

# PSAMMONALIA

Newsletter of the  
International Association of Meiobenthologists



Number 110, November 1995

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## EDITORIAL

If you could see me now, you would see a man with a large smile on his face. Oh, it is not just that this is my last issue of *Psammonalia*. Yes, it will be nice to have more time to perform my own research, but I will actually miss the many correspondences that I have had with colleagues around the world. I am really happy, because November is a double gift. My duties to IAM are over, and I have just completed organizing the 13th International Estuarine Research Federation (ERF) Conference. The ERF conference has been a full-time job since August. Completing, both these tasks in the same month is quite a burden off my shoulders. I am also happy, cause I love this time of year. I enjoy the turn of the season, the holidays, and the new year. I always find it a time for rejoicement and renewal. I am also happy because I know that *Psammonalia* will be in good hands. I know I speak for each of you in wishing the best to Magda Vincx as she begins her three-year term.

I have received only positive responses to the suggestion of amending the IAM Constitution to create an Assistant Treasurer. Bruce Coull suggested that the Assistant Treasurer be made a member of the Executive Committee. I think this is a good idea, and have included it in the amendment to the bylaws. Therefore, you see in this issue an official ballot to amend the constitution to create this position.

I am also printing a copy of the Constitution in this issue. I am told by Bob Higgins that John Gray is the author of the first draft of the IAM Constitution, and that Bob himself wrote the second draft. I wish I had done this during my first issue. It would have forced me to read it, and then I think I would have been a better Chairperson. (Hint for Magda, read the Constitution and Bylaws). As Bob Higgins phrased it to me, "professional societies become confused because no one reads the Constitution and Bylaws carefully before some action is taken."

Let me give a good example of some current confusion. According to Article 6, the Executive Committee (EC) should consist of the Chairperson, Treasurer and up to four additional members. The Immediate Past-Chairperson and Treasurer are automatically on the EC, therefore only two At-Large members may be on the EC. At-large members of the EC have staggered 6-year terms. This means we should select one new At-Large member at each triennial meeting. In the past, we have been selecting two or three At-Large members every three years, and should have selected only one. Bob Higgins, tells me that he thinks the intent was to have two new At-Large members every three years. In Perpignan, I should have made certain that a new At-Large member was elected for a 6-year term to expire in 2002. I goofed, and must rectify this. I will recommend a new member to Magda Vincx.

As a final service to the Association, I am publishing the e-mail directory I compiled based on membership forms and

messages that I have received. Two things are certain, many addresses are wrong, and the list is incomplete. Please help me update the file before I send it to Magda by sending a short e-mail message. Voting for the bylaw amendment is perfect!

Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year! ☺, ed.

### Guest editorial

Every now and then, geneticists actually have something interesting to offer. A pair of recent articles<sup>1</sup> offer evidence that insects and crustaceans may not be as far removed from each other as we often think. The study, led by developmental geneticist Sean Carroll at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, focused on the biramous appendage of *Artemia*. The researchers found that leg branching is controlled by a single gene during development. In insects, this gene is not activated, leading to an unbranched leg, while in crustaceans the gene is activated, leading to one or more branches (the exopodites, endopodites and various epipodites). The gene's plasticity means that it is not necessary to invoke separate ancestors for insects and crustaceans in order to explain the diversity of arthropod limb patterning, Carroll asserts. In fact, the groups may have shared a common ancestor as recently as 400 million years ago. The take home message for systematists is that the presence or absence of branching in the crustacea should not be viewed as a distinguishing characteristic for a particular taxonomic group. (More ammunition for the lumpers in the "lumpers versus splitters" feud!). The researchers plan to turn their attention next to possible arthropod precursors, such as annelids. Finding expression of the gene in annelids could suggest how closely related they are to arthropods. To bad it did not occur to the geneticists to look at an onycophoran.

-Greg Street

## PROPOSED BYLAW AMENDMENT

The following proposed new bylaw is recommended to the Association by Robert Feller and Paul Montagna. Votes for or against the new bylaw must be received by December 31, 1995. Send votes to Paul Montagna by one of several methods: regular mail, fax (512)749-6777, or preferably e-mail: paul@utmsi.zo.utexas.edu:

Paul Montagna  
University of Texas at Austin  
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Port Aransas, Texas 78373

<sup>1</sup>Roush, W. 1995. Gene ties arthropods together. *Science*. 270:1297.

Panganiban, G., Sebring, A., Nagy, L., and Carroll, S. 1995. The development of crustacean limbs and the evolution of arthropods. *Science*. 270:1363-1365.

*Proposed Bylaw 6. Assistant Treasurer*

The Treasurer may appoint an Assistant Treasurer to collect dues without conversion loss. Appointment of the Assistant Treasurer must be approved by the Chairperson. The Assistant Treasurer may also pay expenses, transfer funds to the Treasurer, or perform other duties as requested by the Treasurer with the approval of the Chairperson. The Assistant Treasurer reports financial records to the Treasurer, who reports to the Association. The Assistant Treasurer is a member of the Executive Committee.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*International Journal of Meiofaunal Zoology*

The International Journal of Meiofaunal Zoology (I.J.M.Z.) will begin publication in early 1996. The journal incorporates *Tardigrada Mundi*. The new journal will be devoted to all aspects of the biology of animal groups found in terrestrial, freshwater, and marine meiofauna taxa. Dr. Yves Séméria will be the Editor on behalf of the scientific association AS.MO.NE, France. Ian Kinchin (England) will be the Assistant Editor. The Editorial Board consists of Hieronim Dastych (Germany), Willem De Smet (Belgium), Jim Green (England), and Giovanni Pilato (Italy). The journal will appear twice yearly, with the first issue due in early 1996. Annual subscription will be 30,000 French Francs (about \$US 65). Annual subscription should be sent to: AS.MO.NE, Compte Chèque Postal 3 175 69 Y, Marseille, FRANCE. Articles will be printed mainly in English, but French and Italian are also acceptable. Instructions to authors are listed in the back of this issue of *Psammonalia*. Manuscripts should be submitted for review by January 31, 1996 to the Editor in Chief:

Dr. Yves Séméria  
25, Rue Parmentier  
F-06100 Nice  
FRANCE

*Ludox*

Colloidal silica, in particular Ludox, is commonly used for extracting meiofauna from samples. A common problem has been that Ludox, which is produced for use in iron foundries, has only been available in industrial quantities. Those Meiofaunalists who can't afford the expense of, and who don't have the space to store, gallons of the stuff, will be pleased to know that Ludox is now available (in all grades, e.g. TM, AM etc.) in one and four liter amounts. -Paul Somerfield

You can order Ludox from:

Aldrich Chemical Company  
The Old Brickyard  
New Road  
Gillingham  
UNITED KINGDOM

*News from and for the Nematologists*

Prior to the Nematode session of NIMCO on Friday 7th July 1995, a brief (< 1 hour) general meeting of the nematologists present was held. After having discussed a list of the international experts currently working and publishing on free-living aquatic nematodes (see below), the debate was to decide if it was still fruitful or not to revive the series of Symposia on Aquatic nematodes started in Gent August 1977, the last of which was held in Yerseke in August 1990. The general feeling was that these meetings provided excellent opportunities for us to informally discuss our particular problems, but the question of where and when they should be held created a great deal of discussion.

Time being too short to reach a conclusion, I have proposed to use *Psammonalia* for a wider debate and to obtain a consensus. From the established list it is obvious that the majority of nematologists are working in Europe. It would be easier then for them to have a gathering in one of the European countries. The fact that XIMCO will be held in Plymouth in July 1998 seems to easily solve the problem for our next meeting. Nematologists are numerous enough at PML to organize a whole day discussing such topics as how to deal with biodiversity, nematode systematics, ecology, inventories, methodological problems, deposition of type material, etc. Formal papers on nematodes could, of course, also be given to a wider audience in the normal XIMCO sessions. This informal round-table discussion day could be an extra day before the official XIMCO.

I know that it is very soon to plan 3 years ahead, but it would be good for the organizers to know if they have to add an extra day for the nematologists, which was not possible to organize in Perpignan.

Please, let me know whether you feel this is a good idea and intend to participate, or if you have a better idea. Of course, this suggestion does not preclude the possibility of someone arranging a meeting or workshop on a special nematological topic earlier than this, if they feel that there is a need for it. We also would not wish to establish a rigid formula of nematode meetings prior to every future meiofauna conference.

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Nematologists involved in taxonomy of free-living aquatic nematodes (and date of first publication)

Argentina	Pastor de Ward, C. 1979
Australia	Hodda, M. 1987 Nicholas, W. L. 1984 Stewart, A. C. 1984
Austria	Ott, J. 1967
Belgium	Decraemer, W. 1974 Smol, N. 1981 Soetaert, K. 1987 Vanreusel, A. 1986 Verschelde, D. 1992 Vincx, M. 1981
China	Zhang, Z. N. 1982
Croatia	Vidakovic, J. 1987
Denmark	Jensen, P. 1976
France	Boucher, G. 1970 Bovée, F. De 1972 Gorbault, N. 1980 Vitiello, P. 1967
Germany	Blome, D. 1974 Bussau, C. 1990 Lorenzen, S. 1966 Riemann, F. 1965
Hungary	Andrassy, I. 1952
Italy	Zullini, A. 1970 freshwater
Japan	Kito, K. 1975 Shirayama, K. 1989 Yoshimura, K. 1980
Netherlands	Bongers, T. 1983 Bouwman, L.A. 1981
Russia	Alekseev, V. M. 1977 Belogurova, L. I. 1972 Fadeeva, N. P. 1983 Galtsova, V. V. 1976 Gagarin, V. G. 1971 freshwater Kulangieva, L. 1995 Malakhov, V. V. 1982 Mokievsky, V. O. Pavljuk, O. N. 1984 Smolanko, O. I. Tchesunov, A. V. 1975 Tsalolikhin, S. Y. 1987 (Baikal) Yushin, V. V. 1984
South Africa	Furstenberg, J. P.(+M. Vincx) Heyns, J. 1977 freshwater
Spain	Palacin, C. 1985
Ukraine	Sergeeva, N.G.
U.K.	Austen, M.C. 1989 Ferrero, T. 1995 Lambshhead, P.J. 1981 Sommerfield, P. 1995 Warwick, R. 1969
U.S.A.	Hope, D. 1967 Keppner, E.J. 1986 Tietjen, J. 1967

## NEWS FROM MEMBERS

Mike Gee reports that the Plymouth Marine Laboratory (PML) has new telephone numbers:

PML Fax number 01752 633101

PML reception telephone 01752 633100

You can now direct dial to members of staff as follows:

Richard Warwick 01752 633428

Mike Gee 01752 633449

Melanie Austen and Andrea Mcevoy 01752 633489 or 633440

Paul Somerfield 01752 633449 or 633440

Wonchoel Lee reports that he is presently working on deep sea Harpacticoida from Sagami Bay, Japan. The mean sampling depth is 1,000 m. There are many tegastiids and cerviniids. He is seeking information on tegastiid harpacticoids. Please send it to him.

Keith Walters, has moved to MTSU. He has gotten away for the splendid island isolation that was Sapelo Island, Georgia. He will be developing marine biology courses for the department and would appreciate any advice and insights into a good text and some easy labs that can be carried out 10 hrs away from a coast. See address change below.

### Address changes

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## MICROFAUNA MARINA

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## RECENT LITERATURE

- Al Rasheid K.A.S., Sleight, M.A. 1995 Distribution and abundance of interstitial ciliates in Southampton water in relation to physicochemical conditions, metal pollution and availability of food organisms; *Estuarine, Coastal Shelf Science* 41(1):21-38
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**International Association of Meiobenthologists**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL**

The International Association of Meiobenthologists is a non-profit scientific society representing meiobenthologists in all aquatic disciplines. The Association is dedicated to the dissemination of information by publishing a quarterly newsletter and sponsoring a triennial International Conference. The newsletter, *Psammonalia*, is published mid-month in February, May, August and November. The next International Conference will be July 3-7, 1995 in Perpignan, France.

Membership is open to any person who is actively interested in the study of meiofauna. Annual membership dues are \$10 US and you may pay up to 3 years in advance, i.e., \$30. New members will receive *Psammonalia* beginning with the February issue of the current year. If you are able, please add extra money to be contributed to the Bertil Swedmark Fund, which is used to help students or others who wish to attend the triennial International Conference.

Please check appropriate boxes:

- New member
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\$US \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed for \_\_\_\_\_ years. Regular member at \$10 /year. Patron or Sustaining member at \$50/year.

\$US \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed to contribute to the Bertil Swedmark Fund.

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Dues must be paid in US dollars. Make checks payable to Intl. Assoc. of Meiobenthologists. Send dues and applications to:

Dr. Robert Feller  
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# The International Journal of Meiofaunal Zoology

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### TEXT

3 copies of each article should be submitted for refereeing. Contributions should not exceed 20 typewritten pages in length. Typing should be double spaced, on one side of the paper only and with a wide left hand margin. The preferred language of the Journal is English, but French and Italian are also acceptable. Every manuscript must be accompanied by a summary of no more than 100 words. This should include no references. Up to 6 keywords additional to those in the title may be suggested. The name of genera and species should be underlined once, and no other terms in the text should be underlined. Avoid footnotes and abbreviations; if abbreviations are used, they must be defined the first time they occur and used consistently. Authors are required to pay page charges after the 10th printed page at the rate of 50 FF (French francs) per page (pages 11-20- and 100 FF per page thereafter).

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Give each table a short title and type them double spaced and upright (not sideways) on a separate sheet of A4 paper. Tables should be numbered consecutively. Indications should be given in the margin of the text to show the position where they are to appear. Give units for all data.

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## CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MEIOBENTHOLOGISTS

### *Article 1. Name*

The name of the Association shall be the International Association of Meiobenthologists.

### *Article 2. Objectives*

The objectives of the Association shall be the general advancement and promotion of the study of meiobenthos in all its aspects.

### *Article 3. Capital and Income*

The capital and income of the Association shall be devoted solely to the furtherance of its objectives as stated in Article 2, and no portion thereof shall be paid to any officer or member of the Association except in respect of the repayment of any out-of-pocket expenses properly incurred, or reasonable and proper remuneration in return for services rendered to the Association.

### *Article 4. Dissolution*

In the event of the Association being dissolved for any reason, the surplus funds remaining after payment of debts and liabilities shall not be distributed among members, but shall be paid or transferred to some other institution or institutions, approved by the Council, having objectives similar to those of the Association. Any outstanding liabilities of the Association at dissolution shall be shared equally among the membership.

### *Article 5. Dues*

Annual dues will be charged to cover expenses of the Association and will be set by the bylaws.

### *Article 6. Officers and Elections*

The elective officers shall be a Chairperson, a Treasurer, and up to four additional members comprising the Executive Committee. The Chairperson and Treasurer shall be elected every three years and the former shall then automatically become a member of the Executive Committee during the three years following his/her tenure as Chairperson. Previous Chairpersons of the Association shall thereafter continue on as ex-officio members of the Executive Committee.

The remaining Executive Committee members shall be elected every six years and shall hold office for six years. The expiration date of the terms of office of these Executive Committee members shall be arranged so that only two members of the Committee will be elected in any triennium.

All newly elected Officers shall assume their duties at the beginning of the next calendar year following their election.

### *Article 7. Council*

The Council shall consist of the Executive Committee and the Board of Correspondents.

### *Article 8a. Chairperson*

The Chairperson shall act as Editor of the Newsletter and in this capacity shall be responsible for the production of the Newsletter of the Association.

### *Article 8b. Treasurer*

The Treasurer shall keep the financial records of the Association and shall present an annual statement of the accounts at the end of each calendar year, to be included in the first issue of the Newsletter of the Association of the succeeding year.

### *Article 9. Executive Committee*

The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the business affairs of the Association. It shall assist the Chairperson in the

production of the Newsletter of the Association and it shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Chairperson.

*Article 10. Board of Correspondents*

The Board of Correspondents shall consist of up to twelve members of the Association and shall be appointed by the Chairperson with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. The Board of Correspondents shall assist the Chairperson and other members of the Executive Committee in gathering literature and news items for the Newsletter of the Association and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Chairperson. The Board of Correspondents shall retire automatically with the retiring Chairperson.

*Article 11. Nominations*

Nominations for any office may be made in writing by any two members of the Association not later than April 1st in an election year. The Council must certify that each candidate is willing to stand for office and serve if elected. The Council shall give due consideration to equitable representation of the geographical distribution of the membership of the Association. Additional nominations for officers may be made by the Council.

*Article 12. Elections*

Should elections of Officers be necessary, these will be held by mail ballot. The Chairperson in his/her capacity as Editor, shall mail ballots to each member in the May issue of the newsletter in an election year. A brief biographical sketch of each candidate shall accompany the ballots. The Chairperson shall count and record the votes received by November 1st and include the results in the November issue of the newsletter. The candidate or candidates receiving the greatest number of votes shall be elected to office. The Chairperson shall notify the candidates for office of the vote by mail. In the event that a vote results in a tie, the members of the Council shall vote by mail to resolve the tie. Should a tie still result the Chairperson shall have the deciding vote.

*Article 13. Finance*

The expenses of the Association shall be paid from the funds of the Association within the limits in the budget of the Association. The Chairperson shall authorize all payments.

*Article 14. Bylaws*

Bylaws to augment this Constitution may specify details and less fundamental provisions, but shall not alter the intended meaning of this Constitution, or circumvent its provisions.

Additional bylaws may be proposed in writing by any two members in good standing and shall be adopted if a majority of the members are in its favour as shown by a mail ballot.

Bylaws may be amended upon recommendation by the Council, by a majority vote of members of the Association in good standing in a mail ballot.

*Article 15. Amendments*

This Constitution can be amended only by a two-thirds majority of those members in good standing voting in a mail ballot. Amendments may be proposed by any member in writing to the Chairperson who shall submit such proposal to the Council for consideration and vote. Any amendment that five members of the Council deem worthy of consideration shall be submitted to the members of the Association for vote.

Proposed constitutional amendments must be included in a newsletter 6 months in advance of balloting in order to receive and include in the balloting issue any comments received during this interim. The close of receipts for ballots shall be the first day of the sixth month following the balloting issue and the results shall be included in that month's newsletter.

*Article 16. Enabling Article*

This Constitution and its accompanying bylaws shall be adopted in full force and effect from January 1st 1971.

*Article 17. Swedmark Fund (Amendment November 1992)*

The Association shall maintain and administer a permanent fund which shall be designated as the Bertil Swedmark Fund. At the discretion of the Executive Committee, gifts and bequests will be received for inclusion in this Fund. After deduction of the expenses necessary for the administration of the Fund, twenty-five percent of the income of the Fund shall be returned to the Fund as principal and the remaining seventy-five percent shall be used exclusively for the support of the Association. The principal of the Fund shall be invested in interest earning instruments and shall be kept inviolate, provided, however, that nothing in this Constitution or in the bylaws shall prevent the Executive Committee at any regular meeting from transferring the Bertil Swedmark Fund to a university or other incorporated institution or organization, under such conditions as shall safeguard the permanence of the Fund and its application to the general purpose for which it was intended; such power to be vested in the Executive Committee only after securing and in obedience to the expressed will of a majority of the (constitutional) members of the International Association of Meibenthologists, or after the constitutional failure of said Association.

## BYLAWS OF THE ASSOCIATION

### *Bylaw 1. Annual Dues*

Annual dues for Regular Members shall be determined by the Council at a rate consistent with the currency under which the treasury is operating at a given time. The rate for Sustaining Members and the rate for Patron Members shall be five times that of Regular Members. Dues shall be payable in advance before January 1st to the Association. Payment of annual dues shall be made in International Money Orders or form of payment not subject on conversion loss to the Association in the currency under which the treasury is operating at a given time. Current dues plus one additional year's dues may be paid at one time. The Chairperson may send PSAMMONALIA via air mail to any member who requests this service and who pays the additional postal expenses.

### *Bylaw 2. Membership Rights*

No membership rights shall be continued longer than six months from date notifying arrears.

### *Bylaw 3. Newsletter*

The Newsletter of the Association shall be called "PSAMMONALIA". Its purpose shall be to promote the objectives of the Association as defined in Article 2.

### *Bylaw 4. Conferences*

Conferences of the Association shall be held triennially, if practicable. The purpose of such conferences shall be to promote the objectives of the Association as defined in Article 2. Business of the Association may be conducted at such conferences, including nomination and election of officers, adoption of bylaws, and amendment of the Constitution or its bylaws, in accordance with the articles of the Constitution, but with a vote of the members in good standing substituting for a mail ballot.

### *Bylaw 5. Bertil Swedmark Fund Committee*

There shall be a standing committee of three members known as the Bertil Swedmark Fund Committee to take charge of the fund and to determine how the income from it should be expended for the participation of students in the Association's conference meetings. Policy of said committee shall be subject to review and concurrence of the Executive Committee. The Chairman and two members of the Bertil Swedmark Fund Committee, shall be appointed by the Executive Committee to serve for a period of six years, renewable at the discretion of said committee. Should the Chairman be unable to serve, the vacancy shall be assumed by a member of the Bertil Swedmark Fund Committee designated by the Chairman of the Association until the next meeting of the Association at which a new Chairman shall be appointed by the Executive Committee. Should a member of the said committee be unable to serve, a new member shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Association until the next meeting of the Association at which time a new member shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.