

PSAMMONALIA

Newsletter of the
International Association of Meiobenthologists



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Good luck to the new chairman and editorial board!



3 months later...

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You may make your donations to the *Bertil Swedmark Fund* directly to the IAM bank account (account number 6586667) of the Lloyds Bank (Sort code 30-96-68), 8 Royale Parade Plymouth PL1 1HB, UK.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Marleen De Troch, Tom Moens, Ann Vanreusel,
Dominick Verschelde, Magda Vincx.



EDITORIAL

Three years ago I was thinking now and then on the day the last issue (this one) should be prepared...However, once again I realise how fast time is moving.

The 12 issues produced were only possible with the intensive help of my enthusiastic collaborators : Ann Vanreusel, Marleen De Troch, Tom Moens, Dominick Verschelde, Regine Coolen and Wies Gyselinck.

Also Marleen is preparing herself for reading the Japanese issues (cf. frontpage...)

I wish good luck to the new crew !

Magda Vincx

Report general meeting members of IAM at XIMCO (Plymouth, July 1998)

1. **Yoshihisa Shirayama** was elected as the new chairperson of IAM for the next three years. Because of his activities in many research field of meiobenthology and as a member of the executive committee of the IAM, he was considered as a perfect candidate for this.

It was also decided that **Ann Vanreusel** would stay chairperson for European members since the use of the VISA/EUROCARD transfer system worked most convenient, while **Bob Feller** will be asked (not present at the meeting) to stay co-treasurer for the American members.

2. Yoshihisa Shirayama and James Ward will be replaced as members of the executive committee by **David Thistle and Guy Boucher**.

4. **Keith Walters** was elected as the new webmaster, who will be responsible for providing Psammonalia on the website and sending Psammonalia by Email to those members who do not longer want to receive a paper copy of the Newsletter. The Newsletter will only be available on the website three months after actual appearance.

5. The annual membership fees will always amount 10 \$ for payments to the American treasurer or 10 EURO's (6 sterling pounds) for payments to the European treasurer.

6. It was decided that the Swedmark Fund will provide each three years two to three scholarships (depending on the interest, donations and Raffle income) for young Phd students to join the International Meiofauna Conference, on the condition that they are member of the IAM and that they are giving a presentation on the International Meiofauna Conference. In the case of more candidates a selection will be made by the Executive Committee.

News from the treasurer

Many of you have renewed their membership of the IAM in Plymouth, but some of you will have to renew their psammonalia membership (end of membership is always indicated on the envelope) at the end of this year. In any case there is now the possibility to receive your issues only by E-mail, which has to be indicated on the application form. Those members who don't have to renew now, but also would like to receive psammonalia by E-mail, just send an Email to Shirayama (yshira@seto.kyoto-u.ac.jp or yshira@bigfoot.com). In both cases, membership fees remain the same (10 \$, 6 £ or 10 EURO's). However, instead of Belgian Francs, fees should be paid in EURO's (by providing your VISA/EUROCARD nrs, and expiry date) to the European treasurer, or in American dollar to the American Treasurer. The application forms should be sent to either me or Bob Feller. So for renewal of your applications nothing changes except for the fact that we would like to know how you would like to get your issues : by E-mail or by Air mail.

Ann Vanreusel
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

7th International Conference On Copepoda

25-31 JULY 1999 Curitiba, Brazil

The 7th International Conference On Copepoda (7th ICOC) will be held in Curitiba, Brazil, during the austral winter of 1999. The conference will cover several aspects

of copepod research, including taxonomy, phylogeny, ecology, zoogeography, ecophysiology, biochemistry and genetics. This meeting is sponsored by the World Association of Copepodologists (WAC) and hosted by the Federal University of Paraná.

Proceedings

Papers are invited on all aspects of copepod research. The contributed papers will be published in the international journal *Hydrobiologia* and in the corresponding book series,

Developments in Hydrobiology. Guest editors for this volume are Rubens Lopes, Janet Reid and Carlos Rocha. We invite you to submit manuscripts directly to one of the guest editors, at the conference address. Please do not submit your manuscript to the journal editor.

Submission

deadline is July 30, 1999.

Important dates

15 December 1998: Expression of interest.

28 February 1999: Submission of abstracts; Final registration; Payment of registration fee; Booking of hotels & conference excursions; Application for financial assistance.

16 April 1999: Deadline for cancellation with refund of conference fee.

1 May 1999: Notification of acceptance of contributed papers and posters.

1 June 1999: Final circular and program; Notification of travel scholarship recipients.

30 July 1999: Submission of manuscripts for review and publication.

Program

Sunday, 25

15:00-19:00 - Registration

19:30-21:30 - Informal cocktail with live music

Monday, 26

9:00-9:30 - Opening session of the conference

9:30-12:25 - Symposium I - Copepod development: its evolutionary and ecological implications

9:30-9:35 - Opening by Hans-Uwe Dahms (University of Oldenburg)

9:35-10:10 - Adrianna Ianora: Copepod life history traits: the trade-off between physiological, ecological and evolutionary processes

10:10-10:45 - Bill Peterson: Patterns in stage durations and development among free-living copepods - rules, physiological constraints, and evolutionary

significance

10:45-11:15 - Coffee break

11:15-11:50 - Frank D. Ferrari: Segmental homologies of copepod swimming leg rami and their correlation to copepod habitat

11:50-12:25 - Rony Huys: Heterochrony in copepods - pattern, process and significance

12:25-14:00 - Lunch

14:00-14:50 - Plenary lecture: On the ecology of tropical planktonic copepods - Gustav-Adolf Paffenhöfer, Skidaway Institute of Oceanography

14:50-18:30 - Poster and oral presentations (with coffee break)

18:30-19:00 - Copepod spotlights: video about places of touristic interest in Brazil

Tuesday, 27

9:00-11:20 - Symposium II - Copepods in Antarctic and Subantarctic ecosystems

9:00-9:05 - Opening by Victor Marin (University of Chile)

9:05-9:40 - Sigrid Schiel: Approaches to the study of the life cycle of antarctic copepods

9:40-10:15 - Peter Ward: Deep-water copepods in the Southern Ocean - patterns and processes

10:15-10:45 - Coffee break

10:45-11:20 - Anna F. Pasternak: Feeding patterns of dominant Antarctic copepods - an interplay of diapause, selectivity, and availability of food

11:20-12:00 - Plenary lecture: Modelling as a tool for understanding copepod life history - François Carlotti, University P .et M. Curie

12:00-13:30 - Lunch

13:30-18:00 - Poster and oral presentations (with coffee break)

20:00- Visit to a local pub

Wednesday, 28

Whole day - Mid-conference excursion

16:00-18:20 - Symposium III - Copepods in challenging environments

16:00-16:40 - Janet Reid and Carlos Rocha: A human challenge - discovery and understanding continental copepod habitats

16:40-17:15 - Diana M. P. Galassi: Groundwater copepods - Diversity patterns over evolutionary and ecological scales

17:15-17:45 - Coffee break

17:45-18:20 - David Thistle: Is the deep-sea a challenging environment for harpacticoids?

Thursday, 29

9:00-11:55 - Symposium IV - Sexual dimorphism in copepods

9:00-9:05 - Opening by Geoffrey Boxshall (The Natural History Museum)

9:05-9:40 - Rony Huys: Sexual dimorphism – kingpin of

harpacticoid evolution

9:40-10:15 - Geoff Boxshall: Dwarf males and sexual dimorphism in parasitic copepods

10:15-10:45 - Coffee break

10:45-11:20 - Susumu Ohtsuka: Sexual dimorphism in calanoid copepods – morphology and function

11:20-11:55 - J. Rudi Strickler: Is there sexual dimorphism in the behavior of free-swimming copepods?

11:55-13:30 - Lunch

13:30-16:00 - Poster and oral presentations

16:00-16:30 - Coffee break

16:30-17:30 - Maxilliped Lecture (by the WAC president, Ju-shey Ho)

17:30-18:30 - WAC Plenary Session

21:00- 22:30 - Musical evening: A major Brazilian musician will play for conference participants, in a very special concert

Friday, 30

9:00-11:55 - Symposium V - Biogeography of copepods: a cross-section of the major taxa

9:00-9:05 - Opening by Dov Por (Hebrew University)

9:05-9:40 - Audun Fosshagen: Two cave-loving families of calanoids - the Ridgewayiidae and the Epacteriscidae

9:40-10:15 - Gisela Moura: Usefulness of freshwater harpacticoid copepods on biogeographical reconstructions - examples from some monophyletic taxa

10:15-10:45 - Coffee break

10:45-11:20 - Dov Por: The Palearctic-Ethiopian interphase, as expressed in the freshwater copepod fauna of Israel

11:20-11:55 - Fourth lecture to be confirmed

11:55-13:30 - Lunch

13:30-16:00 - Poster and oral presentations

16:00-16:30 - Coffee break

16:30-18:30 - Forum "Copepoda 2000"

20:30- Conference dinner

Saturday, 31

Daytime - Post-conference workshops and excursions

21:00 - Forró do Ceará - Brazilian dance

More information on the congress website:

<http://www.ufpr.br/eventos/icoc>

7th ICOC

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30th ECSA

9-13 AUGUST 1999, Hamburg (GERMANY)

The 30th Estuarine and Coastal Sciences Association (ECSA) annual conference will be in Hamburg from 9-13 August 1999. This is the main annual interdisciplinary marine science conference in Europe.

The theme is 'Impact of climate change in the coastal zone'.

Deadline for abstracts for offers of papers is 31 January 1999.

contact

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BENTHIC INVERTEBRATES IN FRESHWATER SYSTEMS

6th - 8th APRIL 1999

In conjunction with the British Ecological Society (BES), the Scottish Freshwater Group Meeting has been expanded to run over two full days in April 1999. The theme of the meeting is 'Benthic Invertebrates in Freshwater Systems' and we are expecting delegates from all over the UK & Ireland to attend.

Oral presentations will be held as usual at Stirling University on the Wednesday, with a second day of workshops and field trips on the Thursday run from Glasgow University's Field Station, Loch Lomondside.

Along with submitted presentations, four keynote speakers shall be attending. These are:

Dr. Jamie Dick (Queens University, Belfast) - "Individuals to populations: Behaviour meets ecology"

Dr. John Wright (Institute of Freshwater Ecology, Dorset) - "An Introduction to RIVPACS"

Dr. Jill Lancaster (University of Edinburgh) - "Do communities respond to the environment?"

Prof. Alan Hildrew (Queen Mary & Westfield College, University of London) - "Technology Foresight for benthic invertebrates - a load of crystal balls"

The themes of the oral sessions are 'Individuals to populations', 'Biomonitoring' & 'Community Ecology'

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS 20th FEBRUARY 1999.

Abstracts may be submitted by email, on 3.5" floppy disk (Mac or PC format), fax or by post, to:

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Interrelationships of the Platyhelminthes

14-16 JULY 1999, London, U.K.

The Meeting will be held at the Linnean Society in London from 14-16th July 1999, when it is hoped that a unified approach will be developed for the study of the phylogeny of the platyhelminths.

Speakers include Jaume Bagaña (Spain); Ian Beveridge (Australia); Walter Boeger (Brazil); Dan Brooks (Canada); Janine Caira (USA); Lester Cannon (Australia); Leslie Chisholm (Australia); Tom Cribb (Australia); Marco Curini-Galletti (Italy); Ulrich Ehlers (Germany); David Halton (N. Ireland); Eric Hoberg (USA); Ulf Jondelius (Sweden); Jean-Lou Justine (France); Jean Mariaux (Switzerland); Reinhard Rieger (Austria); Klaus Rohde (Australia); David Rollinson (UK); Ronald Sluys (Netherlands); Seth Tyler (USA); Nikki Watson (Australia); Willi Xylander (Germany), and others, who will be tackling a variety of topics from the interrelationships of various taxa from phylum to family level using morphology and/or molecules, the utility of certain morphological features (protonephridia, sperm morphology, etc.) and our latest understanding of the wider relationships with other metazoans.

Further details and programme from

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ELIMCO SCHEDULED FOR BOSTON, USA

The Eleventh International Meiofauna Conference (ELIMCO) has been scheduled. The meeting will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, U.S.A. during July 16 - July 20, 2001. A large committee has been formed to oversee

the conference planning. The committee is chaired by Paul

Montagna (paul@utmsi.utexas.edu) and is composed of Susan Bell, Joan Bernhard, Bruce Coull, Bob Feller, John Fleegeer, Margaret Palmer, Tom Shirley, Dave Thistle, John Tietjen, and Keith Walters. After reviewing several possible meeting sites and dates, the committee chose to have the meeting on the Boston University (BU) campus

<<http://www.bu.edu>>. Dorm rooms for 2001 should be below \$50/night. Inexpensive cafeteria meals will also be available. The BU campus is on a trolley line, close to downtown, and the airport can be reached by trolley. Boston is a great historical, "walking" city with many visitor attractions and should be a relatively convenient location for international travelers. The city and campus will provide an interesting venue at an affordable price. Please contact Paul Montagna, if there is a problem with the proposed conference dates, or if you have any suggestions. Further information about the conference will be forthcoming in one year.

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Interesting websites

-The Web page of the International Association of Meiobenthologists has moved.

The new Internet address is <http://www.mtsu.edu/meio>

- There is an impressive web site devoted to biodiversity, at

<http://ibs.uel.ac.uk/ibs/>

It has links to databases and websites on special taxa (see below) and more uniquely links to free software for plotting global biodiversity patterns, rarefaction curves, etc..

1. Taxonomic links

VIRUSES - Virus databases on-line

PROTISTA - Protista resources from BIOSIS

FUNGI

PLANTS

ANIMALS

- Ichthyology

- Invertebrate Paleontology

- Malacology

- Vertebrate Paleontology

- Zooarchaeology Comparative Collection Databases

Glasgow: Palaeobiology Research Group
 - British Brachiopods
 - New Zealand mollusc database Fishbase
 MIXED Species 2000
 Fossil Record 2 - M.J. Benton
 TRITON - Taxonomy Resource and Index to Organism Names
 2. Searching the data e.g.
 Species 2000
 Fishbase
 Mapping Global Plotter
 Palaeogeographic Maps plus PFR data
 Animated Palaeogeographic Maps (JAVA)
 3-D Maps (VRML)
 WORLDMAP Natural History Museum
 Manipulating Palaeontological Data Fossil Record 2
 Fuzzy Analyzer (JAVA) Interactive Manipulation of Enigmatic Palaeontological Data
 Hierarchies in Biology 1 (JAVA) This is a demonstration program about the hierarchic relationships between entities in biological data.
 Hierarchies in Biology 2 (JAVA)
 WWW Rarefaction This program calculates the rarefaction estimates and their 95% confidence intervals.
 Fishbase
 IOPI Global Plant Checklist Prototype

- There is a remarkable initiative at mapping the distribution of marine species, and relating distribution to environmental data, around the world using the Web.
 See <http://marine.rutgers.edu/staff/flanders>

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

'Gutless' nematodes

Dear colleagues,
 Now I conduct an extensive survey of the marine nematodes from the families Marimermithidae, Benthimermithidae, Rhaptothyreidae and other 'gutless' nematodes. These nematodes are mostly parasites of various deep-sea invertebrates including polychaetes, crustaceans, echinoderms and others. Their juvenile stages parasitize in body cavity and internal organs of benthic hosts, but adults quite frequently dwell freely in sediment where they reproduce. Hence the marimermithids and benthimermithids can be found by dissecting benthic invertebrates as well as in sediment samples among free-living nematodes. Their peculiar features are often more or less modified alimentary tract, sometimes large size.
 I look for an additional material from elsewhere. I would be very thankful for any possibility to study these

nematodes, for example for sending the specimens on loan. Details such as term, permissible methods (microscopical study of glycerin slides, dissection, SEM, TEM, etc.) we could discuss by post or e-mail.

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Address changes

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Primitivo S. Aceret wish to inform you of his new address:

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In addition I am happy to inform the IAM that I have just graduated with a Ph.D. in Biology at the Central Queensland University at Rockhampton last July with a thesis entitled " Culture Strategies for Redclaw, *Cherax quadricarinatus* von Martens, 1868) (Decapoda: Parastacidae) and Silver Perch, *Bidyanus bidyanus* (Mitchell, 1838) (Perciformes: Teraponidae): Natural foods and Artificial shelters. This is essentially about the culture various aquatic free-living oligochaetes species to be used as natural food in the redclaw and silver perch aquaculture. At present I am working as a Nematologist with several research on finding alternative means to ethylene dibromide in eradicating root-knot nematodes in the tobacco industry.

P.S Aceret

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Interests: The subject of my Ph.D. is to elucidate the relationships within the Polycystididae. This is a large family of Kalyptorhynchia, Turbellaria with a proboscis, that consists now of about 50 genera. At the moment the emphasis lies on light microscopical and EM observations in order to construct a datamatrix of as many characters as possible. On this datamatrix a phylogenetic analysis will be carried through.

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Interests: I am just completing a PhD at the Natural History Museum, London, on the effects of phytodetritus

on nematodes of the abyssal equatorial Pacific. My interests lie in species biogeography and large-scale biodiversity patterns in nematode communities in the deep-sea.

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Interests: I am currently working at the Institute of Limnology in St.Petersburg. The main directions of my investigations are: ecology of lake meiobenthos and its role in freshwater ecosystems, study of factors regulating benthic composition (especially for meiobenthic communities); meiobenthic abundance, production and the role in food webs of different aquatic systems; application of meiobenthic studies to environmental control; systematics of freshwater Ostracoda and other lower Crustacea. My education is: Master of Science, St. Petersburg State University, 1982; Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), 1989, Zoological Institute RAS in St. Petersburg; Doctor of biological sciences, 1997, Institute of Limnology in St. Petersburg. The title of my doctor dissertation is 'Meiobenthos of lake ecosystems: ecology and reaction on antropogenic impacts'. Especially I am interested in investigation of meiobenthos of large lakes in the world.

RECENT LITERATURE

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