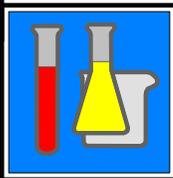




THE SOCIETY FOR ORGANIC PETROLOGY



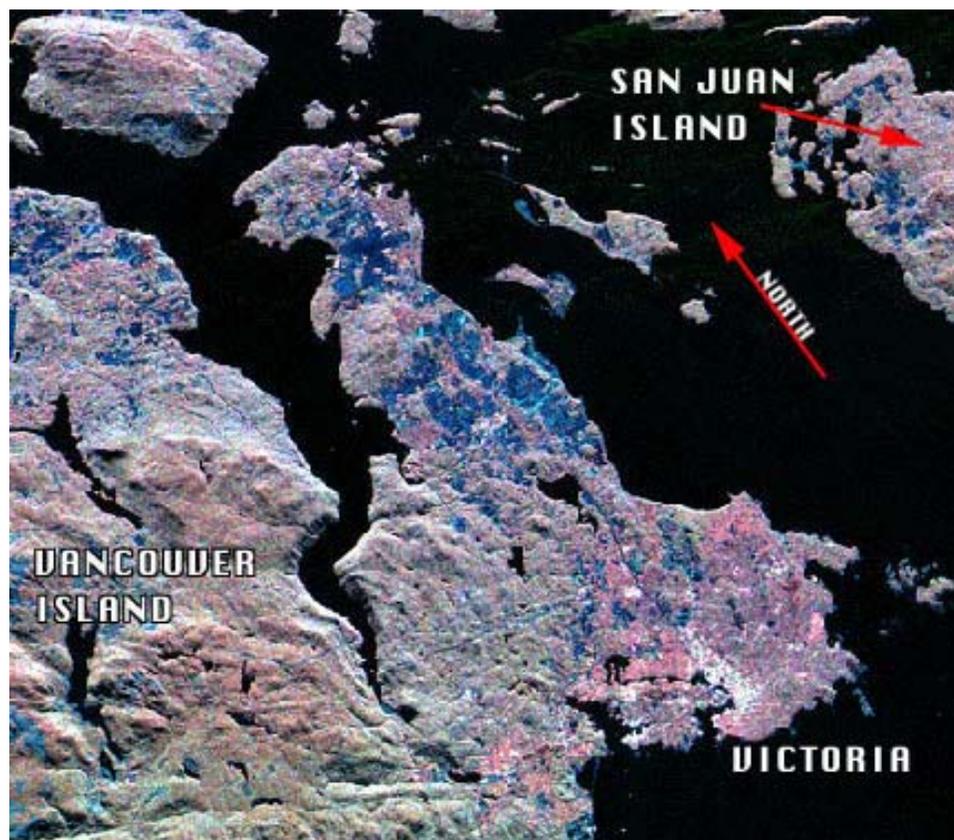
NEWSLETTER

Vol. 24, No. 1

March, 2007

ISSN 0743-3816

**Plan now to attend the 24th Annual TSOP Meeting
Held jointly with ICCP and CSCOP
August 19-25, 2007
Victoria, BC, Canada**



**Abstracts for Oral and Poster Presentations
due by April 15, 2007**

See page 7 & Insert

<http://geocities.com/victoriaconference2007/>

**24th Annual TSOP Meeting, with ICCP and CSCOP,
August 19-25, 2007
Victoria, BC, Canada
See page 7 & Insert**

**Abstracts are due by
April 15, 2007
See Call for Papers on page 7**

Technical Sessions Include:

- Unconventional Petroleum Systems
- Advances in Organic Petrology,
Organic and Inorganic Geochemistry

NEXT YEAR:

**Oviedo, Spain
September 22 - 28, 2008
Joint ICCP-TSOP Meeting**

Planned Schedule Includes:

Sunday, August 19, 2007
Ice Breaker and Council Meetings
Monday August 20:
ICCP Plenary Session and Commission Meetings
Council Meetings
Tuesday, August 21:
ICCP Commission Meetings
Council Meetings
Wednesday, August 22:
TSOP Technical Sessions and Posters
TSOP Business Lunch
Council Meetings
Thursday, August 23:
CSCOP - TSOP Technical Sessions and Posters
Evening Conference Dinner
Friday, August 24:
ICCP Plenary Session and Commission Meetings
Saturday, August 25:
Field Trip

The Society for Organic Petrology

TSOP is a society for scientists and engineers involved with coal petrology, kerogen petrology, organic geochemistry and related disciplines. The Society organizes an annual technical meeting, other meetings, and field trips; sponsors research projects; provides funding for graduate students; and publishes a web site, this quarterly Newsletter, a membership directory, annual meeting program and abstracts, and special publications.

Members may elect not to receive the printed Newsletter by marking their dues forms or by contacting the Editor. This choice may also be reversed at any time, or specific printed Newsletters may be requested.

Members are eligible for **discounted subscriptions** to the Elsevier journals *International Journal of Coal Geology* and *Review of Paleobotany and Palynology*. Subscribe by checking the box on your dues form, or using the form at www.tsop.org. You will then be billed by Elsevier. Contact Paul Hackley <phackley@usgs.gov> if you do not receive a bill or have any other problems with a subscription. For the best prices on subscriptions to **AGI's Geotimes**, see their web site at www.geotimes.org/current

TSOP is a Member Society of AGI and an AAPG Associated Society.

The Society for Organic Petrology Newsletter

ISSN 0743-3816 published quarterly

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**DEADLINES: June Issue: June 5, 2007
September Issue: September 5, 2007**

Writers, Photographers and Associate Editors Needed!

GUIDELINES:

The TSOP Newsletter welcomes contributions from members and non-members alike. Readers are invited to submit items pertinent to TSOP members' fields of study. These might include meeting reports and reviews, book reviews, short technical contributions including those on geologic localities or laboratory methods, as well as creative works such as poems, cartoons and works of fiction. Color illustrations may be possible in some issues.

Please do not embed **graphics** or **photos** in word processor files. You can provide photos or other graphics as slides or prints (which will be returned after being scanned) or as digital files (300 dpi preferred) via email or on cd or dvd. Low resolution images are discouraged as they cannot be reproduced well in print. **Text** is preferred in Microsoft Word, RTF or plain text formats.

Contact the Editor:

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Address Changes

Please report any changes in address or contact information to:

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U.S. Geological Survey
956 National Center
Reston, VA 20192 USA
e-mail: phackley@usgs.gov

Society Membership

The TSOP Newsletter (ISSN-0743-3816) is published quarterly by The Society for Organic Petrology and is distributed to all Society members as a benefit of membership. Membership in the Society is open to all individuals involved in the fields of organic petrology and organic geochemistry. For more information on membership and Society activities, please see:

<http://www.tsop.org>

For purposes of registration of the TSOP Newsletter, a permanent address is: The Society for Organic Petrology, c/o American Geological Institute, 4220 King St., Alexandria, VA 22302-1520 USA

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Cover photo of Victoria from space, location of the 2007 Joint TSOP, CSCOP and ICCP Meeting. Photo by NASA/JPL.

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Officers and Committee Chairs are reminded to provide their records to Ken Kuehn, **TSOP Archivist**. Please contact Ken at kenneth.kuehn@wku.edu for further information.

* * * * *

President's Letter

from Jeff Quick

“What do you do for living?” the barber asked as I gazed through the window at the illuminated Salt Lake City skyline. It was a late winter evening and I had stopped at the barbershop to get a haircut. After a moment, I replied - “I study coal.” “Coal?” he asked, snip-snip, “why do you study that?” snip-snip, “we don’t burn coal anymore” snip-snip, “do we?”

The importance of our work is not always appreciated. But, as my barber will attest, it is a story that I believe in telling. Besides advancing scientific knowledge, TSOP members work to find new energy sources, maximize resource recovery, improve industrial efficiency, and mitigate environmental problems. In short, our work, your work, is important.

One place your work will be appreciated is at our annual meeting in Victoria, British Columbia. This year’s meeting provides a special opportunity to meet with our colleagues and friends from the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology (ICCP). I am certain that our shared passion for fossil organic matter in rocks will stimulate useful and memorable discussion. So, skip the haircut and let’s have a real conversation in Victoria!

Jeff Quick

TSOP President (06-07)



TSOP Council Voting Change Proposal

TSOP Council has recommended a change in our by-laws to allow for electronic voting for Officers. This proposed change must be voted on (by post) by TSOP members before it can take effect.

REASON: Over 50% of TSOP members live and work outside of North America and mail to the U.S. by post can be slow and unreliable. Mail delays can (and do) result in the rejection of valid ballots; therefore we propose to change the by-laws to allow for both post and electronic voting for TSOP officers.

Article VII: Election of Officers

Changes are in bolded italics.

3. The president shall appoint a Ballot Committee of not less than three (3) Members, one (1) of whom shall be designated as Chairman. The Ballot Committee shall be responsible for the preparation, distribution, receipt and counting of all ballots requiring a vote by Members. In the case of election of officers, a ballot and a biography of each nominee shall be mailed **by post or electronically** to every voting Member. All ballots shall be **returned by post or electronically** to the Ballot Committee Chairman and shall be counted by the Ballot Committee within seven (7) days following the designated closing date. Results of balloting shall be promptly reported by the Ballot Committee Chairman to the president who will in turn report ballot results to Council and the candidates.

See <http://www.tsop.org/changes/bylaw06.pdf> for TSOP current by-laws.



Call for Proposals 2009 TSOP Annual Meeting Host



TSOP is soliciting proposals for a host venue for the Society's **2009 Annual Meeting**, preferably in the United States. Interested parties, research groups, and institutions should please contact TSOP President Jeffrey Quick jeffreyquick@utah.gov to discuss preparation of a formal proposal.

* * * * *

TSOP Nominating Committee Announcement

The 2007 TSOP Nominating Committee seeks two candidates for the following Council positions:

Vice-President and Councilor

Since the Bylaws were changed last year, the elected Vice-President (old Pres-elect) will serve two years on Council (2007-09) and then with Council's approval, run unopposed for a two year term as President (2009-2011). The elected Councilor will serve a two-year term on Council (2007-09). Please contact Peter Warwick (+1 703-648-6469 or pwarwick@usgs.gov) by **May 1, 2007** if you are interested to run for, or wish to nominate someone for TSOP Vice-President and Councilor. Refer to the TSOP Bylaws, available on-line at <http://www.tsop.org>, for a description of duties for these Council positions.

* * * * *

Electronic Newsletter

Electronic versions of the TSOP Newsletter are available from the TSOP web site <http://www.tsop.org/news1.htm> in Adobe PDF (portable document format) format. Each issue is available in two sizes; a smaller file suitable for quick downloading and screen viewing and a higher resolution file for printing. Members are encouraged to elect to **NOT** receive the printed copy of the Newsletter in order to save paper and costs, and may do so by contacting the Editor at rwalker@coalpetrography.com.



* * * * *

World Coal Carrying Championships

When: Easter Monday every year
Where: Gawthorpe, UK

When Lewis Hartley mocked his drinking buddy Reggie Sedgewick with the immortal words "Ba gum lad tha' looks bugged" in Gawthorpe's Beehive Inn back in 1963, little did he know that he would provoke a challenge that would lead to the creation of the World Coal Carrying Championships. What began as a £10 bet between two friends has become an international event (well, an American competed once), recognised by the *Guinness Book of Records* as the proving ground for the world's greatest coal carrier - or "Coil Humper", to use the local parlance.

The men's event consists of 30 competitors carrying 50 kg (110 lb) of coal over a distance of 1108.25 yards (nearly a mile; current record: 4 min 6 sec), while women carry 20 kg (44 lb) the same distance (current record: 5 min 5 sec).

The racing starts around noon at the Royal Oak public house on Owl Lane, and finishes at The Maypole on the village green. The championships are sponsored by H B Clarke & Co, a local brewery, which provides modest cash prizes.

<http://www.gawthorpe.ndo.co.uk/>

Publication of papers from the Twenty-first Annual TSOP Meeting Sydney, Australia

Edited by N. Sherwood, Tim Moore and Joan Esterle

The editors are happy to announce that the papers from the TSOP 04 meeting in Sydney, were submitted to the International Journal of Coal Geology last April and are planned to be published in April 2007. As shown in the Table of Contents below there will be 18 papers in the volume, covering topics ranging from fundamental aspects of organic petrology/geochemistry to applications to petroleum/gas generation, environmental impact, coal seam gas exploration/production and CO₂ sequestration. We were especially pleased to see that four of the papers have been listed in the top 25 downloads from the IJCG website, even before the formal publication. The electronic version is at:

<https://ejournal.csiro.au/cgi-bin/sciserv.pl?collection=journals&journal=01665162&issue=v70i1-3>

The editors of the issue would like to thank all authors and reviewers for their contributions, co-operation and patience.

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The Joint Meeting of CSCOP, TSOP & ICCP August 19 - 25, 2007 Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

Submit Abstracts for Technical Oral and Poster Presentations by April 15, 2007 to:

Dr. Hamed Sanei
Geological Survey of Canada
3303 33rd St NW
Calgary, Alberta, Canada T2L 2A7
Send all abstracts via e-mail: hsanei@nrcan.gc.ca

Abstracts must be 200-300 words maximum, sent as Microsoft Word or text files, no figures and no special formatting required. In e-mail: Please state preference of Session (see pages 8-9), Poster, Oral, or either Oral/ Poster.

Registration, Conference Dinner Fees:

Full Registration includes ice-breaker, TSOP Business Luncheon and coffee breaks.

- Members: Cdn \$ 275.00 (must be paid in cash at meeting upon registration)
- Non-members: Cdn \$ 300.00
- Students: Cdn \$ 25.00
- Guests: Cdn \$ 50.00
- One-day registration: Cdn \$ 200.00

Conference Dinner: Cdn \$ 65.00

Field Trip to Salt Spring Island: Look for updated information on web sites www.tsop.org and

<http://geocities.com/victoriainconference2007>

For Hotels and University Accommodation Reservations:

1. Queen Victoria Hotel and Suites:



655 Douglas Street, Victoria, B.C., Canada V8V 2P9

TEL: 250-386-1312 FAX: 250-386-0687

Website: <http://www.qvhotel.com>

Special Rates are ~ Cdn \$150.00 single room only, plus taxes.

NOTE: This downtown hotel is the pick-up and drop-off point for daily morning and evening transportation to and from University of Victoria. It is about 20-25 minutes from the conference forum.

2. University of Victoria, Conference and Campus Housing:



Contact Reservation clerk: housing@uvic.ca

Center Manager: Ruth Hall, TEL: 250-721-8657

Single Bed and Breakfast: Cdn \$47.75

Twin / shared: Cdn \$57.75

Cluster of four: Cdn \$185.00

3. Additional Hotels:

Helms Inn

600 Douglas Street, Victoria, B.C.,

Canada, V8V 2P8 Toll Free: 1-800-665-4356;

TEL: 250-385-5767; FAX: 250-385-2221

E-mail: info@helmsinn.com

<http://www.helmsinn.com>

100% Smoke free rooms

Shamrock Suites on the Park

675 Superior Street, Victoria, B.c., Canada V8V 1V1;

Toll Free: 1-800-294-5544; TEL: 250-385-8768;

These two are 200 m from the pick-up/ drop-off

FAX: 250-385-1837;

<http://www.shamrocksuites.com>

These two are 200 m from the pick-up/drop-off point at Queen Victoria Hotel, for transportation to the conference at the University of Victoria.

Distinguished Service Awards 2006

Recipients of the award were honored at the 2006 Beijing TSOP meeting.

Suzanne J. Russell

Suzanne has been involved in the operation of TSOP since its early years. She chaired the Awards Committee from 1985-1990 (which included the Elections Committee in 1987-1988), the Nominating Committee, and the Publications Distribution Committee. She was President-Elect in 1991-1992 and TSOP President for the 1992-93 term. In the 1990s she was involved with Research subcommittees and the annual meeting, and became Chair of the Research Committee in 1999. For the last several years, students worldwide have known Suzanne as the contact for TSOP's Spackman Award graduate student research grants, which are part of the Research Committee responsibilities. She was a strong proponent of expanding the Spackman Award to two recipients per year. It is obvious that Suzanne and the efforts of the Research Committee have provided a front door for many of the younger geoscientists to learn about TSOP and to join the Society. She has shown her compassion to promote and support the upcoming professionals with their research endeavors and to encourage their continued contributions to the scientific community. Suzanne continues to chair the Research Committee since her recent retirement from Shell, and is once again living in Houston.



Coleman R. Robison

Cole was one of the 18 founders of TSOP in Houston in 1984. As one of the original "18", he played a significant role in defining the purpose and objectives of TSOP and as a result of that initial work the founders laid down the foundation to make TSOP the successful International Society that it is today. Cole continued to serve TSOP over the years in a wide variety of offices and committees. In the 1980s he chaired the Awards Committee and served on the Nominating Committee. In the 1990s he served on the Research Committee, chaired the ad-hoc Committee on South American contacts, and was a Councilor for the 1993-95 term. He was elected in 1998 to serve as President Elect in 1998-99 and as TSOP President for the 1999-2000 term. Cole then took on the always-demanding job of Annual Meeting Chair for the September 2001 meeting, which was further complicated by the need to reschedule it to March, 2002, and he was co-editor of the resulting Proceedings volume (Int. J. Coal Geol. 54:1-2, 2003). Since then, he has retired from Texaco and continues to live in Houston.



**Citation for John Castaño Honorary
Membership Award
in
The Society for Organic Petrology to
Jack D. Burgess
September, 2004**

By Dan Jarvie and Rachel Walker

Jack D. Burgess is the 2004 recipient of The Society for Organic Petrology Honorary Membership Award. Jack's enthusiasm for earth science, microscopy and geochemistry is widely known and has influenced many people.

Jack received a B.S. in Geology in 1949 from the University of Illinois and a M.A. in Geology from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1955. Jack's career started with Northern Pacific Railroad, mapping and prospecting for uranium. He then joined Gulf Oil in 1955 where he performed well siting and subsurface mapping in the Northern Rockies.

Following a major layoff at Gulf, he joined Carter Oil Co. in Wyoming, generating drillable oil prospects in the Wind River Basin. Carter Oil was then absorbed by Humble Oil & Refining in 1959. At that time Jack was selected to receive special training in palynology at The Jersey Production Research Co. in Tulsa, Oklahoma with Dr. W. Hoffmeister, a pioneer in this field. He was then sent to Billings, Montana where he equipped a palynology laboratory and performed correlation, age dating and environmental studies for Humble district offices. By 1965 he had moved to the Esso Production Research Co. in Houston, Texas.

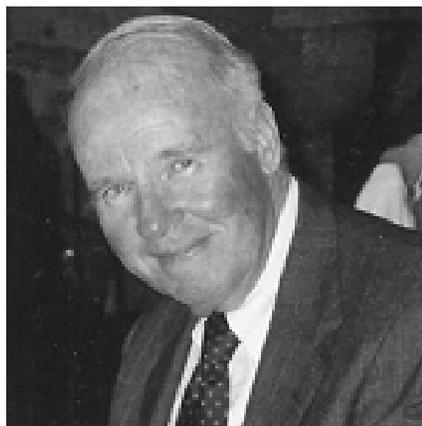
His assignment at Esso was in organic geochemistry where he worked on leftover organic debris, or kerogen, after the palynomorphs had been recovered. This work led to the use of recovered coal and its reflectance as a source rock, maturity indicator and the establishment of the first vitrinite reflectance laboratory for a major US oil company.

In 1967 Jack joined Gulf Oil, which became part of Chevron in a 1985 merger. While at Chevron, he established a geochemical laboratory in Houston, Texas, and another in Lagos, Nigeria in

1980. Jack was one of the first geochemists to apply oil fingerprinting to the Greyburg and San Andreas Reservoirs in the Central Basin Platform of West Texas in order to manage reservoir mapping and production. After his retirement from Chevron, Jack went to work for Humble Geochemical Services where his early reflectance work contributed to the success of the Barnett Shale gas play in the Fort Worth Basin in Texas, the largest onshore gas resource found. His retirement from Humble Geochemical Services in 2006 marks more than 55 years of work in and contributions to the oil industry.

Jack was intimately involved with the formation of The Society for Organic Petrology with John Castaño in 1983, and has dedicated his time to the society as President from 1988-89, along with work on numerous committees including the Houston-area Annual Meeting committees. As a founding member of both TSOP and the American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists (AASP), Jack fostered activities in the fields of coal petrology, palynology and geochemical disciplines. Jack Burgess' dedicated efforts in communicating organic petrology to students and the professional community leave an indelible legacy that will encourage the discipline well into the future.

In recognition and appreciation for being truly distinguished in scientific disciplines of significance to The Society for Organic Petrology, the 2004 Honorary Membership Committee was unanimous in bestowing upon Jack D. Burgess the Award of Honorary Lifetime Membership.



Response in Acceptance of the John Castaño Honorary Membership Award

By Jack D. Burgess

It is gratifying to me that the Honorary Member Selection Committee feels that I display 'excellence in professional achievements and extraordinary service to the Society'.

Now, looking back what do I perceive as important mile posts in the microscopic study of kerogen and organic matter? Certainly the classification of kerogen into oil producing and gas prone types made management aware of what was being done microscopically. One of the outcomes of this was renewed interest in the source character of organic matter types. And this was followed by the 1974 AASP sponsored Maturation Symposium in Houston, Texas, attended by more than 300 earth scientists, both domestic and foreign.

Application of geochemical and source character with oil production really sold the industry on geochemistry. The Barnett Shale gas play in Fort Worth Basin was the culmination of organic geochemistry and vitrinite maturity in finding and exploiting major gas reserves. In 2003 the USGS estimated unconventional gas reserves in the Barnett play at 26.7 TCF of gas, with gas still being found.

I would also like to acknowledge help given me by many colleagues. You don't suddenly become a palynologist or coal petrologist without help. I thank Bill Hoffmeister and his staff at Jersey Production Research Co. for my palynology training. I also want to thank Dick Neavel (Esso Research) and Bill Spackman (Pennsylvania State University) for introducing me to coal petrology and its many applications. I have been blessed with a rewarding career doing work that was satisfying and mentally challenging, making it better than just work, but a calling.

Making an "Impact"

By MaryAnn Malinconico

MaryAnn Malinconico, TSOP member and former Outreach Committee Chair and Councilor, began a two-year Mendenhall Postdoctoral Research Fellowship at the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) on October 1, 2006. Her Mendenhall project is "Thermal Maturation and Organic Petrology Study of ICDP-USGS Deep Corehole in the Central Crater of the Chesapeake Bay Impact Structure." The impact structure, discovered in the early 1990's, was formed in the late Eocene (about 35.5 million years ago) when a ca. 3 km asteroid or comet nucleus hit the ocean-covered continental shelf at what is now the southern tip of the Delmarva Peninsula in Virginia (USA), 200 km southeast of Washington, DC. In late 2005-early 2006, the International Continental Scientific Drilling Program (ICDP) and the USGS drilled the central crater and recovered 1766 meters of core from post-impact Coastal Plain sediments, crater-fill breccias (including suevite) and fractured basement-derived rocks (Gohn et al., 2006).

The primary goals of the deep drilling are to understand 1) processes and products of meteorite impacts into multi-layered marine targets; 2) the consequences of the impact on groundwater resources; and 3) Cenozoic post-impact sea-level changes, stratigraphic sequences and climate variability (Gohn et al., 2006). The thermal maturity information from the core will be particularly useful in addressing the thermochemical evolution of a large marine impact, the evolution of saline groundwater in the crater that affects overlying communities, and the temperature environment of the deep biosphere, particularly conditions affecting any extremophile microbes (Gohn et al., 2006). A large international research community is participating in study of the core, and the first public presentation of results will be at the Geological Society of America (GSA) annual meeting in Denver, Colorado, October 2007.

* * * * *

Reference:

Gohn, G. S., Koeberl, C., Miller, K. G., Reimold, W. U., Cockell, C. S., Horton, J. W., Jr., Sanford, W. E., and Voytek, M. A., 2006, Chesapeake Bay impact structure drilled: *EOS*, v. 87, p. 349, 355.

More details on MaryAnn's research proposal are at:

<http://geology.usgs.gov/postdoc/profiles/malinconico.html>

Sites about the Chesapeake Bay impact crater, the deep corehole, and earlier studies:

<http://geology.er.usgs.gov/eespteam/crater/>

<http://chesapeake.icdp-online.de>

http://meteor.pwnet.org/impact_event/impact_crater.htm

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/pp/2005/1688/ak/>

GSA abstracts related to earlier drilling in the crater, including the 2004 Cape Charles USGS pilot hole over the central uplift, can be found at the site below. For search words, use "Chesapeake impact": <http://gsa.confex.com/gsa/2006AM/finalprogram/index.html>

Information on the USGS Mendenhall Postdoctoral Fellowship program:

<http://geology.usgs.gov/postdoc/>

* * * * *

Summary of Research Topic from 2006 Spackman Award recipient Tennille Mares

Tennille is a PhD student at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand.

Geological and geochemical controls on fracture and pore systems in relation to gas flow regimes in the Huntly Coal Basin

With the eventual decline of the Maui gas field looming, New Zealand's energy industry is looking for viable alternatives. Worldwide, changing key market drivers have resulted in the exploration for, and development of, unconventional reserves such as coalbed methane (CBM), methane naturally occurring within coal

seams. Although CBM has been tapped from high rank coals for the past two decades, until recently with the development of the Powder River Basin, low rank coals have not been thought to contain sufficient CBM to warrant attention.

Some of the characteristics of this site have been recognised in New Zealand's vast reserves of low rank coals such as the Huntly coalfield where Solid Energy is currently exploring. For a coalbed methane prospect to be successful there must have been gas generation, be gas storage and there must exist avenues for gas transport. Generally there are two scales of transport systems, permeability, present in coal, a macroscopic system composed of regular, persistent fractures and a microscopic system consisting of pores, cavities and the remains of original plant material.

The degree to which these two systems connect and combine governs the flow rate and the quantity of gas that can be retrieved. An understanding of the size, shape, concentration and connectivity of pore and fracture systems would greatly enhance knowledge of the transport properties within the subbituminous coals of the Huntly coalfield. If these systems can be then linked to maceral composition, coal types or to other coal properties then potentially favourable target criteria can be identified and be applied to future CBM prospects.

With this knowledge, better resource assessments and optimal spacing of gas wells can be obtained due to the greater accuracy of reservoir modeling. These results could also be applied to potential future work on enhanced CBM (ECBM) recovery and CO₂ sequestration.

Tennille Mares

PhD Student

Department of Geological Sciences

University of Canterbury

Supervisors:

Dr Tim Moore

Prof Steve Weaver

* * * * *

**Summary of Research Topic from 2006
Spackman Award recipient
Rachael Von Mann**

Rachael is a Master's student at the University of Kentucky, Lexington

Influence of primary productivity on organic matter preservation in the Middle Ordovician Maquoketa Group of eastern Iowa

Whereas it has been well documented that organic matter (OM) is preserved in anoxic environments, the cause of the anoxia is a subject of debate. Proposed causes of anoxia and OM preservation include lack of oxygenation beneath a pycnocline (Demaison and Moore, 1980); sediment starvation; anoxia created through over-production of OM (Pederson and Calvert, 1990); or a combination of these factors (Calvert et al., 1996; Murphy et al., 2000). Some researchers have found that once anoxic conditions are established, a positive feedback begins whereby anoxia leads to nutrient recycling that, in turn, causes increased productivity (Ingall and Jahnke, 1997).

The organic-rich Middle and Late Ordovician rocks of eastern Iowa, namely the Decorah Formation and Maquoketa Shale, show notably different environments of deposition. The Maquoketa Shale marks the western end of clastic input from the Taconic orogeny (Raatz and Ludvigson, 1996), whereas the Decorah Formation received sediment from the nearby Transcontinental Arch and contains thick carbonate beds (Ludvigson et al., 1996). Despite the obvious depositional differences between these two units, both the Decorah and the Maquoketa contain large amounts of preserved OM (Ludvigson et al., 1996; Witzke and Bunker, 1996). The hypothesis to be tested in this research project is that despite differences in the depositional environment, the primary control on OM preservation in both the Decorah Formation and the Maquoketa Shale was high OM productivity, not pre-existing anoxia.

Recent progress

The degree-of-anoxia for a preliminary suite of samples from one core through the Maquoketa Formation has been evaluated using XRF and sulfur data to determine trace-metal indices, enrichment factors, and degree-of-pyritization. There is a clear difference in the depositional environment of the lower dark brown, organic-rich, Elgin Member and the environment of the upper gray, Clermont-Brainard shales. Since receiving the Spackman Award, four other cores have been sampled extensively through the Maquoketa Shale and the Decorah Formation and isotopic and geochemical analyses are underway. It is hoped that some of

these findings will be presented at the TSOP annual meeting in British Columbia.

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American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists 40th Annual Meeting

Panama

September 8-12, 2007

<http://striweb.si.edu/aasp07>

Hosted by the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

- a division of the Smithsonian Institution
- one of the world's leading centers for basic research on the ecology, behavior and evolution of tropical organisms.



Events

- Opening mixer
- Pre-meeting field trip to Barro Colorado Island or to the Canopy Crane at Metropolitan Park in Panama City
- Tour of the Miraflores Locks at the Panama Canal



Guidelines

- Contributions accepted until July 5
- Student Financial Aid available
- Hotel rooms reserved at discount rate at the Hotel El Panama
- Additional information at <http://striweb.si.edu/aasp07>
- Contact us at aasp2007@si.edu



World of Coal Ash Conference 2007

May 7-10, 2007

Covington, Kentucky

Northern Kentucky Convention Center
(South side of Cincinnati, Ohio)

Organized by the University of Kentucky's Center for Applied Energy Research and the American Coal Ash Association, this conference will encompass all aspects of coal combustion products, as well as gasification byproducts. Highly successful and widely acclaimed, the first World of Coal Ash Conference (WOCA) was held in 2005 and has given impetus to its return in 2007. WOCA incorporates satellite meetings sponsored by government and private organizations as well as educational short courses.

WOCA 2007 will offer both industry newcomers and veterans alike a wide variety of CCB/CCP related topics guaranteed to enhance career and job related requirements. Presentations will cover not only the utilization of coal ash and flue gas desulfurization materials, but will cover sustainable projects using CCP's, emerging technologies, general ash management, mercury related topics, recent research and specific case studies, international activities and regulatory topics from local, state and federal perspectives.

The short course *'The Science of Coal Ash Utilization'* on May 7th will cover basic information about the science and technology of coal combustion by-products and will be taught by experts from academia and industry. The course has been expanded to include two parallel tracks, offering more choices for students. The course also offers Professional Development Credits.

Visit the website for more meeting details:

<http://www.worldofcoalash.org>

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CARBON 2007 CONFERENCE

July 15 - 20, 2007

Sheraton Hotel and Towers
Downtown Seattle, Washington, USA

Please plan on joining us in Seattle in July 2007 for the International Carbon Conference. In 2007 the American Carbon Society celebrates its 50th Anniversary. This meeting will provide an excellent forum for reporting and discussing carbon science and technology, current and future.

Carbon 2007 topical areas include large scale applications of carbon materials including pitches and cokes; gas storage in carbon materials and environmental effects. A workshop on Adsorbent Carbon has been organized by the Center for Applied Energy Research at the University of Kentucky. It will be held from July 12 - 14, 2007, at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel Seattle, Washington.

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IMOG 2007

Sunday 9th - Friday 14th September 2007

Torquay, Devon, United Kingdom

The 23rd International Meeting on Organic Geochemistry will be held on 9th -14th September 2007 in Torquay, Devon, United Kingdom. IMOG is the official biennial conference of the European Association of Organic Geochemists, and welcomes delegates from all over the world. Over the years, the IMOG meetings have deservedly acquired a reputation for providing a platform for oral and poster presentations covering the full range of research in, and application of, organic geochemistry. <http://www.imog2007.org/index.htm>

Research topics to be presented include the latest advances within the following broad areas: Petroleum and Coal Geochemistry, Petroleum Source Rocks, Generation and migration of Petroleum, Biodegradation, Gas geochemistry, Peat and coal geochemistry, Biogeochemistry, Microbial processes, Biomarkers, Carbon cycling, Climate change, Environmental Geochemistry, Environment and pollution, Geochemistry of soils, Archaeological geochemistry, New Trends in Organic Geochemistry and Analytical developments.

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Calendar of Events

2007

April 1 - 4, 2007: Understanding Earth Systems - Pursuing the Checkered Flag: AAPG Annual Convention and Exhibition, Long Beach, California, USA. Technical themes include *Reservoir Characterization and Modeling and Hydrocarbon Systems and Basin Analysis*. Workshops and short courses include a hands-on core workshop: *Deep-Water Reservoirs of California: From Core to Reservoir Characterization, Modeling and Production*. <http://www.aapg.org/longbeach/>

April 17 - 19, 2007: Emerging Plays in Australasia, an international conference convened by the Petroleum Group of the Geological Society, at Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, UK. Abstracts due by 1 March 2007. <http://www.geol Soc.org.uk/template.cfm?name=Emerging Plays in Australasia>

May 7 - 10, 2007: World of Coal Ash, combining the previous international symposia of the ACAA and Kentucky CAER. It will focus on the science, applications and sustainability of coal ash worldwide. Northern Kentucky Convention Center, Covington, Kentucky. <http://www.worldofcoalash.org/>

July 15 - 20, 2007: Carbon 2007, an International Conference on Carbon. Seattle, Washington, USA. <http://www.carbon2007.org/>

August 19 - 25, 2007: ICCP / TSOP / CSCOP Annual Meeting, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Technical oral and poster sessions, ICCP commission meetings, field trip. **See pages 7-9.**

August 19 - 23, 2007: American Chemical Society 234th Fall National Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, USA. Abstract submission begins March, 2007. <http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acdisplay.html?DOC=meetings%5Cboston2007%5Chome.html>

September 8 - 12, 2007: American Association of

Stratigraphic Palynologists Meeting, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama. <http://www.palynology.org/meetings.html>

Sept. 9 - 14, 2007: 23rd International Organic Geochemistry Meeting (IMOG07), Riviera Conference Centre, Torquay, Devon, England. Deadline for 2page abstracts is 12 January 2007. <http://www.imog2007.org/index.htm> and <http://www.eaog.org/meetings/meetings.html>

September 10 -14, 2007: 24th International Pittsburgh Coal Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa. One-page abstracts are due March 1, 2007. <http://www.engr.pitt.edu/pcc/2007%20Conference.htm>

October 28 -31, 2007: Geological Society of America Annual Meeting: Earth Sciences for Society— Beginning of the International Year of Planet Earth. Denver, Colorado, USA. Proposals for Sessions due January 9, 2007. <http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/2007/>

2008

April 6 - 10, 2008: American Chemical Society national meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

April 20 - 23, 2008: AAPG Annual Convention and Exhibition, San Antonio, Texas, USA

August 17 - 21, 2008: American Chemical Society national meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA

September 22 - 28, 2008: ICCP/TSOP Annual Meeting, Oviedo, Spain.

October 5 - 8, 2008: Geological Society of America Annual Meeting, Houston, Texas. <http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/>

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Photo Gallery



One of the photographs on the CD from the Beijing TSOP meeting fortuitously captured the unusual combination of four consecutive TSOP Presidents (past, present and future), arranged in chronological order. Pictured at the Antaibao Coal Mine on the post-meeting field trip are (left to right) Colin Ward (President, 2004-5), Peter Warwick (President, 2005-6), Jeff Quick (current President) and Leslie 'Jingle' Ruppert. Leslie is the current Vice-President of TSOP and will succeed Jeff as President for 2007-9. Original photograph supplied by the Organizing Committee of the 23rd Annual TSOP Meeting; editing by Colin Ward.

THE JOINT MEETING OF CSCOP, TSOP & ICCP

August 19-25, 2007

University of Victoria
Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

MEETING SCHEDULE

Sunday August 19	Monday August 20	Tuesday August 21	Wednesday August 22	Thursday August 23	Friday August 24	Saturday August 25
ICCP, TSOP, and CSCOP Council Meetings	ICCP Plenary session ICCP Commission Meetings LUNCH ICCP Commission Meetings	ICCP Commission Meetings LUNCH ICCP Commission Meetings	<u>TSOP Technical Session I</u> Unconventional Petroleum Systems: Organic Petrology, Organic Geochemistry Integrated with Geology Chairs: Drs. Marc Bustin, Lavern Stasiuk LUNCH & TSOP business meeting <u>TSOP Technical Session I</u> Cont'd Unconventional Petroleum Systems: Organic Petrology, Organic Geochemistry Integrated with Geology Chairs: TBA Posters: General Organic Petrology and Geochemistry ICCP and TSOP Council Meetings	<u>CSCOP-TSOP Technical Session II</u> <u>Tribute to Dr. Fari Goodarzi</u> Advances in Organic Petrology, Organic and Inorganic Geochemistry: Coal, Oil shales, Source Rocks; Paleo- and Recent-Environments and -Climates Chairs: TBA LUNCH <u>CSCOP-TSOP Technical Session II</u> <u>Tribute to Dr. Fari Goodarzi</u> Advances in Organic Petrology, Organic and Inorganic Geochemistry: Coal, Oil shales, Source Rocks; Paleo- and Recent-Environments and -Climates Chairs: TBA Posters: General Organic Petrology and Geochemistry Evening Conference Dinner Church and State Wineries and Vineyards	ICCP Commission Meetings LUNCH ICCP Commission Meetings ICCP Plenary session	Field Trip: Geology and Environs of Victoria to Salt Spring Island, British Columbia. Leaders: Dr. Peter Mustard and Dr. James McEachern Simon Fraser University

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Canadian Society for Coal Science
and Organic Petrology



TSOP
The Society for Organic Petrology



ICCP