

ICCP NEWS



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73rd ANNUAL ICCP MEETING NEW DELHI, INDIA, 2022



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EDITORS COLUMN

Dear All,

Holiday greetings to you all. I hope this Newsletter finds you well in your respective countries, and the end of year celebrations, and that 2022 has treated you as well as possible considering the global turmoil. The only constant is change! Always applicable, and perhaps increasingly so these days are the 4 C's: critical thinking + communication + collaboration + creativity. I believe the ICCP embraces each of these. Collaboration is very evident in the working group activities. Communication flows through the website and the Newsletters, as well as emails – please watch out for an upcoming email from the President regarding much needed modification of a Statute. In 2022 the ICCP re-established the Facebook page and created a Linked-in profile for the ICCP Community and friends. **Please do like both, follow and actively post relevant items!** And do participate in the activities posted on Facebook and Linked-in – thank you Margo! The aim is to establish a real-time discussion forum that brings members together, addressing both critical thinking and creativity. Critical thinking, I am sure, is applied by us all as we utilize organic petrology and associated skills in addressing global and local issues.

The 2022 Organic Petrology course was a great success – please see summary on page 4. And the ICCP Meeting in India was excellent; I am sorry I was not able to travel to New Delhi. Ashok and the LOC created a memorable event, as obvious from the photographs on the front cover. The Symposium on the final day was packed with fantastic presentations from all around the world, working in many different time-zones. Well done India! And thank you to Peter Crosdale for capturing the event – see some photographs on page 17. The Minutes are captured herein for recording purposes, and are available on the website.

We received the sad news of the passing of Professor Dr. Monika Wolf (10/08/1932 – 30/10/2022). Prof Dr Wolf was awarded the Reinhardt Thiessen Medal in 1995, the highest award offered by the ICCP, in recognition of significant achievements and outstanding contribution in organic petrology.

Hope you have a big cup of coffee / tea, even a beer, in hand and happy reading. All comments / feedback appreciated.

Best regards,

Nikki, Re-elected Editor of the ICCP News.

ICCP WEBSITE

<https://www.iccop.org>

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

<mailto:skalait@upatras.gr>

Obituary

Professor Dr. Monika Wolf

(10/08/1932 – 30/10/2022)



Monika Wolf was born in Plauen in Vogtland, Germany on August 10, 1932. She attended school in Riesa and Freiberg / Saxony, where she graduated in 1951. She then studied geology at the Bergakademie Freiberg. The topic of the diploma thesis was "Detailed stratigraphic investigations into the interpretation of seam genesis in the area of the Espenhain opencast mine

in the Leipzig-Borna lignite mining area". After two more years as a research assistant in Freiberg, she started working as a doctoral student at the Geological Institute of the Technical University of Munich and at the same time worked as a freelancer for Preussag AG, Munich office. In 1961, she did her doctorate on "Spore stratigraphic investigations in the folded molasse of the Murnauer Mulde (Upper Bavaria)". After two years as a scholarship holder from the German Research Foundation, she moved to the Geological State Office of North Rhine-Westphalia in Krefeld in 1963 as a coal petrographer. Her main tasks were related to the petrography of lignite, hard coal, and dispersed organic matter of the Ruhr area and the Rhenish Massif. Monika remained there until 1981 in the position of Senior Geology Counselor.

In 1981 she was appointed to Chair of the Institute for Geology and Geochemistry of Petroleum and Coal at the Aachen University. She supervised numerous diploma and doctoral theses on different topics related to coal and organic petrology. She was author of more than 120 publications and several book chapters. She retired from her position at the university in 1994.

Monika Wolf played an important role in the International Commission of Coal Petrology (ICCP). Following a recommendation of Erich Stach, she participated in ICCP round robin analyses since 1963 and joined ICCP in 1968. Monika Wolf attended ICCP meetings regularly, was active in many working groups and chaired in the Handbook Editorial Group. After a period as General Secretary of ICCP, she became ICCP President (1987-1991). During this period, she organized an ICCP Meeting in Aachen in 1988 and issued the first ICCP News. In 1995 Monika was awarded the Reinhardt Thiessen Medal and in 2001 the ICCP Honorary Membership. After her retirement in 1994, Monika only sporadically joined ICCP meetings. This was mainly due to health problems, which made traveling difficult. The last meeting she attended was the 2005 Patras meeting. Kimon was one of her previous students and she followed his invitation to attend the meeting with pleasure, as can be seen from the photos.

Monika always supported her students and was very interested in their professional careers. One of her most liked students was Walter Pickel. Monika passed away on 30 October 2022 at the age of 90.

**INSTITUTIONAL
MEMBER**



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

We are approaching to the end of the year, still a year very much impacted by Covid-19 pandemic which is not fully overcome and that still restrict mobility among countries. We have suffered this in our last meeting in New Delhi where only few members from overseas could attend the meeting. I would like to thank again from these lines the enormous organizational effort of the India 2022 organizing committee, considering also that the meeting took place in a town which is not the home town of the organizers, and that they provided many amenities to enjoy the late afternoons and to be in touch with the Indian culture. A very well-attended symposium gave us the chance to get in touch with the last developments in research linked to organic petrology both in India and overseas since the hybrid format worked very well. Lively and fruitful discussions with our local members and Indian colleagues were possible. A fantastic field trip combining a visit to a modern coal fired power plant with integrated energy concept and a cultural visit to one of the most famous monuments in the world, Taj Mahal, brought the meeting to the end. Thanks a lot, to Ashok Kumar Singh and all his team for a very successful meeting and also thanks to our treasurer Joan Esterle for her support in the hybrid sessions. The 14th ICCP training course was held in October, in Patras-Greece. We can all celebrate that this has happened again as the training activities have been really a success that we had to stop because of the pandemic. For many years Potsdam has been the reference for the ICCP training activities, we are looking forward Patras to become a stable venue. Thanks to all involved: trainers, students and very especially the organizers for celebrating a successful course.

Nevertheless, the activities of the ICCP are not restricted exclusively to the meetings. We have now running the evaluation of two accreditation programs (DOMVR and SCAP) and CBAP will start soon and most of the working groups have round robin

exercises and activities running all the yearlong. I would like to encourage everybody, but especially new members to take part in the activities.

The full members of the ICCP will be receiving in the forthcoming days the proposal presented in The Hague in 2019 and also in New Delhi this year to modify minimally the statutes (articles 11 and 14) so that any procedure for voting would be permitted and clarify that the required majority for modifying the statutes is two-thirds of the full members casting a vote. I take this opportunity to remember those associate members who have been for over two years members of the organization and are active in any branch of organic petrology to contact Paul Hackley, the General Secretary, and send a letter expressing the willingness for becoming full member. This will allow you to participate in any decision affecting the ICCP.

The 30th of October the ICCP lost Monika Wolf. I am sure that any member knows her because of her very relevant contribution to organic petrology but many of us had the chance to enjoy her presence in many meetings and her generous contribution to the revision of the maceral sheets of the handbook which are now published in peer reviewed journals. She has occupied many relevant positions in the ICCP for which we will be always in debt. Under Monika Wolf professorship Aachen became a reference for studying and learning organic petrology. Many junior and senior researchers passed time in Aachen and afterwards established laboratories worldwide, let me mention Porto Alegre and Patras as examples. I myself enjoyed a period of three years in Aachen as a post-doctoral researcher and count this time as one of the best periods of my life. You will find in the inner pages an obituary in her memory written by Petra David with support of Ralf Littke a close friend of Monika. We are approaching to the end of the year and unfortunately, we cannot celebrate it in Peace. The war in Ukraine has joined other armed conflicts in the world, preventing the life and progress of these countries. I really wish all the violence to stop and my best wishes for the 2023.

Angeles



**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
NEXT ICCP NEWS BY 30
MARCH 2023**

THIESSEN MEDAL AWARD

NOMINATIONS

Due to the untimely loss of Dr. Walter Pickel, a new Chair has been nominated to assess nominations for this prestigious award. Thank you to Prof Mastalerz for agreeing to Chair this important ICCP Committee

Maria Mastalerz, Ph.D.
Indiana University - Bloomington
Senior Scientist, Indiana Geological and Water Survey
Adjunct Professor, Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences
Tel: 812-855-9416
E-mail: mmastale@indiana.edu

Please submit nominations directly to the Chair, as per contact details above.

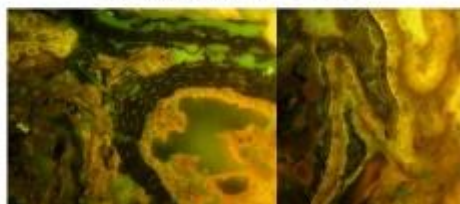
Deadline for 2022 nominations: 31 December 2022

Refer to: <https://www.iccop.org/awards/>

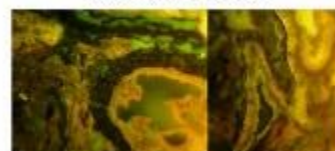
Nominations should be kept strictly confidential. The award consists of a bronze medal and a certificate. The award committee consists of the five most recent medallists who are available. Awards are made from time to time but applications are called for every 2 years.



14th ICCP Training Course – General Organic Petrology
Patras, October 24 – 28, 2022



14th ICCP Training Course – General Organic Petrology
Patras, October 24 – 28, 2022



ORGANIZED BY

ICCP

Department of Geology
University of Patras



Conference & Cultural Center of the University of Patras

Successful course!

SUMMARY OF THE TRAINING COURSE

The 14th ICCP Course of General Coal and Organic Petrology took place between 24-28th of October, 2022, in the Conference and Cultural Centre of the University of Patras. The Course was jointly organized by the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology and the Geo-Energy Resources Team of the Department of Geology, University of Patras, being supported by Hilgers Technisches Büro and the Special Research Account of the University of Patras. Instructors of the course were Dr. Stavros Kalaitzidis, Department of Geology UP, Greece, Dr. Maria Angeles Gomez Borrego, Instituto de Ciencia y Tecnologia del Carbono (INCAR-CSIC), Spain, and Dr. Nicola J. Wagner, Department of Geology, University of Johannesburg, South Africa. The course included 4 days of class-based seminars with afternoon practical sessions by using both Fossil Software and actual microscopic examination (see Annex). The fifth day the participants visited the Keri Mire in Zakynthos Island, where they had the chance to see an

active peat-forming environment, asphalt seepages within the peatland, and a nearby Miocene outcrop with rich-inorganics intervals.

The Course was attended by 18 participants, including young scientists and professionals, who work in organic petrology related disciplines. Attendees came from universities, research centres, geological surveys, and Companies, originating in Argentina, Brazil, Germany, Greece, Philippines, South Africa, Slovenia, The Netherlands, Turkey and USA.

It is clear to that the course met the expectations of the participants as per the course evaluations. "The course was very engaging; really appreciate the combo of theoretical and practical sessions; never a dull moment."

Some attendees requested more specialized topics to attract more people from industry; 6-day course with 6th day as the field trip; the majority of the participants would like to attend a DOM course in the future; courses on every topic! If possible!

Compiled by the Editor based on the feedback report prepared by Stavros Kalaitzidis.



KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF FUTURE COURSE. PATRAS IS LIKELY TO BE THE HOME OF THE ICCP COURSES GOING FORWARD

74th ANNUAL ICCP MEETING HOSTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF PATRAS, GREECE 17—24 SEPTEMBER 2023 JOINT WITH TSOP



Joint Conference & Cultural Center of the University of Patras,
Rio-Patras, Greece

THEME: “Organic Petrology in the Energy Transition Era: Challenges ahead”

Greece has previously twice hosted the ICCP family in the meetings of 1993 in Chania, Crete, and 2005 in Patras. However, our world has changed significantly in the last decade, and we are nowadays moving within “unchartered waters” facing challenges that also affect our scientific discipline.

Within this context the Organizing Committee is pleased to be hosting for the first time in Greece a joint Meeting of **The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP)** and the **International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP)**.

The Organizers anticipate providing a unique forum for members of both organizations and for not-yet members to interact in a week-long meeting to discuss and exchange ideas, and thus contributing to the future of Organic Petrology.

The Meeting is organized by the Department of Geology, University of Patras, in the Conference & Cultural Center of the University of Patras, in Rio, a suburb of Patras, Western Greece, in the week 17-24 of September 2023. The period is very favorable, as it is just after the high holiday season, with still marvelous weather.

Therefore, we look forward to welcoming you in Patras for a fruitful meeting and enjoyable field trips across the Ionian Islands and Western Greece.

More information regarding registration and important dates will follow soon. Stay tuned!

For the Organizing Committee

Kimon Christanis, Chair Stavros Kalaitzidis, Executive Secretary

For any queries please contact: skalait@upatras.gr

PROPOSED SCHEDULE FOR THE JOINT MEETING

	Sunday - Joint ICCP-TSOP day 17/9/2023	Monday 18/9/2023	Tuesday 19/9/2023	Wednesday 20/9/2023	Thursday 21/9/2023	Friday 22/9/2023	Saturday 23/9/2023	Sunday 24/9/2023
09:00		Registration ICCP-TSOP						
09:30			ICCP Session	TSOP Technical Session	Joint ICCP-TSOP Symposium	ICCP Session		
10:00		Joint ICCP-TSOP Opening Session						
10:30								
11:00		Coffee Break	Coffee Break		Coffee Break	Coffee Break		
11:30								
12:00		ICCP GA	ICCP Session	TSOP Technical Session	Joint ICCP-TSOP Symposium	ICCP Session		
12:30		TSOP Short Course						
13:00				TSOP General Meeting & Business Lunch				
14:00		Joint Lunch	ICCP lunch		Lunch	Lunch		
14:30								
15:00								
15:30		ICCP Session	TSOP Short Course	ICCP Session	TSOP Technical Session	Joint ICCP-TSOP Symposium	ICCP-TSOP Microscopy Session	
16:00								
16:30	ICCP Council	TSOP Council						
17:00								
17:30		ICCP Session	TSOP Short Course	ICCP Session	TSOP Technical Session	Joint ICCP-TSOP Symposium	ICCP Closing Plenary Session	
18:00								
18:30	Registration ICCP-TSOP		Joint ICCP-TSOP Poster Session		TSOP Closing Ceremony			
19:00								
19:30								
20:00			ICCP Council	Student Event				
20:30	Joint ICCP-TSOP Ice Breaker party							
21:00					Joint Conference Dinner			
21:30								
22:00								
22:30								

Minutes of the ICCP Council Meetings

18th and 21st September 2022

As compiled by the General Secretary

Council meetings took place combined online and in-person, before the meeting on 18th September; the second Council meeting was held Wednesday September 21st. The Council meetings took place in a combined online and in-person form considering the different time zones of Council members who were both present in-person and attending virtually.

Council:

Members of Council present: Ángeles Gómez Borrego, President, Paul Hackley, General Secretary, Joan Esterle, Treasurer, Nikki Wagner, Editor, Stavros Kalaitzidis, Chair Commission I, Dragana Životić, Secretary of Commission I, Jolanta Kus, Chair Commission II, Georgios Siavalas, Secretary of Commission II, Magdalena-Misz-Kennan, Chair Commission III, Sandra Rodrigues, Secretary of Commission III.

Attending as guests, Peter Crosdale, Dirk Prinz, Ashok Singh

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from the following members: João Graciano Mendonça Filho, Dave Pearson, Jen Pearson, Rich Pearson, Alan Davis, Harold Smith, Diego Álvarez, Rosa Menéndez, Petra David, Kimon Christanis, Antonis Bouzinos, Ioannis Oikonomopoulos, Thomas Gentzis.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the 2021 Council meeting were published in the ICCP Newsletter #81

Resolution ICCPC22/2/1. Council approves the 2021 Council minutes as printed in the ICCP Newsletter #81

The minutes of the 2021 Plenary Sessions were published in the ICCP Newsletter # 81

Resolution ICCPC22/2/2. Council approves the 2021 Plenary Session minutes as printed in the ICCP Newsletter #81

3. Arrangements for the New Delhi meeting

The organizers presented details for the New Delhi Meeting, and provided gifts for the in-person attending ICCP Councilors. The organizers were requested for a list of online registrants, to provide a link to a viewing platform for the online attendees, to monitor the online platform chat function to hear the comments of online attendees, and to post the detailed schedule of the commissions on the conference website and distribute it to the online attendees.

Resolution ICCPC22/3/1. Council thanks the organizers on their work in preparation of the meeting.

4. Future meetings

4.1. Patras 2023, Arrangements were presented for the joint ICCP-TSOP Patras meeting in 2023.

4.2. Freiberg 2024, Beijing 2025. The planning for the 2024-2025 meetings is in the early stages and will need to be added to the ICCP website as details become available. No invitations have been received for 2026 or beyond.

5. Awards

5.1 Thiessen Award

Thiessen Medal was last awarded in 2020 to Maria Mastalerz following the recommendations of the Thiessen Award Subcommittee.

The sub-committee includes Alan Davis, Reinhardt Sachsenhofer, and Maria Mastalerz (chair). Maria was selected as chair after the unexpected passing of former chair Walter Pickel in early June, 2022.

No new nominations have been received for the Thiessen Award. Nominations can be received up until the end of 2022 to Maria Mastalerz at mmastalerz@indiana.edu.

5.2 Organic Petrology Award.

Organic Petrology was last awarded in 2021 to Jolanta Kus following the recommendations of the Organic Petrology Award Subcommittee.

Nominations are expected in 2023 to Chair Magdalena Miszkennan at magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl.

6. ICCP Student Travel Grant

Six students applied to the ICCP travel grant for the short course and the award committee selected the Juan Sebastian Gomez Neita of Colombia/Brazil as the winning student.

Resolution ICCPC22/6/1. Council thanks the award committee on their work in evaluating the student travel award applicants to help students attend the short course.

The idea was discussed to change the name of the ICCP student travel grant to the Walter Pickel student travel grant in honor of Walter's contributions to ICCP and its training activities, and Walter's survivors will be contacted to check if this is acceptable.

7. Elections

The current members of Council and their dates of elections are listed below. Some positions have different wording in relation to the terms of office.

A call was placed in ICCP News No. 82 for nominations to elect the positions of President, Secretary of Commission II, and Chair of Commission III, to be received by the time of the 2022 ICCP meeting in New Delhi. No nominations were received prior to the meeting.

Resolution ICCPC22/7/1. Council nominates the following candidates for election/re-election.

President: Stavros Kalaitzidis

Secretary of Comm II: George Siavalas

Chair of Comm III: Sandra Rodrigues

8. Membership

8.1 New Members

Applications for Associate Membership

Ms. Zeynep Büçkün, Turkey. Introduced in ICCP News #83

Mr. Juan Pineda, Argentina. Introduced in ICCP News #83

Ms. Itumeleng Matlala, South Africa. Introduced in ICCP News #82

Dr. Xiaowei Zheng, Denmark

Ms. Maria Georgaki, Greece

8.2 Applications for Full Membership

The application of Dr. Dirk Prinz for full membership was received and accepted in person during the ICCP Council

meeting on September 18, 2022.

Resolution ICCPC 22/8/1. Council has accepted the membership applications and has forwarded them to the Plenary Session for approval.

8.3 Honorary Membership

No nominations for honorary membership were received

8.4 Deceased

Dr. Walter Pickel, obituary in ICCP News #83

8.5 Membership list:

A request was received from an ICCP member for a spreadsheet file of current members and their contact information. The request was for personal reasons and was denied.

8.6 Other membership matters:

A proposal was received for a 'New Members Section' under the Commission II webpage, with the idea that this new section could be extended to all Commissions. Discussion was had on the implementation and maintenance of this section of the webpage, concerning the difficulties to manage. It was decided that this tool would be implemented after the coordination and automation of membership activities and records occurring between the treasurer and website manager.

9. Financial matters – Treasurer's report

The honorary treasurer presented the treasurer's report. Because most ICCP members are not current financially, it was agreed that membership dues would be started afresh in 2023, except for a few members who are known to be current. It was agreed that moving the financial system for dues payment to an online system associated to the ICCP website was necessary and an upcoming meeting was planned between the treasurer and website manager to implement this system.

Resolution ICCPC22/9/1. Council

- i) receives the report presented by the Honorary Treasurer*
- ii) agrees that the report represents a fair statement of the financial affairs of the ICCP and congratulates the Honorary Treasurer on the report.*
- iii) thanks the Honorary Treasurer for their outstanding work to update and reconcile the membership accounts and to ensure all ICCP memberships are current*

10. Editor's report

The editor's report included discussions of copies, costs and distribution. The Council unanimously agreed that the ICCP Newsletter is no longer provided as a hard copy (effective from Newsletter 77). The Editor discussed content of the newsletter issues and needing to reconcile member lists for distribution.

The transfer of administrative privileges to administer the ICCP Facebook page was accomplished, and this will now be managed by current members of Council.

Resolution ICCPC22/10/1. Council receives the report of the Editor and congratulates her on her outstanding work.

Resolution ICCPC22/10/2. Council approves moving to an online only newsletter version in accordance with the modern times.

11. Accreditation Programs

The Council received the report from the Accreditation subcom-

mittee chair Magdalena Misz-Kennan, which was presented at the opening plenary session. Reports from the SCAP, DOMVR, and CBAP convenors were included in the Accreditation subcommittee chair's report. Modifications to the program to adjust for the global covid pandemic have occurred and samples have now been sent out for SCAP and DOMVR, with CBAP samples scheduled to be sent in January 2023. A slight decrease in participation (to 190) was attributed to difficulties associated with covid. The organizers of SCAP and DOMVR are in urgent need of samples for the programs.

Resolution ICCPC22/11/1 Council thanks the organizers of the three programs Kimon Christanis, Joao Graciano Mendonça Filho and Malgorzata Malgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidis for their work and congratulates them and Magdalena Misz-Kennan for their reports.

12. ICCP training activities

A report on the upcoming ICCP training course was presented by instructor Stavros Kalaitzidis. The training course is scheduled to be held in the Department of Geology, University of Patras, Greece, on October 24 to 28, 2022. Due to the sudden loss of Dr. Walter Pickel, the Instructors will be Dr Angeles G. Borrego and Dr Stavros Kalaitzidis, with the participation of Dr. Nikki Wagner.

The Council discussed the need for training in environmental applications of organic petrology as a future ICCP short course given the shifting needs of the user community.

Resolution ICCPC22/12/1. Council thanks the organizer of the ICCP short course and congratulates instructors Stavros Kalaitzidis, Angeles Borrego and Nikki Wagner on this important activity for ICCP.

13. Website

The website manager Stavros Kalaitzidis has updated the webpage according to the contacts provided from WG convenors. Stavros and the Honorary Treasurer are planning to meet to automate membership activities and records from the webpage. A training opportunity was offered to show working group convenors how to upload new information to the webpages, the timing of which was suggested to be in October 2022. A member of each commission was suggested to attend as well as the General Secretary, so that a group of Councilors could be useful for updating the webpage.

14. Registration

The registration of ICCP is postponed until a change in the statutes would allow electronic voting for the modification of the statutes.

15. Revision of the Statutes

As announced previously and in the closing plenary, the President will distribute a letter by registered mail and email to full members explaining that the statutes will be modified to allow for electronic voting. The decision to modify the statutes to allow electronic voting was supported unanimously by all ICCP Council members in accordance with the times and the use of modern technology, e.g., electronic mail or online voting.

16. Relations with TSOP

The benefits of a joint meeting as planned with TSOP for 2023

were discussed including the condensed schedule with multiple joint events to encourage cross-collaboration and integration of the two organizations. There is the need to update progress or finalize the joint TSOP-ICCP dispersed organic matter image atlas, for which the ICCP-TSOP liaison was tasked with facilitating communications.

17. Feedback from members

No input from members was reported at the Council meeting.

18. Other business

It was noted that Alan Cook is still listed as an ICCP liaison to ISO, which is needing to be corrected. As it is necessary to contact the ISO and inform them Alan is deceased, Angeles shall contact the ISO representative to update them as to her being the current ICCP president and the correct contact. In the future the ICCP president or their delegate will become the ICCP liaison to ISO.

The issue of ICCP as an author in Scopus and other databases was discussed without resolution as certain databases such as Scopus do not recognize institutional authorship. The need is that ICCP receives credit as an organization for the work it issues and oversees, which is only partially addressed via including ICCP in the work title, or as an institution in the authorship list.

Minutes of the 73rd Annual Meeting of the ICCP, September 18-25th 2022, New Delhi, India

As compiled by the General Secretary

The 73rd Annual Meeting of the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology was held in New Delhi, India from 18th to 25th September 2022. The Meeting was sponsored and organized by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CSIR-CIMFR) and occurred in the venue of Vignan-Bhavan. The general secretary of the organizing committee was Dr. Ashok Singh, and the meeting was organized around the theme of "Recent trends on coal utilisation for sustainable development and energy security." Due to the ongoing pandemic situation the meeting was organized in a hybrid fashion, with participants online and in-person. All together, 26 international delegates from 4 continents participated online and 2 participants participated online from in-country. Many participants were in person at the venue, in the auditorium of the Vignan-Bhavan and enjoyed the hospitality and assistance of the organizers.

The technical meeting started on the 19th September with a gathering of the dignitaries on the dais, and opening addresses from organizing secretary Dr. Ashok Singh, the welcome speech by Prof. Dr. Suddhasatwa Basu, chair of the organizing committee, ICCP President Dr. Angeles Borrego, and guests Prof. Dr. Venu Gopal Achanta and Alok Kumar.

Following high tea on 19th September, the opening plenary session of the ICCP was chaired by Drs. Angeles Borrego and Paul Hackley based on the agenda items as follows:

1. Greetings and welcome, introduction - Dr. M. Ángeles Gómez Borrego
2. Presentation and acceptance of the agenda of New Delhi Meeting - Dr. M. Ángeles Gómez Borrego
3. Minutes from previous meetings- Dr. M. Ángeles Gómez Borrego
4. Apologies for non-attendance - Dr. Paul Hackley (online)
5. Membership - Dr. Paul Hackley (online)
6. Elections - Dr. Paul Hackley (online)
7. Future Meetings - Dr. M. Ángeles Gómez Borrego
8. Editor's report – Dr. Nikki Wagner (online)
9. Treasurer's report – Dr. Joan Esterle
10. Accreditation Subcommittee Report – Dr. Magdalena Miszkennan (online)
11. ICCP training courses – Dr. Stavros Kalaitzidis (online)

3. Short minutes of the Prague Council meeting and minutes of the Plenary Sessions were published in the ICCP Newsletter # 81.

Resolution ICCPC22/3/1. Council approves the 2021 Council minutes as printed in the ICCP Newsletter #81.

Resolution ICCPC22/3/2. Council approves the 2021 Plenary Session minutes as printed in the ICCP Newsletter #81.

4. Apologies for non-attendance. Apologies were received from the following ICCP members: João Graciano Mendonça Filho, Dave Pearson, Jen Pearson, Rich Pearson, Alan Davis, Harold Smith, Diego Álvarez, Rosa Menéndez, Petra David, Kimon Christanis, Antonis Bouzinos, Ioannis Oikonomopoulos, and Thomas Gentzis.

5. Membership

5.1 New associate membership applicants Itumeleng Matlala (South Africa), Zeynep Büçkün (Turkey), and Juan Pineda (Argentina) had previously been announced in the ICCP News. New associate membership applicant Dr. Xiaowei Zheng (Denmark) was announced to the opening plenary. New full membership applicant Dr. Dirk Prinz (Germany) was announced and all applicants were accepted at the plenary session. Congratulations and welcome to the new ICCP members.

5.2 Loss of Dr. Walter Pickel. A moment of silence was registered during the opening plenary for the unexpected loss of longtime ICCP member and contributor Dr. Walter Pickel, whose obituary appeared in ICCP News No. 83.

6. Elections status was presented and the call for nominations was announced for the positions of ICCP Council President, Secretary of Commission II, and Chair of Commission III.

7. The future meetings in 2023 in Patras, Greece, followed by 2024 in Freiberg, Germany, and 2025 in Beijing, China were mentioned. No new invitations have been received for 2026.

8. The Editor's report described the three newsletters published since the last ICCP Meeting (Prague, 2021): No 81 (Dec 2021),

No. 82 (April 2022), and No. 83 (Aug 2022). The printing and postage costs remain zero (as for 2020 and 2021). Due to the global pandemic and the impact on the postal systems, hard copies of the Newsletter have not been printed since April 2020 (No. 76). Despite a concern being raised in 2021 by the Editor, no feedback has been received from members regarding a need for hard copy Newsletters. It is therefore proposed that the ICCP Newsletter is no longer printed. The Newsletter is distributed to ICCP membership via email and is available on the ICCP website for members and non-members. About 177 people receive the Newsletter by email. Some members may not receive the Newsletter as their file servers reject bulk emails and those members are sent their Newsletters individually. The Newsletter is distributed to 40 countries.

Resolution ICCPC22/8/1. Council receives the report of the Editor and congratulates her on her outstanding work.

Resolution ICCPC22/8/2. Council approves moving to an online only newsletter version in accordance with the modern times.

9. The Treasurer's report described the tremendous progress and work entailed in sorting out the society's financial status since the transfer Peter Crosdale to Joan Esterle in Australia at the end of the 2021 Meeting in Prague. Implemented in 2022 was an accounting system (XERO) and online payment facility (STRIPE) attached to the ICCP bank account (Commonwealth Bank Australia), to streamline payments for accreditation exercises, short courses and membership, although direct debit for international transfers is still available. Membership invoicing was suspended during COVID as there were issues with the records of payment durations (i.e. 1 year vs 3 years), and with movement of members between institutions or retirement, some contact details were not updated. All accounts are reconciled in the new software and the current balance at 12 September, 2022 is AUD \$157,852.34. Because most ICCP members are not current financially, it was agreed that membership dues would be started afresh in 2023, except for a few members who are known to be current. It was agreed that moving the financial system for dues payment to an online system associated to the ICCP website was necessary and an upcoming meeting was planned between the treasurer and website manager to implement this system.

Resolution ICCPC22/9/1. Council

- i) receives the report presented by the Honorary Treasurer.*
- ii) agrees that the report represents a fair statement of the financial affairs of the ICCP and congratulates the Honorary Treasurer on the report.*
- iii) thanks the Honorary Treasurer for their outstanding work to update and reconcile the membership accounts and to ensure all ICCP memberships are current*

10. The report on ICCP Accreditation was given by Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan, Chair of the Accreditation Subcommittee of the ICCP. The troublesome period related with COVID-19 forced the modification of the original schedule for the previous round (2020-2021) and extension of certificates validity for the round 2018-2019. The Accreditation Subcommittee decided to return to original schedule of accreditation programs in the pre-

sent round. The schedule of the 2022-2023 Accreditation exercises exercise began in February 2022, when the Conveners of all three accreditation programs sent invitation letters, prepared by the Chair of the ASC, inviting their respective participants for the 2022 exercise, as well as other potential participants, to make the invitation as broad as possible. Samples for SCAP and DOMVR were sent for analysis and results are expected by the end of December 2022. The CBAP exercise will start in January 2023 with the sample distribution and it is expected that the exercise will be finished by the end of September 2023. The participants in the ICCP Accreditation Programs in 2022-2023 totaled 117 analysts located in 25 countries and 68 institutions, corresponding to a decrease of about 7.1% compared with the last round. The 2022-2023 ICCP accreditation programs totaled 190 participations for all 3 programs. The banks of samples for all accreditation programs is diminishing very rapidly and the organizers of SCAP and DOMVR are in urgent need for samples.

Resolution ICCPC22/10/1 Council thanks the organizers of the three programs Kimon Christanis, Joao Graciano Mendonça Filho and Malgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi for their work and congratulates them and Magdalena Misz-Kennan for their reports.

11. Dr. Stavros Kalaitzidis presented on the organization of the 14th ICCP training course in 'General Organic Petrology' to be held in October 24-28 in Patras, Greece, at the University of Patras, Department of Geology. Due to the sudden loss of Dr. Walter Pickel the course will be jointly held by Dr Angeles G. Borrego and Dr Stavros Kalaitzidis, with the participation of Dr. Nikki Wagner. The course will include a geological field trip to the Keri mire on Zakynthos island. At the time of the ICCP meeting 18 registrations had been received for the course, with the registration fees of Juan Sebastian Gomez Neita waived through the ICCP Student Travel Grant.

Resolution ICCPC22/11/1. Council thanks the organizer of the ICCP short course and congratulates instructors Stavros Kalaitzidis, Angeles Borrego and Nikki Wagner on this important activity for ICCP.

Resolution ICCPC22/11/2. Council thanks the award committee on their work in evaluating the student travel award applicants to help students attend the short course.

At the closing plenary session on September 22nd the agenda was as follows:

1. Membership – Dr. Paul Hackley (online)
2. Awards - M. Ángeles Gómez Borrego
3. Elections – Dr. Paul Hackley (online)
4. Alteration of the Statutes- Dr. M. Ángeles Gómez Borrego
5. Short Report from the Commission Meetings – Comm. Chairs (hybrid)
6. Short Report from the Council meetings – Dr. Paul Hackley (online)
7. 2023 Meeting – Dr. Stavros Kalaitzidis
8. Thanks to the 2023 Organizing Committee

-
1. The associate membership application of Maria Georgaki,

received during the meeting, was presented and accepted by the plenary assembly. Congratulations Maria!

2. A call for nominations for the Reinhardt Thiessen and Organic Petrology awards was announced by ICCP President Angeles Borrego.

3. The Council nominations for the offices of President, Secretary of Commission II, and Chair of Commission III were announced. The candidates named by the Council were Stavros Kalaitzidis for President, George Siavalas to continue in a second term as Secretary of Commission II and for Sandra Rodrigues for Chair of Commission III. No nominations were received from the floor, and thereby the Council nominees were elected to their respective offices. A call is hereby made for nominees to replace the Comm. I chair and Comm. III secretary who will vacate their current offices to begin the new Council roles at the end of the 2023 ICCP meeting. Please contact the General Secretary hackley_paul@yahoo.com with your nominees for Comm. I Chair and Comm. III Secretary.

4. Alteration of the statutes to allow electronic voting was discussed by President Dr. M. Ángeles Gómez Borrego. The President proposed to distribute a letter by registered mail and email to full members explaining that the statutes will be modified to allow for electronic voting. No opposition to the decision to modify the statutes to allow electronic voting was recorded from the plenary session as this decision is in accordance with the times and the use of modern technology, e.g., electronic mail or online voting.

5. Short reports from the Commission meetings were delivered by Dr. Stavros Kalaitzidis (Commission I), Dr. Jolanta Kus (Commission II), and Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan (Commission III) as further documented in the meeting minutes contained in this edition of the Newsletter below.

6. A short report on the minutes of the ICCP Council Meetings was delivered by General Secretary Dr. Paul Hackley as further documented in the preceding section of the Newsletter.

7. Planning for the 2023 ICCP meeting in Patras, Greece, hosted by the University of Patras, Department of Geology was pre-

sented by meeting organizing secretary Dr. Stavros Kalaitzidis. The 2023 meeting will be held the week of September 17th to 24th and will be a joint meeting of ICCP (74th Annual Meeting) and The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP, 39th Annual Meeting). The meeting OC chair is Prof. Dr. Kimon Christanis of Univ. Patras. The presenter outlined the demography of Patras, consisting of apr. 200,000 population of which about 40,000 are students inhabiting an important commercial and services hub which is the main exporting gateway of Greece to western Europe. Dr. Kalaitzidis outlined the transportation options to arrive to Patras and its accommodations, and the conference venue in the Conference & Cultural Center of the University. The technical program will include significant joint sessions of the two scholarly societies and a mid-week cultural visit to Olympia, Delphi, or Mycenae. Several options were presented for post-conference field trips including to the Keri mine in Zakynthos Island or to source rock outcrops in western Greece and the lignite mining area of Ptoleimais. The general theme of the conference will be 'Organic petrology in the energy transition era: challenges ahead.' Thank you to Dr. Kalaitzidis for organizing what looks to be an exciting and productive meeting of the ICCP and TSOP.

8. The ICCP closing plenary concluded with presents for the organizing committee members, including to Prof. Suddhasatwa Basu – Chair; Dr. Ashok K. Singh – Organizing Secretary and Convenor, and the members of the Organizing Committee: Dr. Pradeep Singh, Dr. R.P. Singh, Dr. Gautam Banerjee, Dr. J. K. Singh, Dr. R.V.K. Singh, Mr. Ajay Singhal, Dr. Sujit K Mandal, Dr. Ashis Mukherjee, Dr. Abhay K. Singh, Mr. Dilip Kumbhakar, Dr. N. K. Srivastava, Dr. Manish Kumar, Dr. Devendra K. Sakhre, Mr. Manoj K. Sethi, and Dr. Bodhisatwa Hazra. Sankalp Singh of Event Management was also congratulated for successful organization of the hybrid meeting as was the National & International Advisory Committee for development of the technical program.

Following the closing plenary, the conference schedule included a symposium in which 21 presentations were delivered in three technical sessions.

GREAT JOB ICCP COUNCIL AND MEMBERS, AND WELCOME NEW MEMBERS (Ed)



MINUTES OF COMMISSION I GENERAL COAL AND ORGANIC PETROLOGY

73rd ICCP Meeting – New Delhi, India, 19-20th September 2022

Chair: Stavros Kalaitzidis, skalait@upatras.gr

Secretary: Dragana Životić, dragana.zivotic@rgf.bg.ac.rs

Opening remarks

The session of Commission I started at 14:50 on Monday September 19th and was attended by 60 participants (25 on-line and 35 in person). The Chair of Commission I gave a general description of COMMISSION I, by presenting a short overview of all the Working Groups, as well as the publications under Commission I and some data regarding their citations in Scopus Database. Due to the Covid 19 Pandemia, as well as the unexpected loss of the convener of three working groups, Dr Walter Pickel, the activities of several WGs were limited. Progress within the Single Coal Accreditation Program, Xylite-rich Lithotype Classification, as well as the status of the Suberinite, Standardization, ISO standard, Reflectance and Terminology of Zooclasts in old sediments, Raman Spectroscopy and Peat-Petrography Working Group and Distinguishing Features and New Handbook Editorial Groups, will be presented.

Temporal Variations in Coal WG – Lopo Vasconcelos

This WG is not active, but Lopo constantly is 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 Commission I Chair/Secretary.

Commission’s I sessions included a slide show and/or Microscope Session, as well as presentations of the following WG’s:

- SCAP - Single Coal Accreditation Program,
- [Xylite-rich Lithotype Classification](#) Working Group,
- Status of Suberinite Working Group,
- Status of Standardization Working Group,
- Status of ISO Standard Working Group,
- Status of Distinguishing Features of Macerals Editorial Group,
- Status of New Handbook Editorial Groups,
- Status of Reflectance and Terminology of Zooclasts in old sediments Working Group,
- Status of Raman Spectroscopy WG
- Status of Peat-Petrography Working Group.

Apologies for not attending were received by Petra David, Kimon Christanis, Antonis Bouzinos, Ioannis Oikonomopoulos, Thomas Gentzis.

Single Coal Accreditation Program – Kimon Christanis

Stavros Kalaitzidis on behalf of Kimon Christanis, who could

not attend the meeting with apologies, presented the activities, statistics, and the challenges of the 2022 Single Coal Accreditation Program round. The 2022 SCAP exercise was announced in March 2022. Participants registered electronically via the ICCP webpage. The dispatch of invoices, samples and instructions was completed by August 2022. Samples to Colombia have been sent first to Jolanta Kus asking for forwarding, while samples to Indonesia have been sent first to Joan Esterle asking for forwarding. All participants received bulk samples, beginners received six and continuing participants two bulk coal samples. The deadline for the results submission was planned for December 2022. In total, around 320 samples were despatched. The participants have to measure the following parameters:

Vitrinite random reflectance (VR) according to ISO 7404-5 and Vitrinite content (VC) according to ISO 7404-3.

For the 2022 SCAP exercise 100 analysts were registered

(45 are ICCP members), from 61 laboratories located in 25 countries. The breakdown in continuation *versus* new entries is 83 to 17, respectively. The geographic distribution of the participants is: America 32% (South America 12%, North America 20%), Oceania 25%, Europe 23%, Asia 13%, and Africa 7%.

The Organizer of the 2022 SCAP highly acknowledged the contribution of all ASC members, particularly the current chair Magdalena Misch-Kennan, the Honorary Treasurer Joan Esterle, Jolanta Kus and BGR’s post office, as well as Joan Esterle, for delivering the samples to Indonesia and Colombia, Iwona Jelonek for sample supply, Konstantinos Perleros for all his logistic support and all participants. 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_r, even higher), please contact Kimon: christan@upatras.gr. After short discussion Commission I thanked Kimon and Magdalena for their great work on the organising 2022 SCAP exercises.

During the slide show/microscope session on the afternoon of Monday 19th of September the participants had the chance to see many photomicrographs of different coals and shales proved by ICCP members and colleagues from India.

The Commission I continue their work on 9:30 on Tuesday the 20th of September.

Xylite-rich Lithotype Classification WG – Ioannis Oikonomopoulos

Stavros Kalaitzidis on behalf of Ioannis Oikonomopoulos presented the activities within the **Xylite-rich Lithotype Classification WG** and the results of the latest exercise. The problematic definitions and were presented. The next activities of the WG will be to discuss particular definitions within the WG participants and create a distribution map of xylite-dominated deposits in Eastern Europe – western Asia, including the age. Photomicrographs of woody materials, and a classification to the existing nomenclature will be presented in the next meeting. Stavros encouraged all members to take a part in next exercises.

During the discussion the participants pointed out that the using terms need more precise explanations, and the precise location of samples could be included in material for exercises.

Members interested to participate in the activities of this WG

please contact Ioannis (ioikonomopoulos@helpe.gr).

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

Status of Suberinite WG

The status of the **Suberinite WG** was presented by Stavros Kalaitzidis on behalf of Peter Crosdale, as Peter paused his engagement to the WG for the last couple of years. The previous exercises performed on polished blocks revealed in general a poor agreement between the analysts in maceral analysis, therefore suggesting a different approach to the exercises. A significant point that creates difficulties is the observation that suberinite can be easily identified when associated with corpogelinite, while when "*collapsing or stacked*" or in the absence of corpogelinite it is not identified as suberinite. A possible solution will be to add types of suberinite (e.g. type I and II, respectively) in its definition. During the discussion the participants that took part in the previous exercises expressed interest for another point count exercise before final report. Commission I will work with Peter to present a final report of all the activities of the **Suberinite WG**. The outcomes and agreed comments of the WG will supplement the Distinguishing Features EG. The coal samples used in the exercise will be stored in ICCP Archive. Members of the WG will be contacted to express interest to co-convene the this WG.

Commission I thanks Peter for his fantastic efforts in this WG and in general for his dedication to the ICCP tasks.

Status of the Standardization WG

Stavros Kalaitzidis presented a short historical overview of the Standardization WG with emphasis on the results of the last exercise on lignite and huminite classification. Commission I will try to find all parts of Walter's archive and to summarize all the results of the previous exercises of the working group and upload to the website. Stavros proposed new exercises based on different lignite samples to evaluate the usefulness of the ICCP System 1994 and Huminite Classification. Stavros will convene this activity for the year. During the discussion Angeles pointed out that statistical evaluation of the previous exercises should be completed, pending on the availability of the data, from Walter's archive. Moreover, the Accreditation Sub-Committee will discuss to possibly involve lignite samples within the SCAP Program. Commission I will seek interest Members to become Conveners of the Standardization WG.

Status of the ISO standard WG

Stavros Kalaitzidis presented the status and past activities of **ISO standard WG** that was convened by Walter and the steps that need to be taken for this WG to continue. Angeles Borrego provided a historical review of the Methods for the Petrographic Analysis of Coals and how they were incorporated to ISO Standards. During the discussion it was agreed that Angeles will convene for now the WG and Com I will contact ICCP members to ask whether any member is a National ISO representative and will be willing to co-convene. It was agreed that the President of ICCP might co-convene along ICCP Members who are National Representatives in the ISO Standard Committees.

Status of the Distinguishing Features EG

The Chair of Commission I, Stavros Kalaitzidis, presented the

objectives and the current status of the **Distinguishing Features EG**, after the loss of Walter. Commission I will compile all available texts, add photomicrographs to visualize better the features and send back to members of EG for comments. A draft version of this compilation will be presented at the next ICCP meeting. Chair of Commission I ask for a new Convenor!!! Commission I want to acknowledge the constant, long commitment restless efforts of Late Dr. Walter Pickel for the scopes of ICCP.

Status of the New Handbook Editorial Group

Dragana Životić presented on behalf of the EG Conveners a short overview and the progress related to the New Handbook Editorial Group. Dragana pointed out that some of the terms and classifications recently published were not included in the Handbook. The Old Handbooks are already scanned and uploaded on the open part of the webpage <http://www.iccop.org/publications/iccp-handbook/> for everybody to download. Additionally, several ICCP classifications were published in peer-review journals under Open Access licence. During the discussion it was agreed that a dedicated content-structured page will be established in ICCP webpage, where all the published material can be accessed. For the unpublished but already edited chapters the EG will explore the options of either publishing in journals, ICCP News or obtaining ISSN/ISBN.

Commission I thanked Conveners for their efforts on the Handbook, as well as all the volunteers that participated in the previous activities.

Status of the Reflectance and Terminology of Zooclasts in old sediments WG

Stavros Kalaitzidis on behalf of Thomas Gentzis presented the activities and results of the previous exercises within the **Reflectance and Terminology of Zooclasts in old sediments WG**. Due to the low number of acquired responses from the participants, it was not possible to conclude and deliver a report, and since 2018 the activities were paused. Since there is proposal for a new WG within Commission II dealing with the reflectance on Zooclasts, it was agreed to modify the scope of the current WG under Commission I and to move the activities of Zooclasts Reflectance studies in Commission II (under a new WG). The WG within Com I will continue its activities as **Classification and Terminology of Zooclasts in old sediments WG**, with Dr. Thomas Gentzis continuing as Convener. A draft report of all the activities will be prepared by Thomas and will be circulated to the Members that expressed interest in the WG.

Commission I thanked Thomas for his efforts and dedication on this WG.

Raman Spectroscopy WG – Nils Keno Lünsdorf

Dragana Životić presented on behalf of Nils Keno Lünsdorf a short description of the **Raman Spectroscopy WG** objectives and the outcomes of the first round-robin exercise, as well the future steps in this WG. It has been agreed that the importance of this work is significant, however and in order to obtain more comparable data Commission I members ask the convenor to provide new exercises with coal samples that are more homogeneous in terms of vitrinite content. Anyone interested in participating in the new exercise may contact Keno (kluensd@gwdg.de). Commission I thanked Keno for conducting the round robin exercises in this Working Group.

Peat Petrography WG – Kimon Christanis and Stavros Kalaitzidis

Stavros Kalaitzidis presented the status of the **Peat Petrography WG** with the outcomes of previous exercises. The plan for 2022-2023 is to finalise the draft manuscript with the proposed classification of Peat macerals and to circulate to WG members.

Proposals for New Working Groups

Radiolytical alteration of the organic matter in coal and rocks enriched in radioactive minerals

Tatiana Larikova, Ivana Sýkorová and Martina Havelcová proposed the establishment of a new WG under Commission I, dealing with the morphology, structures and properties of the uraniferous organic matter in sedimentary rocks. The objectives of this WG will be: 1) Petrological identification and definition of microscopical textures of radiolytic alteration of organic matter (bitumens, coal macerals, dispersed organic matter) with potential suitability for the ICCP Classification; 2) To determine the range of (critical) uranium concentrations at which the degradation processes of organic matter begin to appear, resulting in increasing light reflectance and formation of zones around radioactive minerals; 3) To determine the basic types of the bright areas around radioactive minerals: halos, bright zones around cracks and veins, and the others. On this base, the system of distinct optical structures will be developed.

Com I accepted the creation of this WG and thanks Tatiana, Ivana and Martina for their interest and initiative.

Investigation of fluorescing void filling substances

Peter Crosdale and Sandra Rodrigues proposed to establish new WG to investigate fluorescing void filling substances usually associated with clay minerals. The objectives of this WG will be: 1) To examine using fluorescence mode and imaging fluorescing

spots without oil; 2) Extract any bitumen by using organic solvents; 3) Re-examine the same location in fluorescence mode, 4) Re-examine exact location in standard white light mode in oil; 5) SEM examination if possible. Com I accepted the creation of this WG.

Slide show/microscope session also provide on Tuesday 20th afternoon session. Participants had the chance to see many photomicrographs of different coals and shales showed by ICCP members and colleagues from India.

Closing Remarks

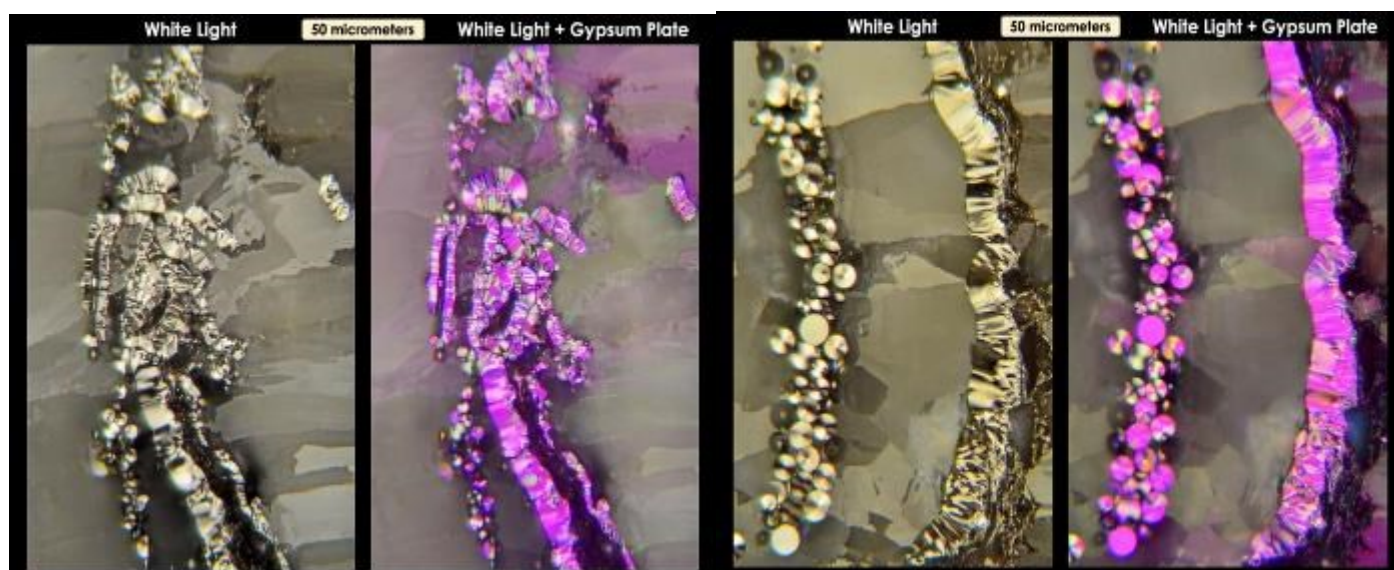
Stavros Kalaitzidis and Dragana Životić closed the Session of Commission I. Commission I would like to thank the conveners for their dedication and efforts to run the WGs and encourage ICCP members to participate in Commissions Exercises. ICCP Members were also reminded that the following Commission I Services are available for the Organic Petrography Community: **Single Coal Accreditation Program**, SCAP – Kimon Christanis (christan@upatras.gr).

Reflectance Standard Checking: The service to check standards against the *ICCP Reflectance Standard* continues to be available from Dave Pearson 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. At the end, Commission I would like to express their gratitude to Ashok Singh and his team and all participants of the sessions for their active participation resulting in a well organised and productive Meeting.

We hope to see you in Patras next year.

PETROGRAPHIC IMAGES



Pyrolytic carbon spheres and blocks from the New Albany Shale in the Kentucky fluorspar district (Crittenden County). The pyrolytic carbon, which appears to "float" in a high magnesium calcite matrix, occurs in samples adjacent to Permian age igneous intrusions within the shale.

Images supplied by Dr Eble Cortland, Kentucky Geological Survey. EDITOR: LOVELY IMAGES CORTLAND!!

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

Chair: Jolanta Kus, J.Kus@bgr.de

Secretary: George Siavalas, Georgios.Siavalas@shell.com

Thursday – 22nd September

The Commission II meeting started on Thursday September 22nd at 08:30am (local time) both at the Meeting Venue in New Delhi and virtually through a MS Teams call. Both the Chair and Secretary of the Commission were connected to the meeting online. The meeting was attended by a total of 60 persons, 37 of whom were in the meeting room and 23 were connected online.

08:30 – 09:00 - Opening address – Jolanta Kus & George Siavalas

In the opening session the chair, Jolanta Kus, paid tribute to the late Walter Pickel for his long service and valuable contribution to Commission II activities and presented the objectives of the Commission followed by a presentation of publications generated from its past activities. She also showed an overview of recent developments of Commission II in the ICCP webpage and briefly described the schedule of Com.II meeting. The Chair also showed the available training material under the commission and stated that the material sits with Nikki Wagner, the ICCP editor and requests should be submitted to her through e-mail.

09:00 – 09:30- DOMVR Accreditation Programme – Magdalena Misz-Kennan on behalf of João Graciano Mendonça Filho

The Chair of the Accreditation Sub-Committee presented the progress report of the 9th (2022-2023) DOMVR accreditation exercise on behalf of the organizer, who was not able to attend the meeting this year. The report included the description of the timeline with regards to sample distribution, information and instructions to the participants and return of the results. It also gave a brief description of the criteria for the selection of appropriate samples. The report also included an overview of the evolution of participation over the years and a comparison between the number of participants who applied for the exercise against those who eventually submitted the results together with a geographic breakdown of participants. This information was also compared against data from the previous round. The report also referred to the challenges that the exercise faces because of the limited number of samples combined with multiple participants from the same laboratories. Every participant receives one sample with predominantly terrestrial organic matter and one with predominantly marine organic matter.

The organizer highlighted once again the critical status of the sample bank and the dire need for new samples in order to keep the programme running smoothly. Both samples of terrestrial and marine origin are necessary. The presentation concluded with an overview of the programme's finances.

The organizer would like to acknowledge the support by Magdalena Misz-Kennan, Jolanta Kus, Joan Esterle and all Ac-

creditation Sub-Committee members.

Discussion:

Joan Esterle asked for clarification on what mass of sample is needed and how to prepare the sample.

Magdalena Misz-Kennan responded that a few kg would be enough and advised to contact the organizer for instructions on sample preparation.

Angeles Gomez-Borrego mentioned that recommendation is for a few kg of sample, however even a few hundreds of grams from core samples would be valuable to the sample bank.

Jolanta Kus asked Prof. Atul Varma if he is in a position to provide samples. Prof. Varma agreed to investigate the possibility and Jolanta advised him to contact the organizer for instructions on sample preparation and shipment.

Commission II thanks João for his continuous effort to keep running this significant activity for ICCP. Commission II also thanks Magda for presenting the report to the meeting.

09:30 – 10:30 – Dispersed Organic Matter in Sedimentary Rocks, Classification, Identification and Thermal Maturity – Conveners: Jolanta Kus, Paul C. Hackley, Paula A. Gonçalves

Jolanta Kus presented the activities of the WG on behalf of the Conveners since the last meeting. After reviewing the past objectives the Conveners decided to revisit the goals of the working group after 2019 and proceed with the publication of a review article taking into account that a) the original goals of the WG, set in 1995, are already covered by previous publications since then, and b) proceeding in the same way as between 2013-2017 would go well beyond the pre-scheduled plan. The proposed title of the intended publication is "Application studies of DOM petrology in the 21st Century: A review". The Convener reported that the idea was discussed with Maria Hamor-Vido and Angeles Gomez-Borrego in order to collect their feedback and then gave an overview of the implementation plan. This included in steps the circulation of an explanatory e-mail to involved ICCP members, the publication of a short note in the ICCP Newsletter and request for feedback. The Conveners also prepared and submitted a proposal to the International Journal of Coal Geology and Deolinda Flores, the editor approved under the condition that the article should not include recent information already published by the Conveners elsewhere. The Conveners had five zoom calls during the year and finalized the title and structure of the review. It was decided that all contributors will be listed as co-authors.

Jolanta Kus then demonstrated the structure and contents of the review paper going through the draft MS. Planned activities for 2023 include text contribution until April 2023 and harmonization in structure, format and style.

The Conveners thank Stavros Kalaitzidis for the updates on the website of the WG.

Discussion:

Joan Esterle, Nikki Wagner and others agreed that the content of this review article is too extended and advised to publish the material in Journal special volume instead of a single paper. This option is also expected to speed up the review process since this way less material will be distributed to more reviewers.

Stavros Kalaitzidis voiced a concern that some of the published tables in the review may substitute the standard ICCP Handbook to a certain extent. Jolanta Kus responded that the

tables will only contain a summary and a reference to the handbook and not a detailed definition of terms and description as contained in the ICCP Handbook. After a few technical questions on certain parts of the review paper that were of interest to some participants, Angeles Gomez-Borrego congratulated the Conveners for finding a smart and elegant way to deliver such a good result in a short time and the WG concluded its activities during the meeting.

Commission II thanks Jolanta, Paul and Paula for their contribution to the Review article.

10:30 – 11:00 – Proposal for new Working Group: Geological Application of Graptolite Reflectance. – Convener: Xiaowei Zheng

Xiaowei Zheng presented a proposal to establish this new Working Group involving interlaboratory studies on graptolite reflectance. Xiaowei gave a brief overview of graptolite reflectance describing the advantages of its application on thermal maturity assessment, the different types of graptolites and the gradients of reflectance resulting from them.

The plan for the 1st round of the working group's activities includes preparation of the sample set, the execution of a round robin exercise and analysis of the acquired data. Objectives of the WG include the study of samples from different provenance and thermal maturity range, comparison of histograms among analysts and investigation of the relationship of graptolite reflectance with other thermal maturity-related parameters.

Discussion:

Atul Varma and Jolanta Kus flagged the limitation of the application of graptolite reflectance in samples from limited geological age.

Stavros Kalaitzidis asked if the new WG will collaborate with the Zooclast WG under Com. I convened by Thomas Gentzis. Jolanta Kus replied that the WG will collaborate, communicate and combine samples together with classification and description. It was agreed to have a video call among the Conveners of the two WGs, chairs and secretaries of the two Commissions in order to align the objectives of the two WGs.

Angeles Gomez-Borrego highlighted the fact that a new member takes the initiative to lead the effort of a new WG and encourages that other members followed this example.

Commission II approves the formation of this Working Group, congratulates Xiaowei for her initiative and wishes her luck with the planned activities.

11:00 – 11:30: Coffee Break

11:30 – 12:00 – Identification of Thermal Maturity Relevant Organic Matter WG– Convener: Paul Hackley

Paul Hackley showed an overview of the WG objectives and activities including the problem to be solved and summarizing its history. The Convener also gave a progress update from the activities during 2021, which included an image-based intra-laboratory exercise among USGS analysts and listed the advantages and limitations of the image-based exercise focusing on the good agreement at lower thermal maturities but also the inability to scan through the entire sample and focus through, which created problems in the identification of granular micrinite often confused with inertinite or solid bitumen. The results of this exercise were reported in the ICCP Newsletter, 82.

Paul Hackley also discussed the need to revisit the ASTM

standard D7708 or it will be withdrawn since all ASTM standards must be revisited regularly or be withdrawn after 8 years. In that direction, he requested comments from the user community of DOMVR-accredited petrographers and integrated those comments to the original standard. The Convener showed examples of the revised parts and then presented the results of the renewal ballot with two negative voters among approximately 300 members. After negotiation with the negative voters, it was agreed that the technical changes will be rebaloted at a later stage in 2022 or 2023.

The last activity of this working group from the previous year involved the publication of an online article on Springer Encyclopaedia of Petroleum Geoscience in December 2021 including guidelines on vitrinite reflectance analysis in sedimentary rocks.

Paul Hackley suggested that the plan for next year is to extent the image-based exercise to an inter-laboratory exercise assisted by the Fossil Student software.

Discussion:

The discussion focused on technical details around micrinite identification and related aspects, and it was agreed to proceed as suggested by the Convener in future rounds.

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

12:00 - 12:10 – Confocal Laser Scanning Microscopy WG– Conveners: Paul Hackley & Jolanta Kus

Paul Hackley presented the Final Report of this WG during the Meeting. The Convener presented a summary of the activities between 2015-2022 from the establishment of the WG to the publication of a report article in ICCP Newsletter, 82 together with a publication of a peer-reviewed article in International Journal of Coal Geology.

The Convener stated that the objectives of the working group are fulfilled, and the group will close its activities.

Discussion:

Angeles Gomez-Borrego suggested if possible, to incorporate the information obtained from the activities of this WG on a Kimmeridge Clay Fm. Sample analysed within Commission II.

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

12:10 – 13:00 – Identification of Dispersed Organic Matter – Convener: 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 gave a brief overview of previous round robin exercises and publications of these results and presented the outline of the 2020-2021 round robin exercise after thanking all participants for performing 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 unit 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 Convener acknowledged the contribution and assistance of Tracy Gallagher from the British Geological Survey for

assisting with access to the core and sampling. Vitrinite reflectance displayed a group mean of 0.71% Ro with a standard deviation of 0.098% and the results collected from the analysts suggest a single population. Many analysts reported preparation difficulties for this sample which in turn created problems with the identification of vitrinite. Group mean of bituminite reflectance was 0.37% Ro with a standard deviation of 0.17% since several analysts identified multiple populations of this maceral. The Convener compared the results 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 impregnated vitrinite in the final set of results. The Convener 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 Convener 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 Convener 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 presentation was concluded showing photomicrographs with examples of individual macerals particularly focusing on bituminite and showing comments made by the analysts on the description of bituminite.

Discussion:

Angeles Gomez-Borrego commented on the excellent quality of the photomicrographs shown by the Convener, which was the result of dry polishing and asked the Convener if she could prepare samples for all the analysts applying the same technique. The Convener agreed to do that, as long as the participants returned the polished blocks to her.

After a short discussion on the timing of formation of the solid bitumen observed in these samples and its association with the pore system of the rock the meeting activities of this WG ended. Commission II congratulates Jolanta for the hard work in organizing this year's round robin exercise and her continuous dedication to this WG.

13:00 – 14:00: Lunch Break

Commission II reconvenes for the afternoon session with 40 participants in the meeting room and 23 participants online. Lila Gurba was not able to present a progress update on the Carbon Sequestration, Shale Gas Studies and Pseudovitrinite WGs, respectively, as scheduled.

14:05 – 14:30 –Proposal for a new Working Group titled “Igneous intrusions in coal seams and shales– Convener: Sandra Rodrigues

Sandra Rodrigues presented the proposal for the formation of a WG group convened by herself Jolanta Kus, and Magdalena

Misz-Kennan, investigating the effects of igneous intrusions in organic-rich sedimentary rocks such as coal and shales and showed examples of related occurrences. The main questions that the activities of the WG will attempt to answer are how the distance to the dyke impacts the optical properties of the coal, as this is dependent of the rank of the coal at the time of the emplacement of the intrusion, as well as the type (dyke, batholith, etc.) and composition of the intrusion (felsic vs mafic), and how the macerals change due to contact metamorphism. Another aspect that the WG will deal with is the terminology of secondary products formed because of the intrusion.

The activities of the WG are planned to commence with the publication of a review article combining published information on igneous intrusions in organic-rich rocks before proceeding to the 1st round robin exercise among the interested participants.

Discussion:

Nikki Wagner mentions that there are several known occurrences of dolerite intruded coal in South Africa and nominates Marvin Moroeng to assist.

Santanu Ghosh asked the Convener's idea over the sampling plan and whether there will also be geochemical studies on these samples except for microscopy. The Convener replied that for now the WG will focus on macroscopic description and petrography.

Paul Hackley suggested Andrea Schito as a renowned expert on the field and advised the Convener to establish contact with him. Peter Crosdale mentioned that examples of liquefaction of coals in the molten phase and injection in the country rocks have not been documented and might be good to include in this WG. The Convener asked Peter to provide more information, on which he agreed to do.

Ashok Singh commented that the duration of the working group should be relatively extended to allow the investigation of several aspects around the topic.

Angeles Gomez Borrego suggested to change the title of the WG to a more appealing one. The conveners agreed to come up with new ideas but also asked for the contribution of the participants to this.

No suggestion came from the floor for an alternative title and the WG was created tentatively keeping the title suggested by the Conveners.

Commission II congratulates Sandra, Jolanta Kus, and Magda for their initiative to create this working group and wishes them success.

14:30 – 15:00 – Proposal for a new Working Group investigating radioactive minerals in coal samples– Conveners: Ivana Sykorova and Tatiana Larikova

This WG was proposed to form under Commission I. Please refer to Commission I section for the full minutes.

15:00 – 15:30 – DOMVR and Component Identification on microscopy samples in Commission II – Convener: Angeles Gomez Borrego

The objective of the WG is the compilation of all information related to microscopy samples that were and are studied 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 Convener 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 Convener 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, Conveners, age, depositional environment, sample owner and history, thermal maturity, reflectance histograms, representative photomicrographs and specific remarks. The last set of samples to be introduced are the DOMVR Accreditation samples and those that Paul Hackley is using in the IOTMROM exercises. The Convener indicated that information on samples 6-15 is missing for unknown reasons and acknowledged the contribution of Deolinda Flores for providing DOMVR reports, Carla Araujo for compiling information from the Ther-

mal Indices WG, and João Graciano Mendonça Filho and Paul Hackley for providing both sample sheets and reports of the OMCWG and IPVWG, respectively.

The Convener reminded that in the Prague meeting Konstantis Perleros had volunteered to assist with this activity and asked him to reaffirm his intention. Konstantis confirmed its intention to assist and the activity of the WG for this meeting ended.

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.

15:30-16:00 – Closing remarks – Jolanta Kus & George Siavalas

The chair of Commission II, Jolanta Kus opened the closing session of Commission II asking for proposals from the floor for new working groups or additional comments and questions. Nothing was returned from the floor and Commission II concluded its activities during the 73rd ICCP Meeting.

The meeting of Commission II ended at 16.00 on September 22nd 2022.

PETER CROSDALE CAPTURES THE 73RD ICCP MEETING, NEW DEHLI



Minutes of ICCP Commission III

Chair: Magdalena Misz-Kennan

Secretary: Sandra Rodrigues

New Delhi, India

The Commission III meeting started on Wednesday September 21st at 8.50 am (local time) both at the NASC AP Shinde Hall and online (Teams). Both the Chair and Secretary attended this meeting online. All the working group activities, except for one, were presented online. The attendance online varied between 20 to 25 participants and around 50 in person.

8.50 am – 9.15 am – Opening address - Magdalena Misz-Kennan and Sandra Rodrigues

The Chair of the Commission III opened the session describing the objectives and activities of the commission, including the CBAP. The Chair also presented the schedule for the presentation of the [Working Groups \(WG\) organised for this meeting and called for proposals for new WGs](#).

9.15 am – 10.00 am – Environmental applications of Organic Petrology

Conveners: Dr Georgios [Siavalas](#) and Dr Stavros Kalaitzidis
Georgios Siavalas gave a brief background of the WG activities through the past 6 years and showed the applicability of this WG in environmental risk assessments and net zero emissions as well as for calibration of rapid screening techniques (RockEval and TGA) as different types of organic matter have different impact on the soil and these differences can be quantified. The exercises utilise 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, as the complexity of the classification increased in the next levels, the level of agreement between the participants decreased. To improve consensus, the conveners are planning to restructure some of the classes and design a new photomicrograph-based exercise focusing on certain classes. This should be distributed to the participants in early 2023.

During the discussion Joan Esterle and Peter Crosdale asked about the pyrolysis experiments that could be applied to the soils. Peter suggested that HAWK pyrolysis machines allow a finer break down of the components that make up the S1 peak by heating at 50, 180, 250 and 350 °C before doing the standard S2 peak. The convener said the HAWK has been tested together with RE7 for comparison.

Brett Valentine asked if the conveners found any differences in the consensus statistics in participants that hold ICCP accreditations and those that do not. The conveners said that they did not look for that, but most of the participants are accredited.

Joan Esterle also suggested bringing this topic to the International Peat Society could be of interest to the conveners.

Commission III would like to thank the conveners for their time and work in convening this WG and congratulates them.

10.00 am – 10.40 am – Microscopic constituents in solid residues from household combustion WG

Conveners: Dr. Iwona Jelonek, Dr. Zbigniew Jelonek, Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan

Dr. Iwona Jelonek presented the results of this WG that re-

quires the identification of the microconstituents, organic and inorganic, in fly ash from households combustion of biomass using photomicrographs. The objective of this WG is to optically identify the quality and quantity of components found in ashes obtained from household furnaces. For the round robin exercise, 3 sets of ashes samples were prepared from pellet combustion, charcoal combustion, and charcoal briquettes combustion. The participants had to differentiate in the ashes fragments of coal, charcoal, coke, biomass, bark and plastic, as well as, glass, rust, metals, mineral matter (ash) and others. There is a better agreement among the participants for the ash of the charcoal and charcoal briquettes than for the pellet. The two round robin exercises showed that there are some difficulties in distinguish biomass from bark, as rust and metal as sometimes, coke with metal. Some alterations will be done to the next round robin exercise for next year.

During the discussion there were some questions regarding the contaminants in the fly ashes. Peter Crosdale asked the convener where the coal particles came from in the combustion residues. The convener replied that they can be added intentionally or accidentally fall during the production of the briquettes. Rashimi Singh asked if the ICCP was going to give training regarding the identification of contaminants in the charcoal, to which Magdalena Misz-Kennan replied no, the best is to participate in this WG. Stavros Kalaitzidis comment that the distinction between bark and biomass is difficult without the use of fluorescence illumination. Stavros also asked how the convener did the evaluation, that the usual ICCP evaluation based on agreement on each particle should be followed, who decide each that a given particle is correctly identified? Furthermore, what was the variation between the participants for the different particles? The convener replied that the evaluation of the results sent from the participants of the exercise was performed using the statistical method based on verifying the identified components on the photomicrographs. Considering the average content of each component and their sum from three samples of ashes from charcoal combustion, charcoal briquettes and wood pellets and their correct identification by the participants, the following conclusions can be drawn: coal was correctly identified by 88% of the participants; coke was correctly identified by 68 % of the participants; plastic was correctly identified by 65 % of the participants, glass was correctly identified by 55 % of the participants; rust was correctly recognized by 69% of the participants; metals were correctly recognized by 60% of the participants; bark was correctly recognized by 60% of the participants; biomass was correctly recognized by 60% of the participants; mineral matter was correctly recognized by 79% of the participants; and other constituents were correctly identified by 63% of participants. Stavros suggested that for the next exercise, the ICCP evaluation method should be followed.

Ashok Singh invited their colleagues to participate in this WG and Magdalena Misz-Kennan request to the convener to send information to the participants about their performance.

The Commission III thanks the conveners for their time and effort in preparing this WG and cheers them in continuing this interesting topic.

10.40 am – 11.00 am – Coal Blends Accreditation Programme CBAP

Convener: Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidis

The general objective of the Coal Blends Working Group is to investigate the efficiency of microscopic methods for estimating

the composition of coal blends. Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi gave an update on the ongoing program with sample distribution being finalised early 2023 with a total of 30 participants. The convener also raised an alert that some problems with posting the samples are to be expected and asks if Jolanta Kus could assist if that arises. Santanu Gosh from the audience asked if there was any functional group chemistry analysis done on the coal blends. The convener said that only reflectance measurements and maceral analyses are performed on the blends.

Many thanks to Małgorzata for pushing this program forward.

Coffee break (11.00 am – 11.40 am)

11.40 am – 12.30 pm – Carbon Materials WG

Conveners: Georgeta Predeanu, Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi

The conveners presented the objectives of the program, which include microscopic characterisation of carbon materials from different precursors using an assessment scheme that can be internationally accepted, as well as the outcomes since this WG was established in 2008. The collaboration between conveners promoted the exchange of very interesting samples for the WG, stated Georgeta Predeanu. This year the 8th round robin exercise was based on photomicrographs from experimental products of the pyrolysis of raw materials such as fruit kernels and husks, including seed wastes resulted from bio-oil production. These raw materials were firstly made into a char at 500 °C and then transformed into activated carbon at 1000°C and CO₂ atmosphere. Increased small porosity materials were produced. Thus, the petrographic assessment of biochar/activated carbons aimed at the qualitative determination of the structural composition and intragranular porosity, which is directly related to the precursor and the pyrolysis conditions. The exercise this year only addressed the optical structure (porosity) of the chars. The participants needed to evaluate 30 fields, marked with a square belonging to 14 types of biomass chars and one activated carbon from two different supply sources (Romania and Poland). Comparative evaluation of the results in 2022 ICCP Carbon Materials WG exercise showed average levels of overall agreement for all the information required from the participants and, generally, in case of all the analysts (82%). The conveners will provide another exercise next year and are interested in other carbon types such as: fuel cells, graphite intercalated compounds, carbon fibres, glassy carbon, C-C composites, carbon foams and others.

During the discussion Georgios Siavalas congratulated the conveners for their work and pointed out that this WG is important also for other areas such as environmental, forensic, wildfire impacted soils and archaeology. Georgios also said that would be very interesting to know more about the association between porosity and reflectance and temperature conditions, and asks if reflectance measurements (random, maximum, or minimum reflectance measurements) were made and if it was observed a relationship with the temperature conditions or wall thickness? The convener answered that no reflectance measurements were made, and that it was only observed that the activated carbon has lighter colour than the biochar. Sandra Rodrigues also asked if there was any relationship of the shape of the pores with the primary structure of the biomass or if the porosity is only related to the heat treatment? The conveners said that both, primary porosity, and temperature treatment, influences

the pore structure, therefore, it is important to observe the biomass so that the initial porosity can be improved. Rashmi Singh asked the conveners how they were measuring the porosity in the biochar. The conveners replied that, although the porosity can be measured quantitatively by different methods, this was not done yet. The porosity was only assessed with a scale in the oculars in the microscope.

Jolanta Kus suggested to produce an atlas of the biomass and activated carbons at some point, to which the conveners thank for the great idea.

Commission III would like to thank the conveners for their time and work in convening this WG and congratulates them.

12.30 pm – 12.50 pm – Coke Petrography WG

Conveners: Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi

Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi stated the main objectives of the WG, which include establishing a simplified classification for the coke texture that can be applied by the industry and establishing a consistent method for reflectance measurements, using round robin exercises. Since coke petrography describes in detail the quality of the coke, it helps to understand the coke structure. It is important for understanding the possible technological failures in the coking process, as well as the behaviour of coal in the pyrolysis process. This year exercise was focused on the identification of the coke optical textures belonging to the binder phase only, including isotropic, incipient, circular, lenticular and ribbon, without their size differentiation, based on the standard ASTM D5061-07. The exercise included 55 photomicrographs of coke textures marked with a circular field with crossed-hair for the participants to identify. Over 50% of the points identified showed good to high level of agreement, but there is still some disagreement regarding the coke texture. A report of this exercise will be upload onto the ICCP website. The new exercise that is been prepared will be provided through the ICCP website. The convener also suggested to create some new activities of this WG in the social media, such as Facebook and Instagram.

During the discussion Atul Varma asked the convener if the strength and reactivity of the coke was related to the petrographic features? The convener replied that the features of coke structure such as porosity influences the strength and allow access to the medium reactivity. As the texture passes from circular to ribbon, the structural molecular order increases, and the reactivity decreases, because the structure is more stable. Therefore, there is direct relations between the optical properties and coke properties. Atul Varma also asked what was the role of the pore size and the wall to which the convener replied saying that the porosity characterisation and optical textures cannot be analysed at the same time. To characterise the coke optical properties, three different analyses need to be performed. Reflectance measurements (minimum and maximum) and optical textures which can be performed simultaneously, as well as porosity, that need to be performed separately. Varma also comment that the more oriented is the carbon structure, the more mechanical property will exist; the different structures will be affected by the binding and therefore the mechanical strength. Varma suggests incorporating inertinites and dimension of the pores into the exercise.

Rashmi Singh commented that the thickness of the walls and pore size are very important, to which the convener agrees saying that the different features play a significant role in coke quality, but the industry wants a simplified scheme. Joan Esterle

suggested an integration of the work between the different coke/steel makers on the WG, and the convener agrees saying that it would be good to confront all the coke chain users.

The commission III thanks Małgorzata for her commitment to this WG and congratulates her on her work and progress.

Lunch break (12.50 pm – 2.20 pm)

2.20 pm – 2.30 pm - Optimization of reflectance measurements on complex blends WG

Conveners: Ashok Singh, Joan Esterle

The main objective of this WG is to minimize the number of minimum measurements required to report the random reflectance/V-step distribution of complex coal blends. For this, four complex blended coal samples were sent to the participants. The participants were requested to record the random reflectance and V-step distribution after 100 measurements, and then again follow the procedure for 200, 300 up to 1000 measurements. The convener gave a summary of the previous results of this WG. Seven analysts submitted the results, and some stopped before reaching 1000 measurements which prevents having a better statistical analysis. Nevertheless, the results seemed to show that the values of reflectance and standard deviation are quite consistent after 400 measurements. The conveners requested to all the participants that already have the samples to submit their results. The conveners will prepare additional new sets of blends using coals from different countries to show more variability in the rank of the coals. Therefore, the conveners ask the participants to donate samples. Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi said that she wants to participate in this WG, and Magdalena Misz-Kennan offered to send her a sample.

During the discussion period Peter Crosdale asked if consider the standard deviation of the entire data set was the best measure, to which Angeles Borrego answered that it was difficult to split the different components of the blends and that the raw values of the participants was not available, therefore, it was better to consider the entire set.

Commission III would like to thank the conveners for their time and work in convening this WG and congratulates them.

2.30 pm – 3.25 pm – Identification and petrographic classification of components in Fly Ashes WG

Conveners: Bruno Valentim and Nicola Wagner

The aim of this WG is to provide a simplified classification scheme that will result in 100% (or close to 100% agreement) by members participating in the exercise, and which will be, above all, easy to apply in practice (i.e. applied science and technology), and not how the char formed. In previous exercises it was noted that the number of classes and the real heterogeneity of char make identification difficult and major variations from analyst to analyst were expected. Therefore, it was proposed to carry out an exercise in which only three classification groups will be considered. The conveners proposed to focus on the shape and optical character (fused/unfused) since these characteristics are easily perceived. Thus, all spherical-sub-spherical reacted material forms one group, whereas mixed forms are joined together due to their fused and unfused composition, and a third group with all the unfused forms. Thus, the Char is classified on a “whole particle basis” The conveners also showed some examples where the ICCP Char classification can be confusing. Up to now, 100 images of char with different origins were

chosen to this exercise. A platform called Microsoft Forms will be used to conduct this exercise. This platform allows the creator to add forms which each exercise participant will be able to access and select an answer. The next steps include sending the exercise to the participants and evaluate the results of this simplified classification.

During the discussion Stavros Kalaitzidis asked if this proposed scheme was a combination of the particle classification by Lester et al (2010) and the previous Fly Ash WG classification that was based on an area. The convener replied that is based on the particle itself. Atul Varma asked if there were differences between fly ash and bottom ash and what are the industrial applications for it? The convener replied that the bottom ash has less char and that some examples of applications for char could be found in a previous project that the convener had with Georgeta Predeanu where chars were used as absorbents. Furthermore, chars can also graphitize and be used for carbon materials applications. Georgios Siavalas comment that the anisotropy did not seem to play an important role in this type of materials as for cokes and asked the convener if he thinks in implementing that characteristic. Bruno Valentim replied that most of the char particles in the exercise are isotropic, and that only if the work would require a detailed study than such characteristic should be considered. There were several people interested in the platform that is planned to be used by the conveners as it could be used by other WGs.

The commission III thanks the conveners for their time and effort to this WG and congratulates them on their progress.

3.25 pm – 4.05 pm - Self-heating in coal and coal waste dumps WG

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

The conveners started presenting the aims of the WG, which includes gathering examples of various forms of transformation of organic matter in self-heated coal wastes and coal of various rank and establishing a classification of transformed organic particles (oxidised and thermally altered) in coal wastes and in coals, and ultimately to test the applicability of the established classification. The classification of transformed organic matter in coal wastes was published in the International Journal of Coal Geology in 2020. A detailed report regarding the results of the 2020 round robin exercise was uploaded to the ICCP webpage.

For the 2022 round robin exercise, the established classification of transformed organic matter in self-heated coals was amended. The amendments resulted from the 2020 exercise and were associated with modified definition of the following categories: porous and massive, isotropic, anisotropic, and paler in colour particle. In that way, the 2022 round robin exercise will test the introduced modification. The exercise is available on the ICCP webpage. It is requested by the participants to submit their results by mid-January 2023.

During the discussion Stavros Kalaitzidis asked what was the meaning of the dot that appeared inside the rectangular area in the microphotographs provided in for the 2022 round robin exercise. The conveners explained that this could help the participants to distinguish the massive from porous categories during the exercise. Bruno Valentim commented that some of the pores visible in the images could belong to the sporinite, but should not be considered as devolatilization pores, as the liptinite devolatilize faster than the vitrinite, and this could justify, why the

vitrinite does not have pores. The convener argued that sporinite may also have devolatilization pores, because the process of the creation of pores is the same independently of the maceral considered. Atul Varma asked, if it was possible to identify spontaneous combustion and if the ICCP could help to recognise that. The conveners replied that it would be possible in the future to compile selected images to form an atlas for different coal ranks.

4.05 pm – 4.25 pm – Closing remarks - Magdalena Misz-Kennan and Sandra Rodrigues

A new ICCP working group in Commission II: Geological Application of graptolite reflectance

Conveners: Xiaowei Zheng, Hamed Sanei, Thomas Gentzis

In pre-Devonian rocks, graptolite reflectance (GR) is the most significant thermal index for establishing thermal maturation (Goodarzi and Norford, 1985; Bertrand, 1990; Cole, 1994; Petersen et al., 2013; Luo et al., 2018; 2019). However, recent studies have discovered that different anatomical fractions of graptolite have different organic geochemical compositions with distinct hydrocarbon generation potential, and hence different responses upon thermal maturation (Zheng et al., 2021). Besides, an anomalous breakdown was observed in the gradient of graptolite reflectance increase in the gas generation window, which caused a significant underestimation for the determination of thermal maturity and basin modeling of the pre-Devonian sedimentary basins (Zheng et al., 2022).

Here, we proposed the establishment of a new working group (WG) within Commission II (Geological Applications of Organic Petrology) to study the reflectance evolution of different graptolite fractions and to support the standard geological application of graptolite reflectance in pre-Devonian rocks. Planning exercises contain 1). General round robin on samples with well-identifiable graptolite, 2) Test the graptolite reflectance anomaly from one sedimentary basin, 3). Relationship between graptolite reflectance and other geochemical maturity indicators, e.g. Raman spectroscopy, microFTIR, etc.

A proposal to establish this new WG was presented at the ICCP Commission II meeting at the 73rd ICCP Meeting in New Delhi on September 22, 2022. This new WG has gained much support and interest from the ICCP members and has been approved by the ICCP Assembly. The new WG will be cooperating with the Reflectance and Terminology of Zooclasts in old sediments WG of Commission I to enable a successful activities within both WGs. This new WG will be open to all persons interested in the application of graptolite reflectance. Interested parties are encouraged to contact Xiaowei Zheng (zhengxiaowei@geo.au.dk), Hamed Sanei (sanei@geo.au.dk)

Magdalena Misz-Kennan opened the closing session of the Commission III with a short report of the WGs activities during the meeting. All the activities were presented by their respective conveners online. Commission III would like to thank the conveners and the members and participants of the WGs for their dedication and efforts to the scopes this commission. Commission III also congratulates the organising committee for the well-attended meeting both in person and online, and thanks for making possible both meeting formats.

or Thomas Gentzis (thomas.gentzis@corelab.com).

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MEMBER'S CORNER

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS —
WELCOME TO THE ICCP

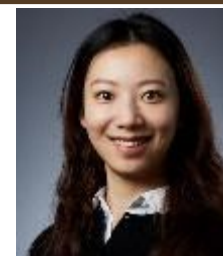
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Thesis (2009): Platinum group element (PGE) potentials of the South-Western Anatolian chromite deposits.



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Sponsoring member: Emeritus Prof. Joan Esterle
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Comment: PhD candidate in the field of Organic Geochemistry and Organic Petrology at the Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, Lucknow and Department of Geology, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India. She did her M.sc in Applied Geology from Assam University, Silchar, Assam. Her research interest include the characterisation of OM rich sediments on the basis of source vegetation, depositional setup and hydrocarbon potential. She has been an active part of the sophisticated analytical facility of Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences, one of the premiere research institutes of the country. She uses organic geochemistry and organic petrography to understand lignite deposits of western India. These are important because they act as storehouse of information for the period just before the great collision leading to the formation great Himalayas. She is also keen to enhance knowledge of organic petrology with high end mass spectrometry and spectroscopy. She is also interested to understand the source vegetation of any organic rich sedimentary deposit and the effect of diagenesis on their geochemical alteration.



Organic Petrology Award

The Award recognizes significant contributions by coal and organic petrologists at an intermediate stage of their career. The Organic Petrology Award is limited to applicants under 50 years of age. The award can be conferred every two years. It consists of a bronze medal and the Organic Petrology Award certificate.

Dr Jolanta Kus received the award in 2021.

Please submit confidential nominations to the Chair of the Committee:
Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan, email to: magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl

Deadline for 2023 nominations: end April 2023

Refer to <https://www.iccop.org/awards/> for further information

FULL ICCP MEMBER

After graduating from high school Dirk was a soldier in the German Navy and then studied geology with specialization in geophysics and geochemistry at the RWTH Aachen. He completed his PhD at the Research Center Jülich on the pore structure of hard coals followed by 10 years research in CBM and carbon dioxide sequestration at the LEK of RWTH Aachen. Following several years in industry, in 2017 Dirk co-founded Dynchem Scientific Instruments with Pieter Bertier, developing and manufacturing scientific instruments for the energy industry. Dirk has been active in ICCP since the 2003 symposium in Utrecht and involved in the CBM working group.



TSOP—ICCP LIAISON

38th TSOP Annual Conference

12 to 16 September 2022

This year's annual conference for The Society for Organic Petrology was held exclusively online for the second year in a row. Its theme "**Organics in the Geological Cycle**" strived to encompass all forms of organics and all the ways we use them to look into our geological past.

Despite the challenges of an online meeting, all talks went smoothly and we had a fantastic turn out. The CSIRO (Australia) kindly provided the platform (WebEx) for the whole conference and there was not a single glitch! Dr Ag ... did all the website work for this conference and her contribution is hugely noted, appreciated and thanked a thousand times over! In face-to-face meetings, TSOP usually has technical talks held over two days for 8 hrs each; in order to accommodate differences in time zones, however, we choose to only run each day for 4 hrs but have three days of technical talks.

There were over 60 abstracts presented, 12 of which were ePosters. To accommodate all the oral talks, two streams were conducted simultaneously. We were very fortunate to start the first two days with Keynote talks from two internationally renowned researchers. The first day was Dr Linda Stalker (CSIRO, Australia) whose talk was titled "**Geoscience for the future: There is a future right?**" The second day's Keynote was Dr Deb Willard (USGS, USA) who presented: "**Broadening the perspectives of organic petrology: Implications of analysis of sedimentary organic matter for evolving questions**". On the third day we held a 70-minute Roundtable discussion on **The Role of Fossil Fuels in a Net Zero Emissions Energy Sector**, which was chaired by Prof Hamed Sanei. This was something new for a TSOP conference and included panellists from around the world:

Ms Carolina Gutiérrez Hernández (Director of Sustainability, Colombian Mining Association, Colombia)

Prof David Rutledge (California Institute of Technology, USA)

Mr Mike Teke (CEO, Seriti Resources Holdings, South Africa)

Mr John Kessels (Consultant, Circular Economy and Climate Change, UK)

Dr Dietmar Tourbier (CSIRO, Australia)

The technical talks ranged from assessment of critical elements to carbon isotopes in palaeoclimate studies; from evaluation of lead contamination at mine sites to organics in shales.



Speakers came from 16 countries: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, China, Colombia, Denmark, Germany, India, Indonesia, Mongolia, Poland, Portugal, South Africa, Spain, United Kingdom and the USA. It truly was a global meeting of minds

Following in the tradition of past TSOP conferences, an online two-day pre-meeting workshop was also offered. U.S. Geological Survey researchers Paul Hackley, Aaron Jubb, Brett Valentine, Ryan McAleer, and Justin Birdwell presented an outstanding workshop titled '**Spatially resolved techniques and applications of organic petrography in shale petroleum systems**'. Over 100 participants from around the world registered with usually about 50-60 online at any particular time. The presentations given surely set new high standards for online workshops.

Students are the lifeblood of any professional organisations and we had over 14 student presentations. They were all excellent and are to be commended. As is the usual case TSOP awards a best Oral and best Poster presentation and this year these went to Morgana Carvalho of the University of Porto, Portugal, for her poster presentation on ANALYSIS OF CHARCOAL FRAGMENTS FROM A WILDFIRE IN PORTUGAL: A PRELIMINARY PETROGRAPHIC CHARACTERIZATION and Rafaela L. Lenz of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, for her oral presentation on EFFECTS OF IGNEOUS INTRUSIONS ON THE BIOMARKER DISTRIBUTION PRESENT IN THE BITUMINOUS SHALES OF IRATI FORMATION, PARANÁ BASIN - BRAZIL

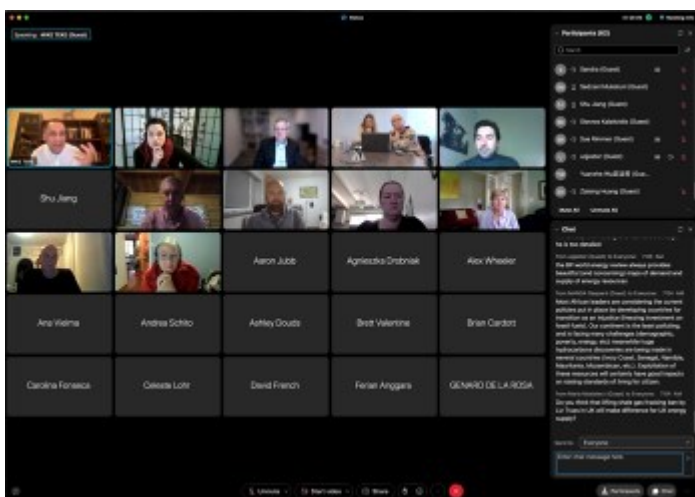
Tim A Moore, Convener, 38th Annual TSOP Conference

TSOP-ICCP Liaison News by Paul Hackley phackley@usgs.gov.

As the TSOP-ICCP Liaison, I work to keep open lines of communication between the leadership of both societies. Since the September 2022 meetings of both TSOP and ICCP, liaison work has included:

- Communication on the responsibility for the continuing work on the TSOP-ICCP Dispersed Organic Matter Image Atlas. A long-running joint project, the responsibility for this effort has changed hands several times, and now rests with Paula Gonçalves.
- Communication on the long-range planning of future meetings, primarily with respect to placing the organizing committee chairs in touch with those having questions or input to meeting organization, and also with respect to changing plans/locations for future joint meetings.
- Directing requests for newsletter content to the appropriate persons.

Please don't hesitate to contact me to communicate or request information regarding the joint affairs of both societies.



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

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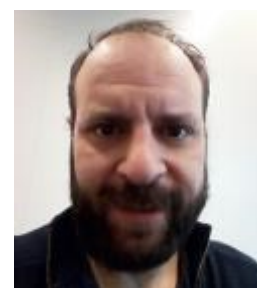
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Organic Petrology Award Committee: Contact the Chair mailto: magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl

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.....or visit the website <http://www.iccop.org>
ICCP Publications & Training Material:... Prof. Nikki Wagner mailto: nwagner@uj.ac.za



The Centre for Biomass Energy Research and Education invites everyone to join an

**INTERLABORATORY STUDY:
TESTING REPRODUCIBILITY OF BIOMASS FUELS COMPONENT IDENTIFICATION
USING REFLECTED LIGHT MICROSCOPY**

1. Materials containing introduction to solid biomass component identification using reflected light microscopy will be sent to participants in early to mid-November 2022
2. Pilot study - component identification using photographs (November-December 2022)
3. Results analysis and participant discussion (January 2023)
4. Petrographic analysis on solid biomass samples (February-April 2023)
5. Results analysis and presentation (TSOP 2023 Annual Meeting in Greece)

Interested in participating??

Please email Agnieszka Drobnik at agdrobni@iu.edu

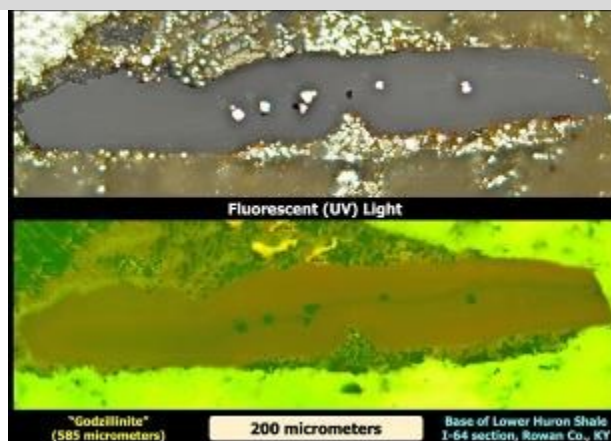
The project is co-financed by the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange within Polish Returns Programme, the National Science Center of Poland, funds granted under the Research Excellence Initiative of the University of Silesia in Katowice, Poland and the Green Horizon Program, Poland.



We have a new leader in the Godzillinite size category. The attached image is from the base of the Huron Shale Member, exposed along Interstate 64 near Morehead, KY. The solid bitumen, collected adjacent to a piece of coalified *Callixylon*, measures 585 micrometers (long dimension)!

Images (AGAIN!) supplied by Dr Eble Cortland, Kentucky Geological Survey—

EDITOR: THANK YOU CORTLAND, I REALLY ENJOY RECEIVING YOUR IMAGES AND CAPTIONS—KEEP THEM COMING! And other organic petrographers: please send me images:)



**KNOW YOUR PETROGRAPHER
CHALLENGE**

In 2023 the ICCP Meeting will take place in Patras. The family portrait below is from the 2005 Patras Meeting. How many organic petrologists do you recognize?

Challenge: list the people in the photograph and send to the Editor. In the next Edition I can announce who identified the most people.



**57th ICCP Meeting, Patras 2005
HOW MANY ORGANIC PETROLOGISTS DO YOU
RECOGNISE?**

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

18—24 Sept 2023. TSOP and ICCP Meeting, Patras, Greece

Editor: Apologies, I slipped up here Please can you let me know what events we should include for future ICCP Newsletters



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



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.

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). Should you require your login details, please contact the General Secretary (Hackley_paul@yahoo.com).

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.

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General Secretary mailto: Hackley_paul@yahoo.com

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

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**CONTRIBUTIONS
TO THE NEXT
ICCP NEWS BY 30
MARCH 2023**