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Meiofauna Marina special offer for IAM members
(see details pag. 3)

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Jeffrey Baguley	University of Nevada, Reno, Department of Biology, Mailstop 314, Reno, NV 89557 [jeffbaguley@gmail.com]
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Editorial

During the last decades an apparent tendency toward “taxonomists extinction” lead the academic community to ask governments for specific programs to support Taxonomy & Systematic sciences. This tendency was quite evident in the decrease of the proportion of taxonomic/systematic papers that were published during the last thirty years of the XX century. During THIRIMCO Prof. Bruce Coull presented a similar pattern for meiofauna considering that not only the proportion of taxonomic/systematic papers was decreasing but also the total number of papers cited in Psammonalia – “crisis of meiobenthology”? During the periods analyzed by Prof. Bruce Coull (72-76, 82-86, 92-96 and 02-06) the number of meiofaunal papers cited diminished from about 40/yr (72-76 and 82-86) to less than 25/yr (92-96) or 10/yr (02-06) (Figure 1).

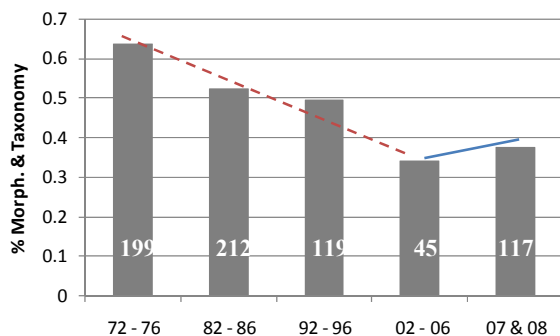


Figure 1. Data on percentage of morphological or taxonomic/systematic papers (histograms) appeared in Psammonalia. Numbers within histograms represent total numbers.

Although this may reflect a real decrease of meiofauna studies, other causes may also had contributed. Nevertheless, the proportion of

taxonomic papers decrease (from above 60% during the 70s to below 40% during recent years) is less prompt to be due to other causes than to the taxonomists number decrease. During the last two years Psammonalia registered (Figure 1) not only an important increase in the total number of papers (towards or even above the early 40/yr number) but also a slight increase in the proportion of taxonomic/systematic papers. These seem good news not only to Taxonomy & Systematic sciences but specially to Meiobenthology.

Dear colleagues, just below is the announcement of Meiofauna Marina special offer to IAM members. The price reduction attains now almost 20% and this may be increased if IAM members massively subscribe the journal. The Editors are currently printing the next Meiofauna Marina issue a good opportunity to start subscriptions now.

Cheers,
Paulo

Meiofauna Marina special offer

Meiofauna Marina and the IAM have almost identical goals in promoting research on meiofauna organisms. We would like to approach a closer association between these two. Therefore, we offer to members of the IAM a special discount for Meiofauna Marina; instead of 48 Euro you pay 40 Euro. The publisher has signalized that an even stronger reduction is possible when subscription rates raise significantly. Raising the number of subscriptions is also essential for the survival of the

journal, therefore we ask as many members as possible to subscribe to Meiofauna Marina. Please do so directly from the publisher, the Pfeil-Verlag in Germany (www.pfeil-verlag.de ; you find Meiofauna Marina in the “Biology” section and can order directly from this link). Please indicate that you are an IAM member.

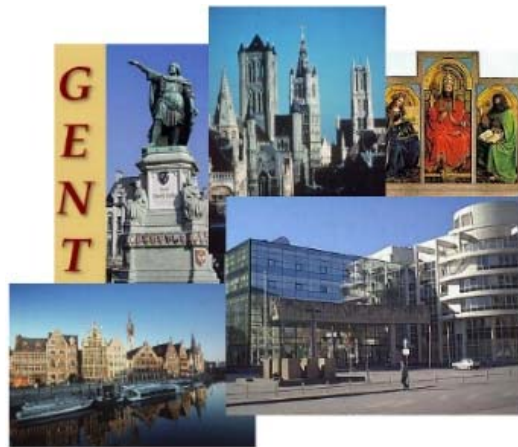
Please note that Meiofauna Marina is the only journal dedicated exclusively to all aspects of research with marine and brackish meiofaunal organisms. This is an ideal opportunity for publications of IAM members. In the past, the manuscript flow could have been better. There are two arguments for not publishing in Meiofauna Marina that are regularly put forward:

1. Online publication would be preferred. Online publication models usually dislocate the publication costs from the subscriber to the author. As many meiofauna researchers have access to limited money, we prefer a free publication. However, authors can purchase pdfs of their articles to reasonable prices.
2. Meiofauna Marina is not an indexed journal. Becoming an indexed journal is a matter of years. You need to submit issues for at least three years to proof that your journal is a constant, stable one. This has been done during the past years and we hope that Meiofauna Marina is indexed very soon.

Please help making Meiofauna Marina an important and respected organ for meiofauna research by subscribing and by submitting manuscripts.

Andreas Schmidt-Rhaesa, Antonio Todaro and Kai Horst George, editors

Next Conference



New Members

Cédric Hubas
Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle
UMR CNRS 5178 BOME
CP 53, 61 rue Buffon
75231 Paris Cedex 5 France

I recently joined the MNHN (2008) of Paris as a lecturer-researcher and curator of the meiofauna collection. The collection has been created in 1968 and is composed of several sub-collections organized at the taxonomic level: Free living Nematodes, Gastrotrichs, Kinorhynch, Tardigrads, Turbellaria, Rotifers, Annelids and some others minor groups. For any questions and/or loan requirement related to the meiofauna collection please feel free to contact me (hubas@mnhn.fr). My research interests focus so far on the role of microbial communities (heterotrophic bacteria and benthic diatoms) in the functioning of intertidal soft sediments. During my PhD I

studied their role in the carbon cycle at the Biological Station of Roscoff (France) in collaboration with the MREN institute (France) between 2003 and 2006 by measuring the benthic metabolism in situ. I then joined the Sediment Ecology Research Group (Scotland). However, I already worked on meiofauna communities by doing some descriptive analyses of meiofauna communities at the taxonomic level in intertidal areas and by studying the trophic ecology of nematodes using C and N stable isotopes. With this new position, I will focus on the role of micro- and meio-benthos in the food web of intertidal ecosystems in the near future.

Maja Krželj
University of Split
Centre of Marine Studies
Livanjska 5 / III Split
21000 Croatia
Maja.krzelj@unist.hr

I work as assistant at University of Split, Centre of Marine Studies, Croatia. I graduated from Polytechnic University of Marche Region in Ancona, Italy, with a degree MSc of Marine Biology. My thesis was “Impact of the fish farms on meiofauna in areas with *Posidonia oceanica* and non vegetated areas in Greece and Spain”, under the supervision of Prof. Roberto Danovaro, Director fo the Dept of Marine Science. At the same dept, although on other ecological theme I’m doing research for my PhD thesis. In Croatia I work at some research projects on meiofauna in collaboration with other colleagues from

the Univ of Split and Institute of oceanography and fisheries Split. I see my future work in meiofauna researches and for this reason I would like to become a member of International Association of Meiobenthologist.

Simon Creer
School of Biological Sciences
Bangor University
Deiniol road, Bangor, Gwynedd, UK
LC57 2UW
s.creer@bangor.ac.uk

I’m a molecular ecologist at Bangor University, Wales, United Kingdom (<http://biology.bangor.ac.uk/%7Ebssa0d/>) and my research interests focus on the use of molecular tools in addressing diverse hypotheses focusing on animal ecology and evolution. I currently hold a Post Doctoral Fellowship in Molecular Ecology in the Molecular Ecology and Fisheries Genetics Laboratory (<http://biology.bangor.ac.uk/research/mefgl/>). My research activities focus on the molecular and video identification of biodiversity and its role in ecosystem functioning, multigene phylogenetics, mitogenomics, adaptive evolution/co-evolution, environmental genomics, phylogeography, population genetics and invertebrate ecology/evolution.

Help Please

I am currently writing a big proposal involving massive sequencing of marine meiobenthos fauna focusing on minor taxa (Gastrotricha, Kinorhyncha, etc...).

To avoid doing "blind" sequencing I would like to sort a part of the samples and isolate the organisms for identification and "traditional" morphological and molecular analyses. However, I am not specialist of these groups and I am looking for specialized taxonomists that could be interested to collaborate on this project. The project would be based in Switzerland and we would like to focus on deep sea, arctic and mediterranean sea.

Frederic Sinniger
Department of Marine Science
Faculty of Science
University of the Ryukyus
1 Senbaru, Nishihara
903-0213 Okinawa
Japan

fredsinniger@hotmail.com

New Books

Giere O. 2009. *Meiobenthology: The Microscopic Motile Fauna of Aquatic Sediments*. 2nd ed., 2009, XVIII, 528 p. 125 illus., ISBN: 978-3-540-68657-6

Karanovic, T. 2008. *Marine Interstitial Poecilostomatoida and Cyclopoida (Copepoda) of Australia*. Crustaceana Monographs 9. Brill, Leiden. 331 p. ISBN-13: 978-90-04-16459-8

Kornev, P.N. & E. C. Chertoprud. 2008 *Copepod Crustaceans of the Order Harpacticoida of the White Sea: Morphology, Systematics, Ecology*. Biology Faculty, Moscow State University. *Tovarishchestvo Nauchnikh*

Izdanii KMK, Moscow. 379 pp. ISBN 978-5-87317-410-2. (In Russian.)

Recent Literature

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Important Announcement

The site of IAM was transferred to UReNO and data on members were updated. We are thus requesting members to check the membership list and status on the website (<http://www.meiofauna.org/membership/index.php>) to see if information is complete and correct and get in touch with the Editor (pjps@ufpe.br) or the Webmaster (jeffbaguley@gmail.com) if there is a conflict.

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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 January and July. Membership is open to any person who actively is interested in the study of meiofauna. Annual membership dues are EU\$10 (US\$10) and payment for up to 3 years in advance is possible. New members will receive *Psammonalia* beginning with the January issue of the year joining. Additional contributions to the **Bertil Swedmark Fund**, used to support student attendance at the triennial conferences, is encouraged.

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