

THE SOCIETY FOR ORGANIC PETROLOGY



NEWSLETTER

Vol. 36, No. 1 March, 2019 ISSN 0743-3816

36th TSOP Annual Meeting

September 7 – 11, 2019 Bloomington, Indiana, USA



Indiana University Art Museum, Bloomington, Indiana. Photo by Agnieszka Drobniak.

https://www.tsop.org/TSOP2019

Vol. 36, No. 1

36th TSOP Annual Meeting

September 7 – 11, 2019 Bloomington, Indiana, USA



https://www.tsop.org/TSOP2019

Abstracts due by June 15, 2019

Early Registration rates end July 15th, 2019

The 36th Annual Meeting of The Society for Organic Petrology will be held in Bloomington, Indiana, USA from September 7 to 11, 2019. Bloomington is a vibrant little town with a diverse and rich culture situated in the south-central Indiana. Our town is a home to the Indiana University (IU). University's campus, established in 1820, is located in the heart of the Indiana Limestone Heritage Trail, and it was recognized as one of the five most beautiful collegiate campuses in the USA. Please join us in Bloomington as we celebrate 36th TSOP Annual Meeting and explore the beauty and history of Indiana's limestone!

Organizing Committee:

Maria Mastalerz, Agnieszka Drobniak, Arndt Schimmelmann, Tisa Bowden, Indiana University Conference Services

Host Organization:

Indiana University, Bloomington

Conference Venue:

Indiana Memorial Union, Indiana University, Bloomington

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 and field trips; sponsors research projects; provides funding for graduate students; and publishes a web site, a quarterly Newsletter, membership directory, annual meeting program and abstracts, and special publications. Members are eligible for discounted subscriptions to the Elsevier journals International Journal of Coal Geology and Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology. Subscribe by checking the box on your dues form, or using the form at www.tsop.org. For the best prices on subscriptions to AGI's Earth, 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 © 2019 The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP)

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. Photos, graphs and other illustrations are welcomed. Low-resolution images are discouraged, as they cannot be reproduced well in print. Articles are preferred in Microsoft Word, RTF or plain text formats.

Contact the Editor:

Rachel Walker

e-mail: drrachelwalker@gmail.com

Address Changes

Please report any changes in address or contact information to: Brett Valentine, TSOP Membership Chair, bvalentine@usgs.gov

Members can update their own information by logging into the secure TSOP website:

www.tsop.org/mbrsonly/

The TSOP Newsletter 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:

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

Newsletter Submission Deadlines

June Issue: June 10th, 2019 September Issue: Sept. 10th, 2019 December Issue: Dec. 10th, 2019

CONTENTS

TSOP Member Dues	. 4
Castaño Award Call for Nominees	. 5
Distinguished Service Award	. 5
Spackman Award Call for Applications	. 6
Student Travel Award	. 6
36 th Annual TSOP Meeting Details	. 7
Calendar of Events	11
Back Page	12

member society of



TSOP Membership Dues



TSOP dues payments are due on or before **December 31st each year.** We encourage you to check your dues status and make your payment so that you can continue your TSOP membership and support the society and its work.

TSOP dues are currently set at:

Individuals:

- \$25 per year
 or
- \$100 for 5 years (5 years for the price of 4!)

Students:

• \$15 per year

Institutional/Corporate:

• \$75 per year

You can use our convenient online dues payment system to pay dues by credit card, check (US Members), or money order.

You can login at www.tsop.org/dues and access the online form without logging in.

Thank you for your interest and support of TSOP and we look forward to a renewal of your TSOP membership.





www.facebook.com/OrganicPetrology



The Society for Organic Petrology



A Leitz microscope advertisement from the 1870 issue of Natur und Museum.

THE JOHN CASTAÑO HONORARY **MEMBERSHIP AWARD**



Call for Nominations for 2019

Deadline: May 31, 2019

TSOP members are invited to nominate the scientist of your choice for the 2018 John Castaño Honorary Membership Award, The Society for Organic Petrology's highest honor. The award acknowledges distinction in a scientific discipline of significance to the Society, in recognition of contributions in research, service to TSOP, or Castaño John education. The Honorary Membership Award conveys life membership in the Society. It is named in honor of John Castaño, one of our most active Houston-based founding members. John served as inaugural Vice-President, and later, as President of TSOP. He was an organizer of three TSOP meetings in the Houston area, and was made an Honorary Member in 1995. John served TSOP in many capacities until his death in 1997; a memorial article was published in the June 1997 issue of the TSOP Newsletter.

The nominees' research, service and educational impact will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- 1. Research contributions include work that demonstrates a high degree of originality and serves to advance the science of organic petrology or related disciplines. Nominees must possess a sustained international record of professional publication and achievement.
- 2. Nominees recommended for service must demonstrate significance contributions TSOP (the Society) in a leadership role. Their

service must have enabled the Society to stimulate interest and promote innovative research in coal geology. Contributions include educational activities, administrative duties, or the development of the Society.

3. Nominees recommended for education must demonstrate a high degree of dedication and significant impact as a teacher of organic petrology or related disciplines.

If you would like to nominate a candidate for the 2019 Castaño Honorary Membership Award, please submit a letter of recommendation and a brief vita of to Paul Hackley nominee Dr. phackley@usgs.gov, Chair of the Committee by May 31, 2019. It is strongly suggested that supporting letters of recommendation colleagues and other scientists accompany the nomination package. Emphasis should be placed on the significance of the nominee's research and contributions.

Nominations will be reviewed by the Castaño Award Committee and results will be announced at the Annual Meeting to be held in Bloomington in September 2019. The selection process confidential and nominees do not have to be former or current TSOP members.

THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes the contributions of members who have provided distinguished service to TSOP as a Society, typically in committee or elected Council positions, over multiple years. This is distinct from contributions to the science through research or education, which TSOP recognizes through The Castaño Award. A list of previous Distinguished Service Award winners is available on the TSOP website.

If you know of a TSOP member who you think deserves a Distinguished Service Award, please send your nominations to Thomas Gentzis at Thomas.Gentzis@corelab.com.

SPACKMAN AWARD

Graduate Student Research Grants

Call for Applications

Deadline: May 31, 2019

PURPOSE

The Spackman Award, formerly known as the TSOP Student Grants Program supports graduate thesis research in organic petrology. Research must demonstrate the utility and significance of organic petrology (which includes coal petrology, kerogen petrology, organic geochemistry and related disciplines) in solving the thesis problem.

ELIGIBILITY

The Spackman Award supports qualified graduate students from around the world who are actively seeking advanced degrees. Applicants who have previously been granted a Spackman Award are not eligible to apply for a second grant under the scheme.

AWARDS

A maximum of two monetary awards, up to U.S. \$1,000.00 each, will be granted. All applicants, whether successful or unsuccessful, are eligible to apply for one year of TSOP Student Membership at no cost.

CONDITIONS

Monetary awards are to be applied to expenses directly related to the student's thesis work, such as field expenses, laboratory analyses, etc. A portion (not to exceed 25%) of the award funds may be used to attend a TSOP Annual Meeting. Funds should not be used to purchase capital equipment, to pay salaries, tuition, room, or board during the school year. Funds must be spent by the end of the calendar year following granting of the award, and an account of expenditure with copies of receipts should be provided by the end of that year (December 31, 2020 for awards granted in 2019).

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Completed applications must be e-mailed by **May 31, 2019** to:

Isabela Suarez-Ruiz
Chair of TSOP Spackman Committee
isruiz@incar.csic.es

STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD



Deadline for the TSOP 2019 in Bloomington is **June 1, 2019**

PURPOSE

The Student Travel Award is designed to support student attendance at the annual TSOP meetings.

ELIGIBILITY

The Student Travel Award is open to students who have submitted an abstract for presentation (either an oral or poster) at the annual TSOP meeting. The abstract must be accepted to qualify for the award.

AWARDS

Up to four monetary awards of \$750 (US) each will be granted. Money will be sent to the awardees before the TSOP Annual Meeting.

CONDITIONS

Monetary awards are for expenses directly related to travel to attend a TSOP Annual Meeting. Funds should not be used to fund research, purchase equipment, pay salaries, tuition, room or board during the school year. Students receiving the award will be required to provide receipts detailing travel spending to TSOP after the meeting has concluded.

Please note: Students are responsible for obtaining necessary visas for travel. If you received the Student Travel Award and are unable to travel to the conference the award money have to be returned to TSOP.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Application forms are available on the TSOP website.

Completed applications must be e-mailed by June 1, 2019 to Rachel Walker at editor@tsop.org

Vol. 36, No. 1



The 36th Annual Meeting of The Society for Organic Petrology will be held in Bloomington, Indiana, USA from September 7 to 11, 2019. Bloomington is a vibrant little town with a diverse and rich culture situated in south-central Indiana and is home to Indiana University (IU). Founded in 1820, Indiana University Bloomington is the biggest of IU's eight campuses and the largest in the state. From its humble beginning as the "State Seminary" and only 12 students graduating in the first year, IU now ranks in the top 50 universities in the United States. IU's campus is located in the heart of the Indiana Limestone Heritage Trail and has been recognized as one of the five most beautiful collegiate campuses in the USA. Please join us in Bloomington as we celebrate the 36th TSOP Annual Meeting and explore the beauty and history of Indiana's limestone!



Indiana University campus (photo by IU)

PLEASE VISIT THE CONFERENCE WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO

https://www.tsop.org/TSOP2019/index.htm

CONFERENCE VENUE

The Indiana Memorial Union (IMU) will be the venue of the TSOP 2019 meeting. The IMU is located in the heart of the Indiana University campus at 900 E. 7th Street, Bloomington, IN, USA. IMU is the world's second largest student union building under one roof. The facilities include administration offices, meeting rooms, hotel, official IU bookstore, movie theater, dining facilities, technology center, billiards room, and a bowling alley!



Indiana Memorial Union (photo by IU)

CONFERENCE TOPICS AND ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The conference will have 4 technical sessions:

- 1) Oil and gas shale evaluation
- 2) Coal and coalbed methane
- 3) Unconventional applications of organic petrology
- 4) Solid bitumen in unconventional systems

Abstracts for the 36th Annual Meeting of The Society for Organic Petrology should be submitted via email by **June 15, 2019** to agdrobni@indiana.edu. Please visit conference website for more info about abstract submission.

https://www.tsop.org/TSOP2019/abstracts.htm

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Conference registration is now open! Conference registration services are provided by Indiana University conference services. Please visit the conference website for more info about registration: https://www.tsop.org/TSOP2019/registration.htm

VISA TO USA

Visitors to the USA must present a valid passport and a valid visa issued by a US Consular Official, unless the visitor is a citizen of a country eligible for the Visa Waiver Program. Conference attendees are personally responsible for making their own visa arrangements. Please visit the website of the U.S. Department of State for more information about traveling to the USA and visa requirements. https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas.html

PLEASE NOTE: We will not be providing "Letters of Invitation" to the conference; however, "Letters of Confirmation" (acknowledging that you will be attending the conference) can be requested. According to Indiana University policy, you must be registered for the TSOP conference before you can receive the "Letter of Confirmation".

To request the "Letter of Confirmation" please email iuconfs@iu.edu and include the information below:

- 1) Legal name (as it appears in your passport)
- 2) Legal address
- 3) Source of funding for the conference
- 4) Proof of paid TSOP conference registration

We will be providing 100% registration refund for anyone whose US visa is denied until August 15, 2019. No other registration refunds will be provided. Cancellation requests must be submitted in writing to iuconfs@iu.edu.

Please visit conference website for more info about US visa: https://www.tsop.org/TSOP2019/visa.html

TRAVELING TO BLOOMINGTON

The international airport in Indianapolis (IND) is the closest airport to Bloomington. It takes from 60 minutes (by car) to ~80-90 minutes (by shuttle) to drive from the airport to Bloomington. Please visit conference website for more info about transportation options from Indianapolis airport to Bloomington: https://www.tsop.org/TSOP2019/travel.htm



Indianapolis International Airport Colonel H. Weir Cook Terminal (photo by hok.com)

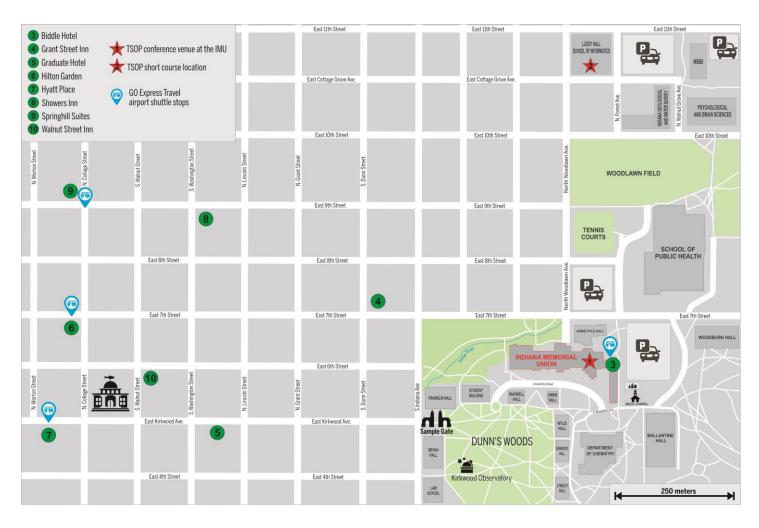
HOTELS IN BLOOMINGTON

Please make your hotel reservations well ahead of time. There will be a football game in Bloomington on Saturday, September 7, 2019. The hotel prices that weekend might be much higher than during the week, and the hotels will fill up quickly.

Conference organizers blocked 25 rooms at the Biddle Hotel and 25 rooms at the Hyatt Place Hotel for TSOP conference attendees. The block release date is **August 6, 2019**, at which point any rooms not reserved will be released back to the hotels for general sale.

Please visit conference website for more info about hotels: https://www.tsop.org/TSOP2019/hotels.htm

Location of the TSOP 2019 conference venue and recommended hotels



A min

Vol. 36, No. 1

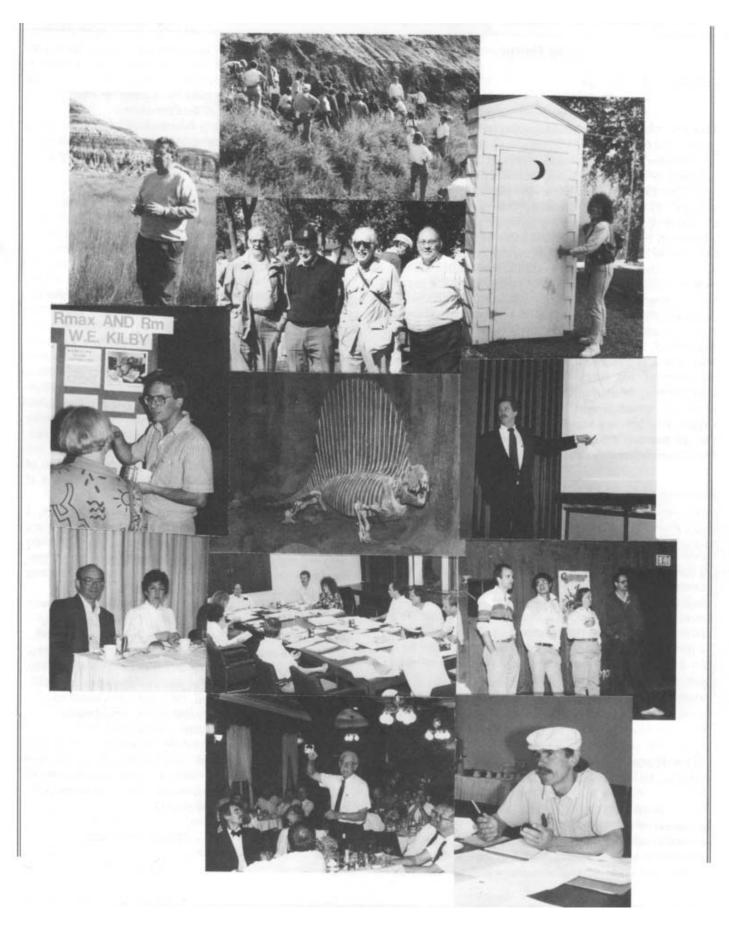
CALENDAR OF EVENTS



2019

Please send in meeting, short course and special event announcements to the Editor http://www.tsop.org/events.html

AAPG	May 19-22, 2019 Annual Convention & Exhibition 2019 – San Antonio, TX, USA
GOLDSCHMIDT BARCELONA 2019 18-23 AUGUST	August 18-23, 2019 Goldschmidt Conference - Barcelona, Spain
	September 3 -6, 2019 2019 International Pittsburgh Coal Conference - Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA
TSOP The Society for Organic Petrology	September 7-11, 2019 36th Annual TSOP Meeting - Bloomington, IN, USA
ICCP	September 15-21, 2019 71st ICCP Annual Meeting – The Hague, Netherlands
THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA®	September 22-25, 2019 GSA Annual Meeting – Phoenix, AZ, USA
American Geophysical Union	December 9-13, 2019 2019 AGU Fall Meeting - San Francisco, CA, USA



Flashback in Time! From the April 1990 TSOP newsletter featuring scenes from the 1990 Annual Meeting in Calgary, Canada.