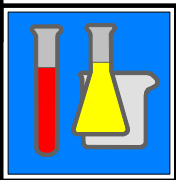




THE SOCIETY FOR ORGANIC PETROLOGY



NEWSLETTER

Vol. 25, No. 2

June, 2008

ISSN 0743-3816

**The 25th Annual TSOP Meeting with ICCP will be in
Oviedo, Asturias, Spain,
September 21-27, 2008.**




AUDITORIO
PALACIO DE CONGRESOS
PRÍNCIPE FELIPE
OVIEDO



Meeting information available at

www.incar.csic.es/iccp_tsop

25th Annual TSOP Meeting with ICCP
September 21-27, 2008
Oviedo, Spain
See pages 7-9

Conference Themes Include:

- **Advances in Organic Petrology and Organic Geochemistry.**
- **Applied Organic Petrology to Coal utilization and coal by-products.**
- **Organic Petrology in the context of Clean Coal Technologies**
- **Organic Petrology and Environment**

Meeting details at the website below:

www.incar.csic.es/iccp_tsop

Planned Schedule Includes:

Sunday, September 21:

Ice Breaker and ICCP Council Meetings

Monday September 22:

ICCP Commission Meetings

Tuesday, September 23:

ICCP Commission and Council Meetings

Wednesday, September 24:

ICCP Commission and Plenary Meetings

TSOP Council Meeting

Thursday, September 25:

TSOP Technical Sessions and Business Lunch

Joint TSOP-ICCP Science Session

Friday, September 26:

TSOP Technical and Poster Sessions

Evening Conference Dinner

Saturday, August 27:

Field Trip to Asturian Jurassic and Museum

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, 2008
September Issue: Sept. 5, 2008**

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:

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 photos of the Asturian coastline of Spain, location of the upcoming 2008 TSOP and ICCP Meeting.

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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.

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President’s Letter

Dear TSOP Members,

It is with the greatest pleasure that I announce the recipient of our 2008 John Castaño Honorary Membership Award—James C. Hower. Jim is receiving our Society’s highest honor based on his significant and lasting contributions to the field of coal geology in research, service to the community, and teaching. He has worked on almost every aspect of coal geology, including organic and inorganic petrology, coal quality, coal utilization, combustion by-products, and environmental aspects of coal utilization. The list is almost inexhaustible. His work in applied coal and coal combustion by-product petrology is the benchmark in the U.S. coal research community. Jim is also recognized as the expert in Kentucky coal quality variation, and he has extensive field experience in coal mines of both eastern and western Kentucky.

Jim and his co-workers have published over 200 peer-reviewed technical articles out of a total of 648 publications on just about every aspect of coal geology. He has been the tireless Editor-in Chief of the International Journal of Coal Geology (IJCG) during the last ten years and he has successfully transitioned the journal from a mostly North American venue to a truly international one. How good is he as editor? The citation index of IJCG is higher than that of the American Association of Petroleum Geologist Bulletin.

We are not the first Society to honor Jim. He was awarded the 1996 Gordon H. Wood, Jr. Memorial Award from the Eastern Section Energy Minerals Division, American Association of Petroleum Geologists; the 1997 Outstanding Kentucky Geologists Award from the Kentucky Section of the American Institute of Professional Geologists, the 2003 Reinhardt Thiessen Medal of the International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology; and the 2006 Gilbert H. Cady Award of the Coal Geology Division of the Geological Society of America. However, I am of the opinion that his newest award, the 2008 John Castaño Honorary Membership Award from The Society of Organic Petrology, is the highest honor of all. Congratulations to Dr. James C. Hower, our esteemed colleague and friend!

I’m looking forward to seeing you all in Oviedo, Spain at the Annual Joint Meeting of ICCP-TSOP. The organizing committee of Isabel Suárez-Ruiz, Angeles Borrego, Diego Alvarez, José Ramón Montes, Begoña Ruiz Bobes, and Borja Arias Rozada has done a spectacular job planning for a most stimulating meeting. Thank you.

Best,
Jingle Ruppert

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Institutional Support Acknowledgement

On behalf of TSOP Council we would like to say thank you to the following Institutional Level Supporters for your consistent support of the Society and its goals.

Special thanks to Institutional Level Supporters:

- Albert Tamashauskys, Director of Technical Services, Asbury Carbons.
- Bob Cluff, President, The Discovery Group, Inc.

* * * * *

Call for Research Subcommittee Proposals

After being active for several years the two research subcommittees sponsored by TSOP are nearing completion of their work. The Research Committee is therefore calling for proposals for new subcommittees. Sponsorship by TSOP of a research proposal has advantages. Among them are the following: 1) having an international network of colleagues to consult and assist 2) the potential to receive grants from TSOP of up to \$1000 US per year to pursue the research and 3) the prestige of having one’s project officially sponsored by an international scientific society.

Starting a Research Subcommittee:

Starting a Research Subcommittee is a straightforward process. New subcommittees may be initiated at any time. A proposal is submitted to the Research Committee Chairman using the one page form provided for that purpose. With the endorsement of the Research Committee Chairman, the proposal is submitted to Council for approval at its mid-year or annual meetings. Monetary grants (\$1000 US per year) are available through Council to pursue subcommittee activities. A subcommittee chairman (a member of TSOP) will be nominated by the Research Committee Chairman (generally the principle investigator) and approved by Council. A subcommittee is discontinued when there has been no activity for two years. There is presently no limit on the number of years a subcommittee may exist as long as there is progress on the research. The proposal form is located on the TSOP website under “*TSOP Activities, Research Committee: Propose a Project*” or the form is available from Suzanne Russell at sjruss@sbcglobal.net.

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Email Updates Needed!

Just a friendly reminder to TSOP Members to make sure they have an up-to-date email address on file with TSOP. Email is an important and useful method for the TSOP Council to contact members and disseminate information and

receive notice that the latest issue of the Newsletter is available.

If you have changed email addresses recently, please remember to send the new email address to the Editor at rwalker@coalpetrography.com.

To check whether TSOP has your current email address, please consult your current copy of the TSOP Membership Directory.

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2008 TSOP Spackman Award Student Grant Applications

The Research Committee is pleased to announce that nine applications have been received for the 2008 TSOP Spackman Award. The applications have been submitted by students attending universities in Australia, Columbia, Canada, Germany and the U.S.A. The applicants include one Master's candidate and eight PhD candidates. Applications will be independently reviewed by three TSOP non-student members. The Spackman Award will be presented at the TSOP Annual Meeting in September in Oviedo, Spain.

The 2008 applicants' research topics and institutions follow:

National University of Columbia, Medellín: Organic Petrography of Lithotype Associations in Coal Seams of the Amagá Formation and Its Evaluation in the Pyrolysis and Activation Process and as a Hydrocarbon Source Rock

RWTH Aachen University: Experimental and Modeling Study of Thermodynamic and Kinetic Behavior of Chinese Coals Associated with CO₂ Coal seam Sequestration and CO₂-ECBM Recovery

Stanford University: Quantifying the Links between Rock Physics and Geochemical Properties of Oil Shales

University of California Berkeley: Lipid Biomarker Preservation in a Hypersaline System: Implications for the Search for Life on Mars and for Kerogen Formation under Evaporative Regimes

University of Cincinnati: Stomatal Parameters of Middle Devonian-Early Carboniferous Land Plants as a record of Paleatmospheric CO₂ variation

University of Georgia, Athens: Distribution of Diagenetic Alterations of Mg-rich Clay Minerals in late Mississippian Carbonates within a High-resolution Sequence. Stratigraphic Framework

University of Houston: Dissolved Organic Carbon in Groundwater- A New Method in Petroleum Exploration

University of Manitoba: Mercury and Organic Matter in the Mackenzie River Basin, Northwest Territories, Canada

University of New South Wales: Factors Affecting Gas in Coal Systems with Special Reference to the Hunter Coalfield

* * * * *

Infrared Analysis of Fossil Plants: Different Pathways of Organic-Matter Transformation

J. A. D'Angelo^{1,2}, L. B. Escudero^{1,2}, E. L. Zodrow³ and W. Volkheimer²

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² *Departamento de Geología y Paleontología, IANIGLA-CCT-CONICET, Mendoza. Avda. Ruiz Leal s/n Parque Gral. San Martín (5500) Mendoza, Argentina.*

³ *Department of Geology, Cape Breton University, Sydney, Nova Scotia, Canada B1P 6L2.*

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Fine-grained continental clastic deposits of the Triassic Cuyo Basin outcrop at the southeastern foot of the Cacheuta Hill, Argentinian Precordillera, Mendoza Province. The outcropping strata correspond to the limit between the fluvial Potrerillos Formation and the overlying lacustrine Cacheuta Formation (of early Late Triassic age). Of special paleochemical interest is a sequence of nearly 5-m thick sediments, observable at "Trinchera La Mary" locality. Near its base, resting on a 12-cm thick, root-bearing paleosol, can be observed a thin layer of 0.8-cm of "paper coal". Its grey-brown matrix is argillaceous; it contains numerous, compact masses of cuticles, some of them of several cm of length whose chemistry is under study.

Chemical knowledge of fossil remains preserving organic matter has greatly benefited from the advent of new techniques of chemical analysis requiring small sample amounts only (a few milligrams, except for Nuclear Magnetic Resonance, NMR, which requires 20-30 mg. This is particularly the case of plant and invertebrate remains. Over the last years several studies have focused in the chemical analysis of leaf cuticles by means of Fourier Transform Infrared spectroscopy (FTIR). This novel information includes functional groups and semi-quantitative variables derived from FTIR spectra of Carboniferous gymnosperms and ferns (e.g., Zodrow et al., 2003; Zodrow and Mastalerz, 2001, 2007). Chemical studies (specially FTIR) of fossil plant remains from Argentina are still very limited (e.g., D'Angelo, 2006; D'Angelo and Volkheimer, 2007; D'Angelo et al.,

2007).

Spectroscopic information obtained from fossil plant remains including cuticle-free compressions, liquid compression extracts, cuticles from compression, and naturally macerated cuticles (leaf, rachis, mid-vein and stem) is useful for studies in coal petrology. This is particularly the case of FTIR-derived information, which can be used for determining different pathways of organic matter transformation (kerogen types) as well as the similarities with coal macerals (e.g., vitrinite, bituminite, cutinite and others).

The plant remains under study originated from the Triassic of Argentina and the Carboniferous of Canada, and the U.S.A. Selected taxa from the Late Triassic of Cacheuta, Mendoza, Argentina include *Dicroidium odontopteroides* var. *odontopteroides*, *Johnstonia coriacea* var. *coriacea* (Corystospermales, Corystospermaceae). Those selected from the Upper Carboniferous of Sydney Coalfield, Canada, include *Alethopteris ambigua* and *A. subzeilleri* (Medullosales), and from Illinois Coalfield, U.S.A. *Karinopteris* sp. (pteridosperm) of the famous Indiana paper coal (DiMichele et al., 1984).

FTIR studies report chemical data of plant contributions to sedimentary organic matter, providing some information on the survival of organic matter in Carboniferous and Triassic sediments. Infrared information from fossil remains include a relatively rich aliphatic structure as well as hydroxyl, carbonyl and some other oxygen-containing functional groups. Semi-quantitative data, obtained from different regions of FTIR spectra, clearly show the dissimilarities between fossil remains with different preservation modes.

As part of our intensive ongoing research activities, cuticles and compressions of different Carboniferous-Mesozoic plant groups are currently being analyzed by solid and liquid state proton and ¹³C NMR (400, 700 and 800 MHz instruments), liquid-state FTIR techniques, and by gas chromatography coupled to mass spectrometry. Ensuing results are expected to furnish new information (complementary to solid-state FTIR data) regarding the palaeophytochemistry of certain fossils, pathways of organic matter transformation, which as a whole will prove useful palaeochemotaxonomically for evolutionary systematics of Carboniferous-Mesozoic seed ferns, which cannot be achieved solely by morphology.

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D'Angelo, J. A., Zodrow, E. L. and Mastalerz, M., 2007. Compression or cuticle - What is the difference? *The Society for Organic Petrology Newsletter*, 24(4): 8-9.

DiMichele, W. A., Rischbieter, M. O., Eggert, D. L. and Gastaldo, R. A., 1984. Stem and leaf cuticle of *Karinopteris*: Source of cuticles from the Indiana "paper" coal. *American Journal of Botany*, 71(5): 626-637.

Zodrow, E. L. and Mastalerz, M., 2001. Chemotaxonomy for naturally macerated tree-fern cuticles (Medullosales and Marattiales), Carboniferous Sydney and Mabou Sub-Basins, Nova Scotia, Canada. *International Journal of Coal Geology*, 47: 255-275.

Zodrow, E. L. and Mastalerz, M., 2007. Functional groups in a single pteridosperm species: Variability and circumscription (Pennsylvanian, Nova Scotia, Canada). *International Journal of Coal Geology*, 70: 313-324.

Zodrow, E. L., Mastalerz, M. and Šimůnek, Z., 2003. FTIR-derived characteristics of fossil-gymnosperm leaf remains of *Cordaites principalis* and *Cordaites borassifolius* (Pennsylvanian, Maritimes Canada and Czech Republic). *International Journal of Coal Geology*, 55: 95-102.

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Cafeteria in the Prince Philip Auditorium, Oviedo, Spain.

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**The ICCP-TSOP Joint Meeting, 2008
September 21-27, 2008 in Oviedo, Spain.**

The ICCP-TSOP Joint Meeting in 2008 (60th Annual Meeting of The International Committee for Coal and Organic Petrology – ICCP, and the 25th Annual Meeting of the Society for Organic Petrology – TSOP) will be held at the Auditorium Prince Philip, in Oviedo (Spain), September 21-27. This Meeting is organized by the Instituto Nacional del Carbón (INCAR-CSIC, www.incar.csic.es)

1- **Key Conference Themes** will include:

- **Advances in Organic Petrology and Organic Geochemistry**
- **Applied Organic Petrology to Coal utilization and coal by-products.**
- **Organic Petrology in the context of Clean Coal Technologies**
- **Organic Petrology and Environment**

2- **Call for Papers**: Submit Abstracts for Technical Oral and Poster Presentations by **April 15, 2008** via Email to:

Dr. Isabel Suarez-Ruiz.
Email: isruiz@incar.csic.es

Address:

Instituto Nacional del Carbon (INCAR-CSIC)
Francisco Pintado Fe, 26
33011-Oviedo. SPAIN

Phone: +34985119090 / +34985118981
Fax: +34985297662

Abstracts must be 250-300 words maximum, sent as Microsoft Word or Text files. Figures, Tables, or special formatting are not required. In the e-mail indicate whether an Oral or Poster presentation is preferred.

After review and notification of acceptance, authors will also be invited to submit their papers for a special issue of the International Journal of Coal Geology.

3- **Registration, Conference Dinner and Field Trip Fees:**

Full Registration includes the participation in both ICCP and TSOP sessions, the ice-breaker party, Business Luncheon and Meet the TSOP Council Event, and coffee breaks.

Registration:

Delegate members : 160 Euro.

Non- members: 200 Euro

Meeting Students: 60 Euro

Meeting Guests: 85 Euro

Conference Dinner: 50 Euro

Field Trip to the Asturian Jurassic Formations: 60 Euro

(All fees must be paid **in cash** at the meeting upon registration)

Additional information about the ICCP-TSOP Joint Meeting is available at: www.incar.csic.es/iccp_tsop

4- **Meeting Venue**

Oviedo is the capital of the Asturias Principality (North Spain) and is the administrative and commercial centre of the region. Its history can be traced back over 12 centuries. Oviedo is one of the most outstanding cities in Spain, successfully contrasting the modern features and services with its many corners just brimming with history, which are there to be enjoyed by one and all. Oviedo is also characterized by its rich architecture reflected in its Cathedral, Churches, Town Hall, etc. Some of the Oviedo

Monuments were declared UNESCO World Heritage since 1985.

More information about Oviedo available at the Website: www.ayto-oviedo.es/en/theCity/theCity.php

The Joint Meeting will be at the Auditorium Prince Philip in Oviedo: A modern building with a neoclassical style erected upon the foundations of old water deposits, whose unique stone structure can be appreciated in various places throughout the edifice.

More information about the meeting venue center available at the Website:

www.ayto-oviedo.es/en/areas/culture/princePhilipAuditorium/princePhilipAuditorium.php

5- Accommodation

A series of hotels from 2 to 5 stars are recommended. These hotels are located in Oviedo downtown close to the Conference venue that may be reached by walking. Delegates must make their own reservations.

Hotel Ramiro I (4 stars): 83 €(single room)- 127 (double room) €plus 7% taxes.

Calvo Sotelo, 13. Oviedo

Phone: +34985232850 /+34902303555

Website: www.hotelramiro.com/.

Hotel Fruela (3 stars): 80 €- 150 €plus 7% taxes

Fruela, 3. Oviedo

Phone: +34985208120

Website: www.hotelfruela.com

Hotel NH Principado (3 stars): 131 €- 175 €plus 7% taxes

San Francisco, 6. Oviedo

Phone: +34985217792

Website: www.nh-hotels.com/

Hotel Occidental de La Reconquista (5 stars): 175€- 220€plus 7% taxes

Gil de Jaz, 16. Oviedo.

Phone: +34985241100

Website: www.hoteldelareconquista.com/

Hotel Santa Clara (2 stars): 50 €- 85€plus 7% taxes

Santa Clara, 1. Oviedo

Phone: +34985222727, Website: www.hscoviedo.com/

Hostal Romero (2 stars): 36 €- 54 €plus 7% taxes

Uria 36-38, 2º. Oviedo.

Phone: +34985227591

Website: www.hostalromero.net/

Email: hostalromero@telecable.es

Accommodation inquiries:

Begoña Ruiz Bobes (begorb@incar.csic.es)

Jose Ramón Montes Sánchez (joseramon@incar.csic.es)

For more information and general inquiries about the Joint Meeting:

Isabel Suarez-Ruiz

Email: isruiz@incar.csic.es

phone: +34985119090 / +34985118981

Fax: +34985297662

Joint ICCP-TSOP Meeting, September 21-27 (Sunday-Saturday) 2008. Oviedo (Spain)

Instituto Nacional del Carbón (INCAR - CSIC)

MEETING SCHEDULE

Time	Sunday September 21	Monday September 22	Tuesday September 23	Wednesday September 24	Thursday September 25	Friday September 26	Saturday September 27
8:30 - 9:00					ICCP	TSOP	Field trip
9:00 - 9:30		Registration	Registration		Pl. Session	Technical Session	Asturian Jurassic and Museum Visit
9:30 - 10:00	Council Meeting	Welcome & ICCP General Assembly	ICCP	ICCP	Joint Scientific Session		
10:00 - 10:30	ICCP		Commission Meeting	Commission Meeting	ICCP-TSOP		
10:30 - 11:00					TSOP Technical Session		
11:00 - 11:30					Business Luncheon and Meet the TSOP Council Event	Lunch break	
11:30 - 12:00							
12:30 - 13:00							
13:30 - 14:00	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break	Lunch break			
14:00 - 14:30							
14:30 - 15:00							
15:00 - 15:30							
15:30 - 16:00	Council Meeting	ICCP	ICCP	ICCP		TSOP Technical Session	
16:00 - 16:30	ICCP	Commission Meeting	Commission Meeting	Commission Meeting		Poster Session	
16:30 - 17:00							
17:00 - 17:30							
17:30 - 18:00							
18:00 - 18:30	Registration & Ice-Breaker Party						
18:30 - 19:00							
19:00 - 19:30							
19:30 - 20:00			Council Meeting	Council Meeting			
20:00 - 20:30			ICCP	Commission Meeting			
20:30 - 21:00				Plenary Session			
21:00 - 21:30							
21:30 - 22:00							
22:00 - 22:30							
22:30 - 23:00							
23:00 - 23:30							
23:30 - 24:00							

Goldschmidt 2008
July 13 – 18, 2008
Vancouver, Canada

The Goldschmidt Conference is the premier annual meeting in geochemistry. Vancouver is repeatedly voted to be one of the best cities on the planet. Goldschmidt in Vancouver should be a meeting not to be missed!

The University of British Columbia campus is the perfect setting for a large, prestigious meeting like the Goldschmidt Conference. The natural beauty of the campus, coupled with the spectacular views of the Pacific over the Burrard Inlet, the north shore mountains and the downtown core of Vancouver inspire thousands of visitors each summer. Accommodation is available to suit every budget, either on campus UBC or downtown in Vancouver.

Please visit the website for more details:

<http://www.goldschmidt2008.org/index>

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Gordon Research Conference
August 3-8, 2008

Holderness School, New Hampshire, USA

The 2008 conference will highlight the cutting edge in organic geochemistry in both biogeochemical and energy-related scholarship. The meeting will focus on geochemical processes, their associated organic molecular and isotopic signatures and their implications for understanding geologic, biological and energy systems. Topics and speakers will draw from a diversity of research fields, including analytical methods, biogeochemistry, molecular biology, and resource geochemistry.

The conference will include the following sessions:
Biodegradation: Integration of Models and Observations, On the Leading Edge in Petroleum Geochemistry: Polars and Asphaltenes, Geochemical Challenges in Energy Alternatives: the Interface of Energy and the Environment.

Please see the website for further information:

<http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2008&program=orggeo>

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Joint Congress of the
12th International Palynological Congress,
8th International Organization of Paleobotany
Conference, and the
41st AASP Annual Meeting

August 30 – September 6, 2008

Bonn, Germany

The next major international conferences in paleobotany and palynology, the XII IPC and VIII IOPC, will be held in Bonn, from August 30 to September 6, 2008. This promises to be a historical event, as both professional associations will not only be meeting in the same city, but at the same time and at the same place. To further interaction and integration between paleobotanists and palynologists, there will be joint symposia and sessions, as well as plenary lectures of interest to both fields. Please visit the website for more details:

<http://www.paleontology.uni-bonn.de/congress08/index.htm>

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25th International Pittsburgh Coal Conference

September 29 - October 2, 2008

The Westin Convention Center,
Pittsburgh, PA, USA

Throughout the world, coal is a major energy source, providing nearly 25% of the world's primary energy consumption. Although coal's share of total energy use was previously expected to decline in the future, the recent high cost of natural gas and petroleum together with projected increasing demand and decreasing reserves of both have created a heightened interest in the use of coal within the United States. However, to maintain this growth, the industry must be responsive to increasing pressures on environmental emissions and global warming as well as improve its public image.

The Twenty-Fifth Annual International Pittsburgh Coal Conference focuses on environmental emissions issues and technologies surrounding the continued use of coal and the development of future coal-based energy plants to achieve near-zero emissions of pollutants, reduced costs, and high thermal efficiency while producing a suite of products to meet future energy market requirements.

Please visit the website for more information:

<http://www.engr.pitt.edu/pcc/2008%20Conference.htm>

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Calendar of Events

2008

July 13 – 18, 2008: American Carbon Society Carbon 2008 Conference, Nagano, Japan. <http://endomoribu.shinshu-u.ac.jp/carbon2008/>

July 13 – 18, 2008: Goldschmidt 2008, Vancouver. Session 12d: Sedimentary basins: fluids, energy and metallic resources. www.goldschmidt2008.org/themeView?theme=12

August 3-8 2008: Gordon Research Conference, Holderness School, New Hampshire, USA. Application deadline: July 13, 2008. Please see the website for the conference program and more information: <http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2008&program=orggeo>, or contact Kate Freeman (kate@geosc.psu.edu).

August 6-14, 2008: 33rd International Geological Congress, Oslo. Special Session ‘Organic Geochemical Archives of Paleoenvironmental Conditions in Sediments of the Deep and Coastal Ocean, Lakes, and Rivers’ and ‘Organic-Rich Marine Sediments: climate records from anoxic oceans linked to process-based modeling of petroleum source rock.’ www.33igc.org

August 17 - 21, 2008: American Chemical Society Fall national meeting, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. www.chemistry.org

August 30 – September 6, 2008: Joint Congress of the 12th International Palynological Congress and the 8th International Organization of Paleobotany Conference and the 41st AASP Annual Meeting. Bonn, Germany. <http://www.paleontology.uni-bonn.de/congress08/index.htm>

September 7 – 10, 2008: The 12th International Nanoplankton Association (INA) meeting, Lyon, France. Studies based on lipid biomarkers/organic geochemistry are welcome. <http://ina2008.univ-lyon1.fr>

September 29 - October 2, 2008: 25th International Pittsburgh Coal Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, USA. www.engr.pitt.edu/pcc/2008%20Conference.htm

September 22 - 28, 2008: TSOP and ICCP Joint Annual Meeting, Oviedo, Spain. www.incar.csic.es/iccp_tsop

October 5 - 8, 2008: Geological Society of America Annual Meeting, Houston, Texas. Celebrating the International Year of Planet Earth! www.geosociety.org/meetings/

October 23-24, 2008: 11th NMOG Conference, Norwegian Meeting on Organic Geochemistry, Stavanger, Norway. <http://www.nmog.net/nmog2008.html>

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Calendar Updates Invited!

If you have information on an upcoming meeting that is not currently in the Calendar of Events, please send the information to the Editor at rwalker@coalpetrography.com

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Meeting Reports invited!

Reports and photographs from meetings of interest to TSOP members are needed for inclusion in the newsletter. Please refer to article submission guidelines on page 3 and send any reports or pictures to the Editor at rwalker@coalpetrography.com

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The Streets of Old Oviedo, Spain.



Plaza de Trascorrales



Calle Salsipuedes



Calle Cimadevilla