WG.

During the discussion, Dr. Ashok Singh offered to supply samples of raw carbon materials. Dr. Georgios Siavalas offered to help with logistics but, unfortunately, not with new samples. Dr. Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi said that she is willing to take a position as a convener in the WG and to supply samples, which was readily accepted.

**15:25 – Coke Petrography WG**

Convener: Dr Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi (online)

The convener introduced the objectives of the Coke Petrography WG. The third exercise conducted this year is a variation of the previous exercise, focussing only on the binder phase of the coke matrix which appears in the crossed-hair without distinguishing the size of the optical texture. This should improve the discrepancies observed in the previous exercise. The results for the 2021 exercise can be delivered to the convener by the end of November 2021. During the discussion Dr Ashok Singh offered some samples of thermally altered coal samples due to contact metamorphism, as they may have different petrographic features from those of industrial coke. Dr Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi

requested one sample of natural coke for comparison. Dr. Georgeta Predeanu pointed out that there are several publications on natural coke including the ones from Dr. Barbara Kwiecińska. She also said that natural coke is usually associated with high amounts of mineral matter, which could be interesting for the observation of the interactions between organic and mineral matter.

**15:42 – Environmental applications of Organic Petrology**

Conveners: Dr Georgios Siavalas (presenter online) and Dr Stavros Kalaitzidis

The convener did a brief presentation of the history of the WG, followed by the results of the exercise conducted during this year. The exercise utilises a set of photomicrographs with organic and inorganic components of different origins. The participants had to identify the particles in four different levels. Level 1 (Particle class) showed a reasonable level of agreement between the participants. However, next levels contained more choices, and the level of agreement was lower. The convener presented several reasons for the poor consensus including difficult and ambiguous components, poor imaging, confusing terms, lack of context of the particles, analyst inexperience and bias, etc. To improve the results the conveners suggested to normalise statistics leaving out unanswered slots, eliminate outliers, merge the FA and BA groups to a single group called Combustion char, change level of thermally-altered coal from 2 to 3 and/or change the name to weathered/oxidised coal, provide more context for the samples, among other suggestions. The convener invited the participants that did not deliver the results of the exercise to do so until the end of 2021. A new exercise photomicrograph-based will be prepared for 2022 (April-May). For 2023 it is expected the exercises to be conducted on actual samples.

During the discussion Dr Jolanta Kus requested description for each of the categories that need to be identified. Dr. Siavalas suggested that the Atlas of Anthropogenic Particles and related articles can be used for identification of the categories.

Dr Angeles Borrego asked how do the conveners intend to eliminate outliers to improve statistics since the categories have qualitative descriptors and not numeric values. George Siavalas responded that the intention is that if an analyst is an outlier at level 1, then all of their answers will be also removed from levels 2, 3 and 4 in order to improve consensus in the more detailed levels of identification.

**16:40 – Fly Ash WG**

Conveners: Dr Bruno Valentim (presenter, online) and Prof Nicola Wagner

The convener presented the new directions that will be given to this working group. For several years the WG was focussed on the classification of Fly Ash components under the guidance of Dr Isabel Suárez-Ruiz from which resulted a publication in the International Journal of Coal Geology. However, the conveners noted that the number of classes and the real heterogeneity of the char makes it difficult to determine, and major variations between analysts is expected. Taking this consideration, the conveners proposed a classification in three groups as in Bai-

ley's morphological char classification, among other authors. The classification in 3 groups is based on the ICCP classification from Lester et al. (2010). Therefore, for the next exercise the conveners request that the participants are those with prior experience in char classification and fly ash working group exercises. A photomicrograph-based exercise will be distributed to the participants and online group discussions will also be arranged.

During the discussion Dr Angeles Borrego asked if the particle reactivity would be the focus for this classification, to which the Dr Bruno Valentim confirmed. The conveners also said that the classification is for the whole particle not just a point-based identification. Dr Stavros Kalaitzidis asked what the precursors of the chars would be, to which Dr Valentim replied that commercial coals will be used to produce the chars. Dr Valentim emphasises the necessity of having participants with expertise in this subject. Dr Georgeta Predeanu agrees with Bruno on the experience of the participants. Dr Georgios Siavalas asked if he can participate as non-expert, but his results wouldn't be included in the evaluation. Dr Valentim agreed with that.

### 17:20 – Liquefaction Residues Classification WG

Convener: Dr Henny Gerschel (online)

The convener presented the activities of this WG during 2020/2021 which included an update of the WG activities in the ICCP website, an update of the draft classification of the liquefaction residues and an extension by a classification procedure which is similar to the Fly Ash atlas, presenting four levels of classification including: nature of the particle, alteration degree, optical character and differentiation by habitus. According to the convener, Dr Slavka Pusz offered new samples for a round robin exercise from pyrolysis of bituminous coals, therefore the first exercise will be prepared based on photomicrographs. The convener asked everyone interested to participate in the WG, and if anyone has sample or photographs of hydrogenation residues.

CLOSE FOR THE DAY

Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021

### 9:00 – Self-heating in coal and coal waste dumps

Conveners: Dr: Jolanta Kus (presenter, online), Dr Magdalena Misz-Kennan and Dr Deolinda Flores

Dr Jolanta Kus presented the aims of this WG, past activities and outcomes. The 2020 Round Robin was designed to test the classification established in the previous years for oxidatively and thermally altered organic matter in coal wastes to self-heated coals. The classification consists of 6 levels. The statistical evaluation of the results showed that the overall agreement is good, however there are some disagreements in some categories. For example, when a particle is Porous or Massive within the marked area. The conveners suggested to modify the description of porous and provide an additional graphical example to clarify this problem. Another difficult category was Isotropic vs Anisotropic, which can be difficult to recognise in the photographs. Therefore, the conveners suggested adding the  $R_{max}/R_{min}$  values to each of the examined coal grain for the next exercise. A report will be sent to the participants with their results.

During the discussion Dr Stavros Kalaitzidis suggested to add a percentage of porous vs massive, however the conveners said that it would be difficult to assess the percentages. Dr Joan Esterle suggested using a cross instead of an area (rectangle). However, Dr Magdalena Misz-Kennan pointed out that that was trialled in the past and that an area was the best fit for the exercise.

Within this WG the convener also presenter a discussion around the occurrence and nomenclature of Pseudomicrinite, a term introduced in 2018 Round Robin Exercise. This component occurs in the thermally-altered samples and has optical characteristics between micrinite and natural coke with incipient mosaic. An enquiry on the origin of pseudomicrinite was sent by the convener to several ICCP members, which pointed out that semicoke could be a more appropriated term for these particles.

Regarding the origin of the pseudomicrinite, Dr Georgios Siavalas asked if it make more sense to think of this organic component more as bitumen and then assume that it would resemble ultrafine pyrobitumen in nature and respective optical properties? The convener said that bitumen is a secondary maceral that might had migrated, while the pseudomicrinite is indigenous, e.g., from the liptinite (cutinite and sporinite). Dr Ashok Singh made the observation that it can only be fine mosaic, if it shows anisotropy, otherwise it has to be micrinite or pseudomicrinite. On the other hand, Dr Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi said that the term semicoke can be very confusing from the industry point of view. Semicoke results from the coking process, not from naturally altered material. This was also agreed by Dr Angeles Borrego. The convener, proposed a term of natural semicoke. Dr Magda Misz-Kennan asked to the audience for suggestions for a new name. Dr Kimon Christanis suggested meta-micrinite. Dr Georgios Siavalas fine-grained meta-exsudatinite. Dr Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi pyromicrinite; however, Dr Jolanta Kus, Dr Singh and Dr. Moroeng said that the term "pyro" is related to fire and can be confusing. Prof Nikki Wagner asked if it would be possible to write up the pseudomicrinite to semicoke exercise for the ICCP news. The convener agrees to write for the Newsletter within two months.

### 10:00 - Optimization of reflectance measurements on complex blends WG

Conveners: Dr Ashok Singh (presenter, online) and Prof. Joan Esterle

As per objective of this exercise four blends of different origins (India, Mozambique and USA) were blended in different proportions and distributed to the participants at ICCP meeting held in the year 2018 at Brisbane. Out of distributed samples till now only seven participants submitted their results and observations on the complex blended coal samples. Complete reports for all the blends are yet to be submitted by few participants. They have been requested to submit within September 2021. He acknowledged those who measured 1000 grains. Some participants stopped before 1000 grains based on their estimation of consistency in results, but this does not help the proposed statistical calculations. It was observed that most of the blends adopted a consistent  $R_o$  (MRR) and Standard Deviation at 400 measurements; some around 300. More sophisticated analyses of the results are being conducted, e.g. rolling means.

Dr. Angeles Borrego, one of the participants, suggested to calculate Rolling Mean and Rolling Standard Deviation of individual grains to arrive at optimization of measurements for individual samples. Examples were given by Dr Angeles Borrego and presented. The preliminary results of participants are within repeatability limits (0.06 %) as per ISO-7404 Part 5, 2009, but the results of few participants are not under the reproducibility limit (0.085 %) as per the same standard.

It was also decided that at least 15 participants from various organizations will do the same exercise and more complex blended samples of varying ranks could also be distributed to arrive at the conclusion, if previous samples are not sufficient for additional analysts. This exercise will be completed within July, 2022 and the findings will be discussed in the next ICCP meeting to be held at New Delhi during September 2022.

**10:30 – Gasification Products WG**

Convener: Dr Nikki Wagner (online)

The convener presented a brief history of the WG that started in Oviedo in 2008 where the question can gasification chars be classified in the same manner as combustion chars was raised. The last exercise conducted in 2018 and the results presented in the Brisbane meeting. The convener suggested that to move forward there is a need to simplify the classification and make it more applicable to large particles (maybe including the whole particle). It was also pointed out that the fly ash classification scheme is not adequate for the gasification products. In the future, the convener intends to reissue the round robin exercise with less images but more diverse gasification samples. The audience agreed with the simplification of the classification.

**11:00 - Microscopic constituents in fly ash from biomass combustion WG**

Conveners: Dr. Iwona Jelonek, Dr. Zbigniew Jelonek (presenter, online), Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan

Dr Zbigniew Jelonek presented on behalf of Dr. Iwona Jelonek the first results of this WG established in 2019 in The Hague meeting. Three set of samples were prepared for the exercise, including photomicrographs from ashes obtained combustion of from pellets, charcoal and charcoal briquettes produced in domestic boilers and grill equipment. Although the results were promising the conveners proposed some alterations, such the combination of rust with metal and coal with charcoal. The identification of coke from some metal particles was also difficult and therefore the photomicrographs need to be improved. The most challenging for the participants was to distinguish biomass from bark, therefore the conveners will prepare pictures showing the thermally altered and unaltered biomass. The second exercise will be sent out next year and the conveners encourage all to participate in this exercise.

**11:30 - Coal Blend Accreditation Program (CBAP)**

Convener: Dr. Malgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi (online)

At the beginning Dr Magdalena Misz-Kennan acknowledged Dr Isabel Suárez-Ruiz for initializing the Coal Blend Accreditation Program and her deep passion and involvement in organ-

izing several rounds of accreditation exercises within this program. In 2019 Dr Isabel Suárez-Ruiz decided to withdraw from this program and Dr. Malgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi become the new organizer.

Dr Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi reported the present status of the CBAP and explained all the procedures that involve preparation of this accreditation program. The samples were sent to the participants in April 2021 and the results to be delivered on 20th June 2021. Due to the pandemic, one of the participants had difficulties in received the samples. The convener thanks Dr Jolanta Kus who helped with posting samples by courier to the countries that were unavailable from Poland. From the 20 participants, 3 failed the exercise because they did not identify the correct number of coal components in the blends. Overall, this CBAP was successful.

**12:30 - Commission III closing session**

Chair: Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan

The chair of the Commission III presented a short report of the working group activities presented during the meeting. The meeting was well attended with over 30 participants online over the two day of the Commission III slot. It is important to notice that due to travel restrictions, all the conveners presented the work of the Working Groups online via Zoom with a total of 9 WGs and one Accreditation Program. Commission III thanks the organizing committee for make this possible.

Dr Ashok Singh proposed a new WG on the Determination of Multiplication factor for evaluating Mean Maximum Reflectance (MMR) value from Mean Random Reflectance (MRR) value of vitrinite. However, the topic may suit better the Commission I objectives.



**ROCKING THOSE YELLOW HARD HATS LADIES & GENT!**  
Magda, Ivana, Margo, and Stavros at the mine visit, Czech Republic.

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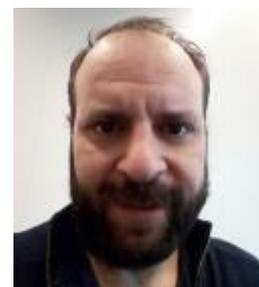
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**Bitumen-rich lignites**

The Eocene lignites in Central Germany are characterized by their intense colour stratification and the richness of bitumen in the bright lithotypes. They have been the subject of research at the TU Bergakademie Freiberg for many years. Thus, the state of knowledge on petrography, microphotometry and coal chemistry of individual German deposits is well advanced. However, we lack international comparisons, which is why we would like to ask for support. We are looking for deposits whose seams are also colour banded and contain bright lignite lithotypes with a high degree of destruction (cf. pictures). The mean reflection should be  $R_0 < 0.5\%$  in oil and the maceral assemblage should be dominated by liptinites and attrinite. As a special limit we see the atomic H/C element ratio, which should be at least 0,85. If you know suitable deposits for this, I would be very pleased about any information.

Colour-stratified seam in a lignite open pit mine in Central Germany.

Bright lignite-lithotype with a highly destructed groundmass lacking any tissue relics

**Humic acids from lignite**



In times of the energy turnaround, the utilisation of lignite as a raw material is increasingly coming back into the focus of research. Following this trend, the Department of Organic Petrology & Geochemistry at

**Please contact Henny for further discussion and deliberation.**

the Institute of Geology of the TU Bergakademie Freiberg started a research project that deals with the use of lignites as humic acid carriers.

**We are looking for colleagues who are dealing with similar questions for professional exchange.**

**Dr. Henny Gerschel**

M.Sc. Geology | Scientific Assistant

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**CONFERENCE DINNER, PRAGUE**



## Call for Participation in the ICCP Accreditation Programs 2022-2023 Exercise

The International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP) is pleased to invite you to participate in the 2022-2023 Accreditation round. The ICCP provides three Accreditation Programs:

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

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

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

**Organizer: Joao Graciano Mendonca Filho (graciano@geologia.ufrj.br)**

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

**Organizer: Malgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi (mwojtaszek@ichpw.pl)**

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 **January 31, 2022** 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 to be 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 for the Accreditation Programs 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 2022-2023 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.

The ICCP Accreditation Programs have grown up and consolidated over the years and are an efficient instrument for validating 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 Sub-committee

	SCAP	DOMVR	CBAP
Announcement and call for participation	February to April 30, 2022	February to April 30, 2022	February to April 30 2022
Invoicing	till May 31 2022	till May 31 2022	till May 31 2022
Sample distribution	May to June 2022	May to June 2022	January - February 2023
Reception of results	October to December 2022	October to December 2022	March-July 2023
Evaluation, Certificates and Web	January to February 2023	January to February 2023	August to September 2023
Certificates Validity	01.03.2023 to 31.12.2024	01.03.2023 to 31.12.2024	01.10.2023 to 30.06.2025

**Table 1.** General schedule proposed for 2022-2023 ICCP Accreditation Programs. (ABOVE)

**Table 2.** Fee structure for the 2022-2023 ICCP Accreditation Programs. (BELOW)

	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

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Also refer to the World Coal website <https://www.worldcoal.com/events/>

**15-17 Feb, 2022.** Sixth International conference on Fossil and Renewable Energy (F&R Energy-2022). Houston, Texas, USA. <https://energy-conferences.com/experts>

**20-22 March, 2022.** The World Coal Leaders Network 2022. Coaltrans. Athens, Greece. <https://conferences.coaltrans.com/event/d11da24c-4ca2-4996-9116-c6a6599654b8/websitePage:c527be9c-af69-48d1-a107-b3eab50abd0a>

**15-20 May, 2022.** 10th International Freiberg Conference on IGCC & Xtl Technologies; Marriot Hotel, Shanghai, China. [www.gasification-freiberg.com](http://www.gasification-freiberg.com); [gasification@iec.tu-freiberg.de](mailto:gasification@iec.tu-freiberg.de)

**16-19 May, 2022.** The World of Coal Ash (WOCA). Northern Kentucky Convention Centre, Covington, KY, USA. [World of Coal Ash 2022](http://WorldofCoalAsh2022)

**17-18 May, 2022.** European Conference CO2 Capture, Storage and Reuse 2022. Copenhagen, Denmark. IN PERSON EVENT. [CO2 Capture, Storage & Reuse 2022 \(fortesmedia.com\)](http://CO2CaptureStorage&Reuse2022(fortesmedia.com))

**10-15 July, 2022.** Goldschmidt2022, Hawaii, USA. <https://2022.goldschmidt.info/goldschmidt/2022/meetingapp.cgi>

**18-25 Sept, 2022.** 73rd ICCP Annual Meeting. New Delhi, India. <https://www.iccop.org/meetings/forthcoming-meetings/>

**9-12 October, 2022.** GSA Annual Meeting. Denver, Co, USA.

**Sept, 2022.** 38th TSOP Annual Meeting. Online. <https://www.tsop.org/events.html>

**Sept 2023.** TSOP and ICCP Meeting, Patras, Greece.

**9-14 July, 2023.** Goldschmidt Conference. Lyon, France. <https://www.geochemsoc.org/events/goldschmidtconference>

Take time to look through your photographs and submit your most comical, unusual, imaginative, or beautiful. Perhaps we can even consider a competition?????

George Siavalas has volunteered to run a competition—but we need submissions please.

Send all photographs and short caption to [nwagner@uj.ac.za](mailto:nwagner@uj.ac.za).

**SHOULD YOU WISH TO ADVERTISE A SPECIFIC EVENT / WORKSHOP / CONFERENCE / SEMINAR / COURSE, PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR.**

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.

## PLEASE NOTE

### 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)).

*The ICCP Newsletter provides a forum for students, young and advanced researchers, petrologists, petrographers, and any one else, to present results, submit short reviews or articles, post notifications, request assistance, announce relevant conferences / workshops / courses. Please submit all documents for inclusion into the next ICCP Newsletter.*

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**DEADLINE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEXT ICCP NEWS:**

**30 March 2022**