

ICCP NEWS 95

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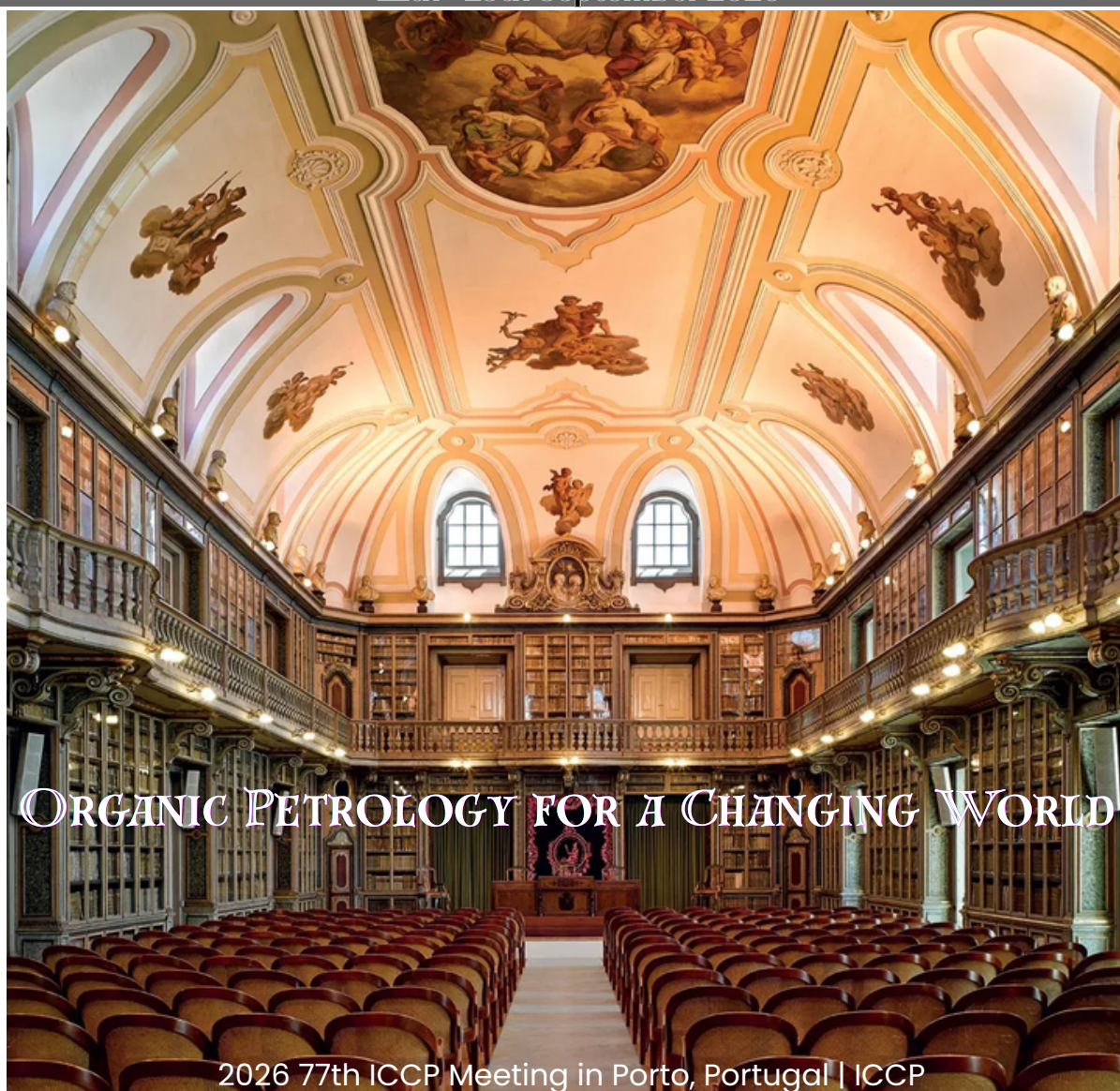
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August 2026

<http://www.iccop.org>

77th Annual ICCP Meeting
“Organic Petrology for a Changing World”
Hosted by University of Porto and the Academy of Sciences of Lisbon
Porto & Lisbon , Portugal
11th– 18th September 2026



2026 77th ICCP Meeting in Porto, Portugal | ICCP

EDITOR'S COLUMN

Dear ICCP Family, Friends, and the curious visitor,

Here, in the Global South, we are tracking the weather forecasts for the Global North, praying for cooler temperatures and rain. The super strong El Nino is playing havoc with the northern jet streams, and the intense heat is resulting in high evaporation from the soils. My son has been in the United Kingdom for 6 weeks, and he has barely seen a cloud in the sky let alone the much needed - and previously synonymous with summer in England - precipitation. I wonder what the upcoming summer months hold for us in the South?

The heat and reduced water flow in European rivers are impacting energy production, further exasperated by the ongoing wars and oil supply. And the beneficial (re)inclusion of coal into energy mixes continues to grow, as does our ICCP membership. In the last two months, we have received six applications for Associate Membership from all over the world (see page 9). To me, this clearly indicates the continued role of the ICCP in today's world. I look forward to the reports from the Accreditation Programs at the Porto meeting next month, as I am pretty certain these numbers have increased too.

I hope to meet as many of our ICCP family and guests at the upcoming 77th ICCP Meeting in Porto-to-Lisbon, taking place from the 13 – 18th September. Final draft agendas are provided herein (page 5). Thank you to Carolina, Paula, other organising members and the Skyros-congress team for the ongoing organisation; to Porto, here we come!

I recently unearthed a photograph of my very first ICCP meeting, now 25 years ago – Copenhagen, 2001 (how young I appear – don't we all!). Little did I know that my involvement

with the ICCP would be so pivotal in enabling the growth of my international networks and to find my international family. The preparations to hold the joint ICCP and TSOP meetings in Johannesburg (10 – 19 September, 2027; including a short-course and field excursions) are gaining momentum. And I look forward to welcoming my international family and all others to South Africa – and yes, we intend to include a day-trip to the Kruger National Park in the field excursion, as well as a visit to the Sasol Secunda gasification plant.

The TSOP 1st International Students Conference on Organic Petrography was a huge success. Many ICCP associate (or potential) members participated, and I would like to congratulate the TSOP Student Council for an excellent program and co-ordination between presenters, viewers, and global time zones. Please see the report on page 8.

Stay warm / cool and most of all safe, wherever this newsletter finds you.

Kind regards,

Nikki

PS Please do send through contributions to the ICCP Newsletter.




KNOW YOUR
COAL
PETROGRAPHER...
SEE PAGE 11

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Members,

It is that time of the year again when, wherever you are, whether enjoying a warm holiday in the Northern Hemisphere or taking a work break in the Southern Hemisphere, you are finalizing your travel plans for our Annual Meeting and reading this Newsletter.

This September, ICCP will gather for the fourth time in one of our significant landmark locations, the city of Porto and its historical university, where the discipline of Organic Petrology has thrived for many decades and, I am confident, will continue to play an important role in the years to come. Beyond these historical ties, Porto is also the place where the ICCP Archives are hosted, a legacy closely associated with the dedication of our dear friend and colleague, the late Professor Deolinda Flores, whose contribution to ICCP remains deeply appreciated.

The organizers, Carolina Fonseca and Paula Gonçalves, have prepared a comprehensive program, which includes a highly useful pre-meeting short course, Working Group sessions in Porto, a mid-week field trip to remarkable coastal outcrops, and a final Symposium in Lisbon under the theme "Organic Petrology for a Changing World." Please review the details in the following pages and make sure that you have planned accordingly.

Turning to our organizational activities, we are pleased to announce that we received twelve new applications for Associate Membership during the year.

Together with the substantial participation in our accreditation programs, this demonstrates a continuing interest in the activities of our Committee. Having new members on board, particularly young scientists, also brings new responsibilities. We must work collectively to encourage their participation in the exercises, while also supporting them in developing new ideas and in convening existing or new Working Groups.

The world is indeed changing at an increasing pace, as the Symposium theme reminds us, and with it, the way we perceive our academic programs and research priorities should also evolve. Within this uncharted context, emerging technologies involving AI, the development of new materials and industrial feedstocks, and the principles of the circular economy are among the driving forces of this new era. Organic Petrology has a significant role to play, as demonstrated by the numerous recent research efforts and publications in the field.

The Working Groups' program reflects many of these emerging questions, and I would like to thank all of you for your contributions throughout the year. Your efforts will ensure a productive scientific meeting and also provide a meaningful opportunity to honor the memory of Deolinda at her alma mater locus, the place so closely connected with her scientific career and her contribution to our community.

DEOLINDA FLORES GRANT

The Deolinda Flores Grant is intended to support the attendance of an MSc or PhD student at the 77th Annual Meeting of the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP), to be held in Portugal. Eligible research must demonstrate the relevance, utility, and significance of organic petrology (including coal petrology, kerogen petrology, organic geochemistry, and related disciplines) in addressing the student's thesis research problem.

The winner of the Deolinda Flores Grant was Weronika Cyran, a Master Student from the AGH University of Krakow, with Prof. Dariusz Więclaw as her advisor.

We look forward to welcoming Weronika to the ICCP Meeting in Porto.

MEMBER'S CORNER

ANNOUNCEMENT: SPECIAL EDITION

Shimin Liu (szl3@psu.edu), the journal editor, Denise Levitan (dlevitan@usgs.gov) and Jim Hower (james.hower@uky.edu) are organizing a special issue of the International Journal of Coal Science & Technology dedicated to the studies of Rare Earth Elements and other critical minerals in coal and related products.

We ask that you submit your manuscript via the journal portal by February 26, 2027. Accepted articles will be published as soon as possible following acceptance.

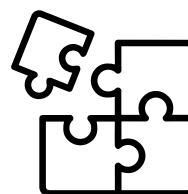
2026 ACCREDITATION PROGRAMS

Dear All SCAP participants,

You should have by now received your SCAP samples.

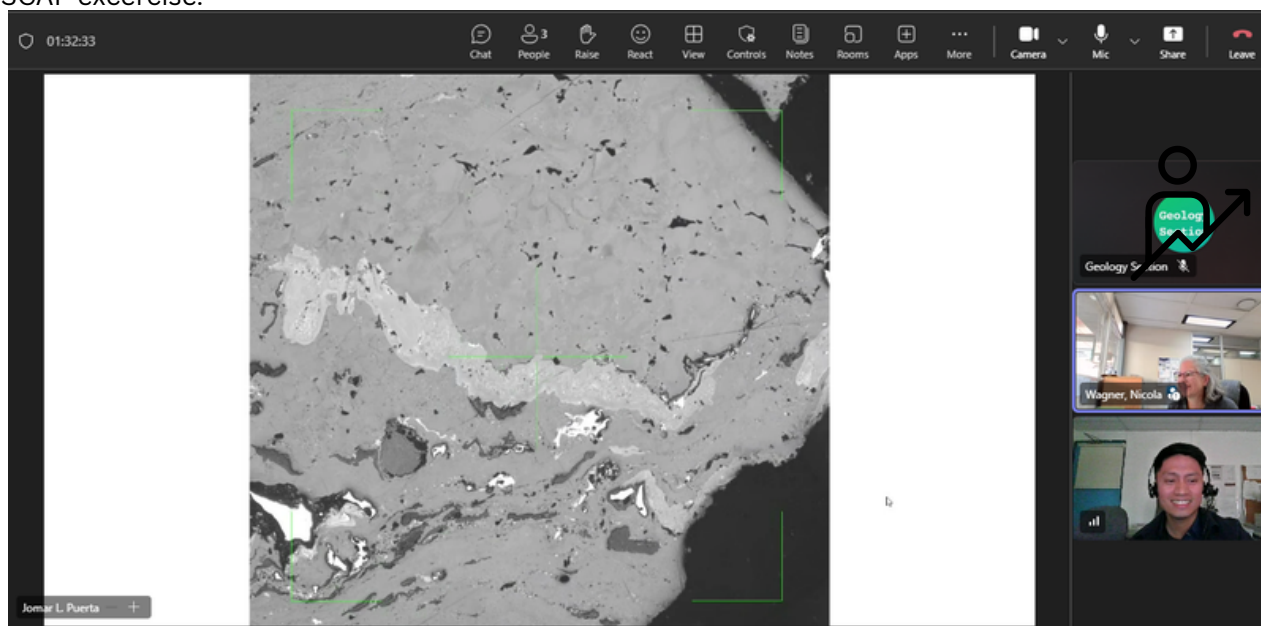
Please reach out to the convenor Prof Kimon Chistanis if you have not yet received your samples. Wishing you all the best with this year's exercise, and welcome to the many new participants.

Prof. Dr. João Graciano Mendonça Filho has also commenced distribution of the 2026 DOMVR exercise. Please do inform him once you receive your samples.



ONLINE ORGANIC PETROLOGY TRAINING

In June, Jomar L. Puerta, a geologist from the Department of Energy, Philippines, and myself (Editor) met online for a organic petrology training session. Amazingly, this worked extremely well. Jomar was able to share his screen of exactly what he was viewing under his microscope, and I was able to provide real-time training. This enabled Jomar to gain some confidence to participate in the SCAP exercise.



77th Annual ICCP Meeting

“Organic Petrology for a Changing World”

Hosted by University of Porto and the Academy of Sciences of Lisbon

Porto & Lisbon , Portugal 11th– 18th September 2026

We warmly invite you to join this scientific event, hosted at the Faculty of Sciences of the University of Porto (FCUP), in the breathtaking city of Porto, Portugal, from September 13th –17th, 2026. A two-day Training Course on “Organic Matter in Anoxic Events” (September 11–12) will also take place at FCUP. The Symposium “Organic Petrology for a Changing World” will follow on September 18th, 2026, at the Sciences Academy in Lisbon.

FINAL ARRANGES FOR THE PORTO MEETING



FINALISED SCHEDULE

PLEASE REFER TO NEXT PAGE FOR THE DETAILED PROGRAM PERTAINING TO THE COMMISSIONS I, II, III SCHEDULES AND MICROSCOPE SESSIONS.



THE SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE MEETING WEBSITE, AS WELL AS UPDATES PERTAINING TO THE FIELD EXCURSION.

<https://skyros-congressos.pt/2026/77thICCPMeeting/>

	SEP. 11 Friday	SEP. 12 Saturday	SEP. 13 Sunday	SEP. 14 Monday	SEP. 15 Tuesday	SEP. 16 Wednesday	SEP. 17 Thursday	SEP. 18 Friday
08h30	Training Course	Training Course	Commission Meeting	Welcome & Plenary Conference	Commission Meeting	Commission Meeting		Symposium
10h30	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Field Trip	Coffee Break
11h00	Training Course	Training Course	Commission Meeting	General Assembly	Commission Meeting	Closing & Plenary Session		Symposium
13h00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch Box		Lunch Break
14h00	Training Course	Training Course	Commission Meeting	Commission Meeting	Commission Meeting			Symposium
16h30			Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	Field Trip	Field Trip	Coffee Break
17h00			Commission Meeting	Microscope Session	Commission Meeting			Visit to Sciences Academy
17h30								Return to Porto
18h00								
18h30		ICE Break Party						
19h00				Council Meeting				
20h30					Conference Dinner	Overnight in S. Pedro Moel	Overnight in Lisbon	
21h30								

Sponsors & Supporters



Sunday Sept 13		
9h00-9h30	Registration	
9h30-9h45	General Welcome and Informations	Organizing Committee
ICCP Commission III		
9h45-10h00	Opening Remarks	Sandra Rodrigues, Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi
10h00-10h30	Microscopy of Carbon Materials WG	M. Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi, P. Alvarez, B. Valentim
10h30-11h00	Coffee Break	
11h30-12h00	Coke Petrography	Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi
12h00-12h15	Liquefaction Residues Classification WG	S. Rodrigues, M. Misz-Kennan
12h15-12h30	Environmental Application of Organic Petrology	G. Siavalas, S. Kalaitzidis
12h30-13h00	Coal Blends Accreditation Program (CBAP)	M. Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi
13h00-14h30	Lunch	
14h30-15h10	Biochar Reflectance	G. Siavalas, Z. Zhou
15h10-15h30	Self-heating of Coal and Coal Wastes WG	M. Misz-Kennan, J. Kus
15h30-16h00	Microscopic constituents in solid residues from households combustion	Z. Jelonek, I. Jelonek, M. Misz-Kennan
16h00-16h30	Closing Remarks	Sandra Rodrigues, Małgorzata Wojtaszek-Kalaitzidi
16h30-17h00	Coffee Break	
17h00-18h00	Microscope Session - COM III WGs exercises	Commission III
Monday Sept 14		
08h30-10h30	Welcome and Plenary Conference	
10h30-11h00	Coffee Break	
11h00-13h00	General Assembly	Stavros Kalaitzidis, Paul Hackley
13h00-14h30	Lunch	
ICCP Commission I		
14h30-14h45	Opening Remarks	Peter Crosdale, Carolina Fonseca
14h45-15h30	Single Coal Accreditation Program (SCAP)	K. Christanis
15h30-16h10	Organic Petrology "Vade Mecum"	P. Crosdale
16h10-16h30	Peat Petrography WG	S. Kalaitzidis, K. Christanis
16h30-17h00	Coffee	
17h00-18h00	Microscope Session - COM I WGs exercises	Commission I
Tuesday Sept 15		
09h00-09h10	ICCP Commission I - <i>Continuation</i>	Peter Crosdale, Carolina Fonseca
09h10-09h50	Estimation of Maceral Composition in Samples with Low Organic Matter Content WG	P. Crosdale
09h50-10h30	Standardization WG	A. Borrego, S. Kalaitzidis
10h30-11h15	Coffee Break	
11h15-11h30	Xylite WG	K. Perleros
11h30-12h10	Origin of micrinite	P. Hackley, P. Crosdale
12h10-12h30	Closing Remarks	Peter Crosdale, Carolina Fonseca
12h30-14h00	Lunch	
ICCP Commission II		
14h00-14h15	Opening Remarks	Jolanta Kus, George Siavalas
14h15-14h35	Geological Applications of Graptolite Reflectance WG	X. Zheng, T. Gentzis
14h35-15h15	Identification of Dispersed Organic Matter WG	J. Kus
15h15-15h30	Dispersed Organic Matter in Sedimentary Rocks WG	J. Kus, P. Hackley, P. Gonçalves
15h30-16h00	DOM VR Accreditation Program	J.G. Mendonça Filho
16h00-16h30	Coffee Break	
16h30-17h30	Microscope Session - COM II WGs exercises	Commission II
Wednesday Sept 16		
09h00-09h10	ICCP Commission II - <i>Continuation</i>	Jolanta Kus, George Siavalas
09h10-09h40	Standardization of Fluorescence Measurement WG	J. Kus, P. Hackley
9h40-10h00	Identification of Thermal Maturity Relevant Organic Matter WG	G. Lis, G. Siavalas, P. Hackley
10h00-10h15	Igneous intrusions in coal seams and shales WG	S. Rodrigues, J. Kus, M. Misz-Kennan, S. Rimmer
10h15-10h30	Closing Remarks	Jolanta Kus, George Siavalas
10h30-11h00	Coffee Break	
11h00-13h00	ICCP Closing Plenary	Stavros Kalaitzidis, Paul Hackley

Symposium: “Organic Petrology for a Changing World”

The Symposium will take place **on 18 September 2026** at the **Academy of Sciences of Lisbon**. A total of **60 presentations** have been accepted for presentation, comprising **21 oral presentations** and **39 posters**. All submitted abstracts underwent peer review by members of the Scientific Committee to ensure their scientific quality and relevance.

Scientific Committee

Dr. Bruno Valentim – University of Porto, Portugal
Dr. Joana Ribeiro – University of Coimbra, Portugal
Dr. Sandra Rodrigues – The University of Queensland, Australia
Dr. Stavros Kalaitzidis – University of Patras, Greece
Dr. Shifeng Dai – China University of Mining & Technology, China
Dr. Ashok Kumar Singh – CSIR-CIMFR, India
Dr. Paul Hackley – USGS, USA
Dr. Henrik Petersen – GEUS, Denmark
Dr. Angeles Borrego – INCAR-CSIC, Spain
Dr. João Graciano Mendonça Filho – UFRJ, Brazil
Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan – University of Silesia, Poland
Dr. Nicola J. Wagner – University of Johannesburg, South Africa
Dr. Carolina Fonseca – University of Minho, Portugal
Dr. Paula Alexandra Gonçalves – University of Porto, Portugal

Instructions for the presenters

Oral Presentations

A computer with possibility for Power Point or pdf presentations would be available. The presentations should be prepared for twelve (12) min and three (3) additional minutes are allocated for discussion.

Poster Presentations

Sunday to Wednesday (Porto) and Friday (Lisbon). The poster should have portrait orientation and the maximum dimensions should be 90x120 cm.

Special Issue of the *International Journal of Coal Geology*

A Special Issue of the *International Journal of Coal Geology* (IJCG), featuring selected papers from the 77th ICCP Meeting Symposium, has already been approved by the Editor-in-Chief. The deadline for the submission of original manuscripts is **31 January 2027**. This deadline is strict and will not be extended, providing authors with more than four months to prepare their manuscripts. Further information will be provided during and after the meeting.



SAFE TRAVELS TO PORTO ALL!

TSOP NEWS

The 1st International Students Conference on Organic Petrography: A Successful Student-Led Initiative for Students by Students

The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP) proudly hosted the 1st International Students Conference on Organic Petrography as a fully virtual event from 13–15 April 2026. Conceived as a conference for students, by students, the meeting provided a unique international platform for emerging early-career researchers to showcase their work, exchange ideas, and engage with leading experts in the field of organic petrology and allied geosciences. The event attracted outstanding participation from students representing universities and research institutions across Asia, Europe, Africa, North America, South America, and Australia. A total of 33 student presentations were delivered over three days, reflecting the breadth, diversity, and growing relevance of organic petrology in addressing contemporary scientific and societal challenges. The conference fulfilled its primary objective of placing students at the center of scientific discourse while fostering international networking, mentorship, and collaboration.

The scientific program was structured around six thematic sessions that highlighted both traditional and emerging areas of research in organic petrology. Presentations covered topics including classical foundations of organic petrology, experimental and thermal simulation studies, energy transition and carbon management, rare earth elements (REE) and critical mineral systems, medical and environmental geology, and mining and resource assessment. Research presented during the conference demonstrated the expanding role of organic petrography in understanding carbon-rich systems, hydrocarbon generation, unconventional energy resources, carbon sequestration, critical mineral recovery, wildfire reconstruction, environmental pollution, and sustainable resource development. The conference was benefited from the keynote lecture series delivered by three internationally recognized scientists. Prof. Grzegorz P. Lis (University of Wrocław, Poland) presented insights into shale gas systems and the role of organic matter-hosted porosity in the Baltic Basin.

Prof. Robert B. Finkelman (University of Texas at Dallas, USA) delivered a thought-provoking lecture on the significance of trace elements in

coal and their implications for energy, technology, and human health. Prof. Santanu Ghosh (Mizoram University, India) discussed the evolution of resinite and plant-derived organic matter from the Permian to the Palaeogene, integrating organic petrology and geochemistry to reconstruct palaeobiomes. These keynote lectures provided students with valuable perspectives on cutting-edge research and future directions in the discipline.

The conference also emphasized scientific excellence through a competitive student presentation program. Following evaluation by an international panel of judges, three Best Presentation Awards were presented to Muhammad Firdaus from Curtin University, Australia; Kacper Lis from University of Wrocław, Poland; and Zoremsiami Pachuau from Mizoram University, India. These awards recognize exceptional scientific quality, innovation, and presentation skills. These awards highlighted the high standard of research being conducted by the next generation of organic petrologists and underscored TSOP's commitment to supporting early-career scientists. Beyond the formal presentations, the conference successfully created opportunities for students to interact with experts, receive constructive feedback, develop communication skills, and establish international professional networks. The event demonstrated that virtual conferences can effectively connect young researchers from around the world and provide an inclusive environment for scientific exchange regardless of geographical location.

Building upon the success of the conference, TSOP is pleased to announce a Special Issue in the International Journal of Coal Geology dedicated to contributions arising from the meeting. All conference participants are warmly invited to submit full-length manuscripts related to the conference themes. The special issue aims to showcase the latest advances in organic petrology and its applications to energy transition, critical minerals, environmental studies, thermal simulation experiments, mining, and resource assessment.

Submission Deadline: 31 October 2026.

Dr. Tushar Adsul
Chair of the Organizing Committee

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS WELCOME TO THE ICCP FAMILY.



Dr Dariusz Więclaw
Leader of the Organic
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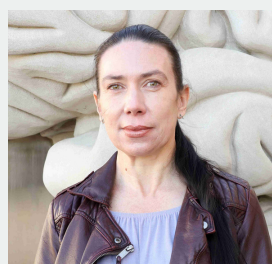
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CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEXT ICCP NEWS BY 20 NOVEMBER 2026

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.



ICCP WEBSITE

<https://www.iccop.org>
Please send any feedback,
comments, and uploads to
Stavros Kalaitzidis

“KNOW YOUR COAL PETROLOGIST”

Dr Sandra Rodrigues

Sandra has been an integral part of the ICCP & the ICCP Council for many years. She is currently Chair of Commission III. One of her latest publications is “U–Pb dating of vitrinite in coal”. I encourage you to follow and engage in her CarbonMat posts on the socials.



A live link for paying your dues can be found here:

<https://www.iccop.org/application/fees/>