



The Society for Organic Petrology

NEWSLETTER

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The 41th Annual TSOP Meeting, September 7-14 2025, Yogyakarta, Indonesia



The Candi Prambanan Temple

From <https://theworldtravelguy.com/prambanan-temple-ancient-hindu-temples-in-java-indonesia/>

TOP NEWS

- Updates of 41 Annual TSOP meeting in Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- TSOP Dal Swaine Award
- Call for Nominations for 2025 John Castaño Award
- TSOP Members Contributions: Atlas of Microscopic Images of Raw Biomass

TSOP PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear TSOP Members,

As the end of the year approaches, I know many of you are juggling busy schedules and wrapping up your commitments. I hope you are all staying well and finding moments to recharge during this hectic season.

This year, we held 40th TSOP annual meeting in Mongolia, marking the first time our society has hosted a meeting in this country and our second in-person conference since the pandemic. It was a wonderful opportunity to reconnect face-to-face, exchange ideas, and strengthen collaborations – catching up with many colleagues and friends, and meeting some in person for the first time in years.

Additionally, we successfully launched and hosted three TSOP-EAOG joint seminars, with recordings of two of them now available on TSOP's YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/@thesocietyfororganicpetrology>) for anyone who may have missed them. These joint seminars were initiated to foster knowledge sharing in this era of energy transition and to strengthen the bonds within the global academic community.

If you are interested in presenting your recent work in a future seminar, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Looking ahead, we are pleased to announce that our next online seminar will take place shortly after the New Year. It will be delivered by Prof. Joan Esterle, the previous recipient of the John Castano Honorary Membership Award, from the University of Queensland. Further details will be shared with you soon, and we hope you can join us for what promises to be an inspiring event.

As the holiday season approaches, I would like to wish you all and your families a joyful Christmas and a prosperous New Year. For those celebrating the Lunar New Year, I also extend my warmest wishes for happiness, good health, and success in the Year of the Snake! See you next year!

Best wishes,
Lei Zhao, TSOP President 2023-2025



Dr. Lei Zhao
TSOP President

Conference theme

Unconventional hydrocarbon resources and critical minerals in future energy

- ◆ The Host Organization: Department of Geological Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Yogyakarta, Indonesia
- ◆ Conference Chair: Prof. Ferian Anggara
- ◆ Advisor: Dr Tim A Moore, Cipher Consulting Pty Ltd, Queensland University of Technology, China University of Mining and Technology
- ◆ Conference dates: September 7-14, 2025
- ◆ The conference website should be available soon

Tentative Schedule

Date/Time	Day-1	Day-2	Day-3	Day-4	Day-5 to 9
Morning	Cultural Fieldtrip	Workshop-1 Workshop-2 Workshop-3	Technical Sessions	Technical Sessions	Post-conference Field Trip
Mid-Day		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
Afternoon		Workshop-1 Workshop-2 Workshop-3	Technical Sessions	Technical Sessions	
Evening	*Registration	*Registration ○ Ice Breaker ○ Council Meeting	○ Student Drinks Function ○ TSOP Conference Dinner	Pre-field trip briefing	

John Castaño Honorary Membership Award - Call for nominations, 2025

TSOP members are invited to nominate the scientist of their choice for the 2025 John Castaño Honorary Membership Award, The Society for Organic Petrology's highest honor (www.tsop.org/honmem.htm). The award acknowledges distinction in a scientific discipline of significance to the society, in recognition of contributions in research, service to TSOP, or education. The John Castaño Honorary Membership 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.



If you would like to suggest a candidate for the 2025 John Castaño Honorary Membership Award, please submit a letter of recommendation and a brief vita of the nominee to:

Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan, University of Silesia, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Institute of Earth Sciences, ul. Będzińska 60, 41-200 Sosnowiec, Poland; email: magdalena.misz@us.edu.pl by May 31, 2025.

It is suggested that supporting letters of recommendation from colleagues and other scientists accompany the package. Emphasis should be placed on the significance of the nominee's work.

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

The committee evaluates research, service and educational impact on the following criteria:

- 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.
- Nominees recommended for service must demonstrate significance contributions to TSOP 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.
- Nominees recommended for education must demonstrate a high degree of dedication and significant impact as a teacher of organic petrology or related disciplines.

Dr. Magdalena Misz-Kennan

TSOP Vice President

Chair of the Honorary Member Selection Committee

ATLAS OF MICROSCOPIC IMAGES OF RAW BIOMASS USED IN FUEL PRODUCTION

Agnieszka Drobnia^{1,2,3*}, Zbigniew Jelonek^{1,3}, Maria Mastalerz^{2,3}, Grzegorz Lis⁴, William W. Knauth², Iwona Jelonek^{1,3}

¹ University of Silesia in Katowice, Faculty of Natural Sciences, ul. Będzińska 60, 41-200 Sosnowiec, Poland

² Indiana University, Indiana Geological and Water Survey, 1001 E. 10th St., Bloomington, IN 47405, USA

³ Centre for Biomass Energy Research and Education, University of Silesia in Katowice, ul. Będzińska 60, 41-200 Sosnowiec, Poland

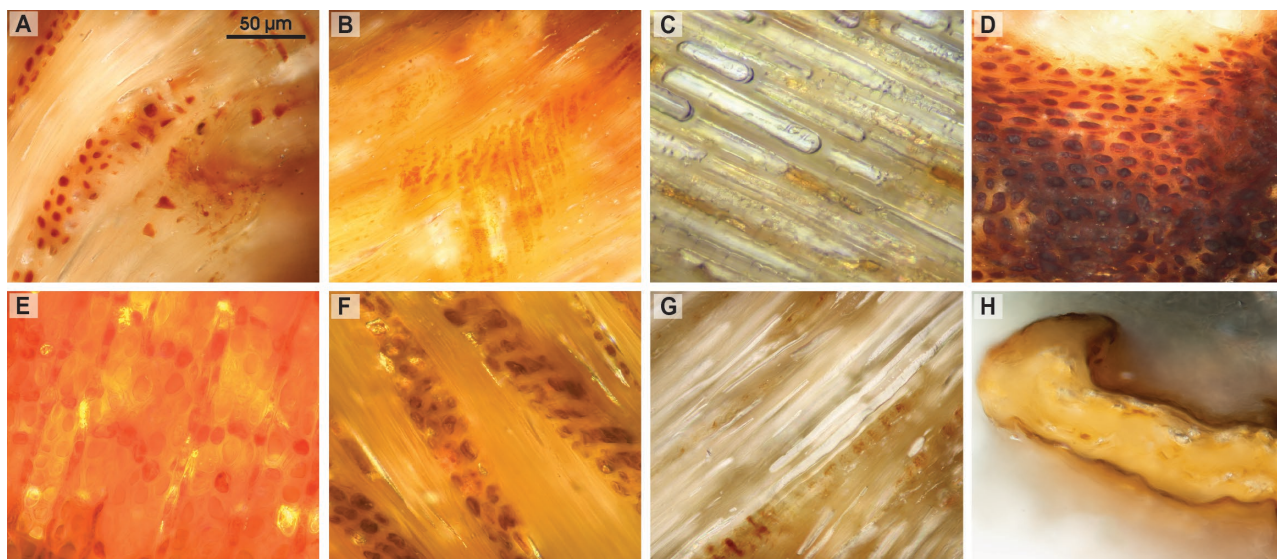
⁴ University of Wrocław, Institute of Geological Sciences, Maks Born Square 9, 50-204 Wrocław, Poland

[CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE PUBLICATION](#)

As nations strive toward achieving sustainability and reducing reliance on fossil fuels, biomass has emerged as an indispensable component of worldwide energy portfolios. Biomass, derived from organic materials such as plants, agricultural residues, forestry byproducts, and organic waste, is a renewable energy source and abundant resource with significant potential across various sectors. Responsible biomass energy production can aid in waste management, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and mitigate environmental pollution by utilizing organic materials that would otherwise be discarded.

With the anticipated growth in biomass use for energy, it is essential to establish analytical techniques for assessing the quality of the fuel feedstock materials. This will enable to better comprehend the implications of using biomass fuels on public health and our ecosystem. One such technique is reflected light microscopy, which has the potential to significantly enhance the conventional (physical and chemical) quality assessment of biomass-derived fuels. This technique enables rapid observations of material constituents and identification of impurities, and it can be applied not only to fuels but also to biomass-based pellets used in animal feed and bedding.

Given the scarcity of publicly accessible microscopic images of biomass materials, the “Atlas of Microscopic Images of Raw Biomass” fills this gap by offering a comprehensive collection of 553 images. These photomicrographs capture the optical characteristics of a diverse array of biomass feedstock, demonstrating unique morphological and structural features. This visual documentation can serve as a valuable resource for researchers, industry professionals, educators, and enthusiasts interested in investigating the complexities of biomass forms.



TSOP MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Are you a student who needs a mentor? Are you a senior scientist who wants to help guide and strengthen the next generation of organic petrologists?

If so, we are excited to invite you to join The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP) Mentorship Program!



Whether you're a student, early-career researcher, or an organic petrologist in training, our program offers you the opportunity to engage in personalized one-on-one mentorship sessions with leading experts, educators, and scientists in the field of Organic Petrology.

Our esteemed mentors include renowned figures such as Prof. Brian Cardott (University of Oklahoma), Prof. Hamed Sanei (Aarhus University), Prof. Henrik Petersen (Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland), Prof. Longyi Shao (China University of Mining & Technology), Prof. Shifeng Dai (China University of Mining & Technology), and Dr. Thomas Gentzis (Core Laboratories).

Participating in this program will give you invaluable insights, help clarify your career goals, and provide access to an exclusive network of professionals. It's a unique opportunity to refine your focus, develop your skills, and reach your full potential in the field.

If you're interested, please contact TSOP Councilor Sherry (Xiaowei) Zheng at zhengxiaowei1103@outlook.com, or visit our website at <https://tsop.org/mentorship.html>.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEADLINES



April 30, 2025

Deadline for TSOP Student Travel Award



April 30, 2025

Deadline for TSOP Ward Emerging Student Researcher Award



May 31, 2025

Deadline for TSOP John Castaño Honorary Membership Award



May 31, 2025

Deadline for TSOP Spackman Award



September 7-14, 2025

41st TSOP Annual Meeting – Yogyakarta, Indonesia



September 17-24, 2025

76th ICCP Annual Meeting – Beijing, China



TBA, 2026

42st TSOP Annual Meeting – TBD, China



September 13-18, 2026

77th ICCP Annual Meeting – Porto, Portugal



TBA, 2027

Join 43rd TSOP & 78th ICCP Annual Meeting
Johannesburg, South Africa – PROPOSAL RECEIVED

ABOUT TSOP

The Society for Organic Petrology (TSOP) is a non-profit organization for scientists and engineers involved with coal petrology, kerogen petrology, organic geochemistry, and related disciplines. The Society organizes an annual technical meeting, provides funding for students' research, and travels and sponsors research projects. TSOP is an AAPG-affiliated society. Please find us on [Facebook](#), join the [LinkedIn](#) group, and visit our [website](#) to learn about our history, bylaws, goals, events, and membership.



TSOP incorporated as a non-profit organization in the state of Virginia, USA, in 2008. Following application in June, 2009, the US Internal Revenue Service granted recognition of 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status on February 9, 2010. Classified as a public charity, TSOP is exempt from U.S. Federal income tax, and U.S. contributions to TSOP are tax deductible (section 170 of the Code). TSOP is also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers, or gifts (sections 2055, 2106, or 2522 of the Code).

TSOP NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

TSOP publishes a quarterly newsletter that is available free of charge. Articles, reports on meetings, photos, events, or job postings are welcome. Items for the newsletter may be submitted to the TSOP Editor [Biao Fu](#).

TSOP Newsletter Submission Deadlines:

December Issue: December 5th,
March Issue: March 5th
June Issue: June 5th
September Issue: September 5th

TSOP MEMBERSHIP DUES

TSOP dues payments are due on **December 31st each year**. Please use the quick links below to check your membership status and make your payment. Please direct your questions to TSOP Treasurer [Agnieszka Drobnia](#).

Professionals:

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

Students: \$15 per year

Institutional/Corporate: \$75 per year

QUICK LINKS

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