

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

*"Time keeps on slippin', slippin', slippin' - into the future"*

*Steve Miller Band*

Maybe it's the start of my mid-life crisis (I turn the big 5-0 this year), or the pace of the oil industry, but mine has to be the quickest NAMS' Presidency ever (actually the effect of an early-calendar AAPG in '02). Still, I feel like the Board has accomplished a lot during my tenure, and set the stage for some real advancement in the year to come.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve.

No matter what the occupation, everyone I talk to these days is ridiculously busy and utters something like "not enough time in the day." So it is with great pleasure, and due respect for pledging their time and energy, that I present you with the new NAMS' Board of Directors.

Effective at our Board Meeting on 3/13, Brian O'Neill will assume the duties of President. Brian's past experience on geo-society Boards and a worldwide network of colleagues will place NAMS in extremely capable hands.

Mimi Katz of Rutgers University is your new President Elect, and Robert Nail of PGS (Houston) your new Secretary. I'm delighted to point out that Prez-Elect Katz, along with Martin Farley, are both from academia, a group under-represented in past NAMS' Boards. Robert Nail succeeds Tony D'Agostino - a convenient situation

for transferring the many details of being secretary (Tony also works for PGS). Tony, we thank you for all your hard work.



Martin Farley and Jason Lundquist will continue their duties as Treasurer and Newsletter Editor/Web Wizard. I will continue on the Board as Past President, succeeding Pete Thompson, who will be winding up three years of service to NAMS.

A sincere thank you to Rachel Preece and Denise Kulhanek Rowse for running for NAMS office in the last election. We were truly fortunate with the caliber of people on this year's election slate. No matter who won, NAMS was assured a group of talented and dedicated officers.

Brian and the new Board inherit a revitalized NAMS organization, and will enthusiastically pursue the agenda outlined in this space last October. Among these agenda items is the opportunity to form synergistic relationships with similar micropaleontologic societies across the Atlantic. Several NAMS Board members will be attending the Exploration Biostratigraphy 2002 meeting in London this September (co-sponsored by NAMS), where we hope to solidify the foundation of these potential new partnerships.

Time will keep on slippin' no doubt, but NAMS' future looks bright!

Garry Jones,  
*NAMS President*

## JOINT AASP BMS NAMS MEETING



**CALL FOR PAPERS**  
**JOINT MEETING OF AASP-BMS-NAMS**  
**11TH-13TH SEPTEMBER 2002**  
**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON**

As mentioned in the last addition of the NAMS News, The American Association of Stratigraphic Palynologists (AASP), the British Micropalaeontological Society (BMS) and the North American Micropaleontology Section of SEPM (NAMS) are holding a joint

meeting in September 2002 at Univeristy College London

The theme of this international meeting will be recent developments in applied biostratigraphy. Contributions are invited on four main themes:

- Sequence biostratigraphy
- Deep-water exploration
- Reservoir/development studies
- Outcrop analogues

There will also be an open session with emphasis on post-Palaeozoic palynology.

The vision for the meeting is to encourage trans-Atlantic exchange of ideas, ultimately to seed new research initiatives - and in particular

See Joint Meeting continued on page 2.

## NEWS AND NOTES

### MICROPALAEONTOLOGY IN EARTH SCIENCES HISTORY

It has seemed to me that the research laboratories of the various oil companies were an important factor in development of geology from the 1950s through the 1980s. Almost nothing has been recorded concerning their impact on the science. The History of Earth Sciences Society has a journal "Earth Sciences History" published twice each year. The Society is prepared to devote one issue to this general subject, for this is an unknown area which should be recorded.

At this stage, it is not clear how this subject should be approached, but probably it will be more anecdotal rather than heavily referenced. For example, one approach on the policy level might be to compare the investment by oil companies in research year by year against the money granted for earth sciences by the National Science Foundation. Clearly, this could never be accomplished because the records of the oil companies will not be available. Better questions are what was the policy on the publication of research, what were the principal ideas from research that were published, who were the prime leaders in the various labs, which labs emphasized which fields of geology, etc.,

etc. Paleontology was important, but so was sedimentation and structure. Undoubtedly there are many other angles which will come to mind, but clearly micropaleontology was one aspect of geology which was really pushed forward by commercial research.

I am long retired from the USGS and was never in an industrial lab. I hope that those who see this note will contact me by e-mail and suggest ideas and people to contact, particularly volunteers who are willing to put thoughts down on paper. If you send a telephone number, I can phone so we can chat in more detail. My aim at the moment is to stir interest and start a ball rolling. Thank you in advance.

Ellis L. Yochelson  
[yochelson.ellis@nmnh.si.edu](mailto:yochelson.ellis@nmnh.si.edu)

### STUDENT OPPORTUNITY IN MICROPALAEO

Paula Noble would like students in micropaleontology to know that there is funding available to work on siliceous microfossils from the Canadian Arctic. Applicants must be available for the July 2002 field season and apply for admission to the Fall 2002 semester. For more information, email Dr. P. J. Noble at the University of Nevada Reno, [noblepj@unr.edu](mailto:noblepj@unr.edu)

## JOINT AASP BMS NAMS MEETING (Cont.)

to develop an integrated multidisciplinary approach in both the academic and industrial realms. There will be no taxonomic, stratigraphical or geographical restriction on contributions. Posters will also be invited on any micropalaeontological, nannopalaeontological, palynological or biostratigraphical theme.

A post-meeting excursion is planned to the Isle of Wight (Cretaceous - Paleogene) led by Statoil's Iain Prince ([ipri@statoil.com](mailto:ipri@statoil.com)) and Bruce Tocher ([bruce@statoil.com](mailto:bruce@statoil.com)).

*The conveners are:*

Jamie Powell (Dinosystems): Contact Convener  
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Alan Lord (UCL): Local Secretary ([a.lord@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:a.lord@ucl.ac.uk))

Rachel Preece (ChevronTexaco): representing BMS  
([rprc@chevrontexaco.com](mailto:rprc@chevrontexaco.com))

Jim Riding (British Geological Survey): Treasurer  
([j.riding@bgs.ac.uk](mailto:j.riding@bgs.ac.uk))

A copy of the complete, large-type, call for papers and abstract format form can be found, and downloaded from, the NAMS website. A copy of the two page registration form is also available. The conveners would prefer not to have the form submitted electronically or by fax, so please download, print, fill out, and mail in the form. It can be found at: <http://www.ig.utexas.edu/nams/meetings/jointmeeting.html>

### ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORMAT

Sample Abstract for AASP-BMS-NAMS Meeting at University College London  
Powell, A.J. (1) and Riding, J.B. (2)  
(1) Dinosystems, 105 Albert Road, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6DJ, UK  
(2) British Geological Survey, Keyworth, Nottingham NG12 5GG, UK

Please follow these simple rules in submitting your abstract for the upcoming AASP-BMS-NAMS meeting. Your complete abstract must fit on one page, with 3cm borders from each side, and 4cm from top and bottom of the page. Use 12-point font only, no bold or italics except for genera and species. Do not indent the first paragraph, but subsequent paragraphs should be indented. Please use the above format for title of presentation, names of authors, and affiliations.

You should submit your abstract via an Email attachment. Please use Microsoft Word, or other similar word-processing software. Any diversion from these rules, and time-consuming reformatting of your abstract may result in rejection from the technical programme.

When you submit your abstract, you must answer the questions listed; please state whether your presentation is an oral or poster presentation. If it is an oral presentation, please tell us what format your presentation will be: overhead transparencies, 35mm slides or PowerPoint from a computer. We thank you in advance for your cooperation and look forward to your abstract submission. Abstract deadline is 26th April 2002 to the address listed below.

Name of person submitting abstract:

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

Oral Presentation: \_\_\_ If yes: Overhead \_\_\_ 35mm slides \_\_\_ PowerPoint \_\_\_

Poster Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_ (eligible for the AASP Best Poster Award)

Student Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_ (eligible for the AASP L.R. Wilson Student Paper Award)

Session (please tick):

Sequence biostratigraphy: \_\_\_\_\_

Deep-water exploration: \_\_\_\_\_

Reservoir/development studies: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcrop analogues: \_\_\_\_\_

Post-Palaeozoic palynology: \_\_\_\_\_

Abstract deadline is Friday 26th April 2002. Submit abstracts in hard copy to: Dr James Powell, Dinosystems, 105 Albert Road, Richmond, Surrey TW10 6DJ, UK and via Email to [ajp@dinosystems.co.uk](mailto:ajp@dinosystems.co.uk)

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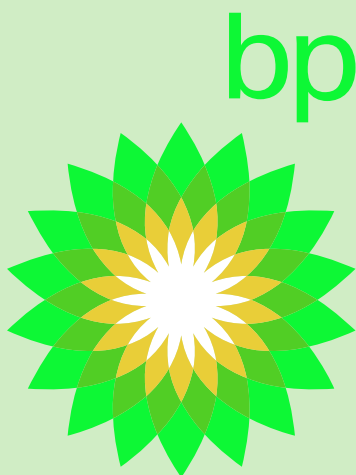
### TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 31 January 2002, the NAMS treasury contained about \$7600. Since my last report in October, NAMS received \$985 from member dues and interest. Expenditures totaled about \$205 for newsletter and miscellaneous expenses. For the last 12 months, expenditures totaled \$1700 and receipts \$500.



--Martin Farley, *NAMS Treasurer*  
February 6, 2002

Visit NAMS online at:  
<http://www.ig.utexas.edu/nams/nams.html>



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NAMS NEWS is published two times a year, just before the GSA meeting in the fall and AAPG meeting in the spring, by NAMS. Submissions are always welcome. Copyright 2002.

# MEETING CALENDAR

## GSA Northeastern Section

### 37th Annual Meeting

March 25-27, 2002

Springfield, Massachusetts

[www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm](http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm)

## GSA North-Central (36th) and Southeastern (51st) Sections Annual Meeting

April 3-5, 2002

University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky

[www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm](http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm)

## GSA South-Central Section

### 36th Annual Meeting

April 11-12, 2002

Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas

Sponsored by the Department of Earth and Physical Sciences, Sul Ross State University. It will be held in the University Center, Sul Ross State University.

[www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm](http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm)

## GSA Rocky Mountain Section

### 54th Annual Meeting

May 7-8, 2002

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah

[www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm](http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm)

## GSA Cordilleran Section

### 37th Annual Meeting

May 13-15, 2002

Oregon State University, Corvallis,

Oregon

[www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm](http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm)



## 47th Joint Annual Meeting of the Geological Association of Canada - Mineralogical Association of Canada

May 27 - 29, 2002

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

CONFERENCE CHAIR

Mel R. Stauffer [mel.stauffer@usask.ca](mailto:mel.stauffer@usask.ca)  
(306) 966-5708

[www.usask.ca/geology/sask2002/home.html](http://www.usask.ca/geology/sask2002/home.html)



## The 2002 joint meetings of the Society for the Study of Evolution (SSE) and the Society of Systematic Biologists (SSB)

June 28 through July 2

Urbana, Illinois - hosted by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Contact Information

Scott C. Miller

Phone: 217/333-2880

Fax: 217/333-9561

[evolution02@mail.conted.uiuc.edu](mailto:evolution02@mail.conted.uiuc.edu)

## Third International Conference on Environmental Micropaleontology,

## Microbiology and Meiobenthology

1-6 September 2002

Vienna, Austria

email contact: [congress@isemmm.org](mailto:congress@isemmm.org).

## Geological Society of America National Meeting

October 27-30, 2002

Denver, Colorado October 27-30

[www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm](http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm)

## American Association of Petroleum Geologists Annual Meeting

May 11-14, 2003

Salt Lake City, Utah

## Geological Society of America National Meeting

November 2-5, 2003

2003 Seattle, Washington

[www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm](http://www.geosociety.org/meetings/index.htm)

## The XIth International Palynological Congress

July 4 - 9, 2004.

Granada, Spain

## XVII International Botanical Congress

July 17-23, 2005 in Vienna, Austria

email contact: [botanik@univie.ac.at](mailto:botanik@univie.ac.at)

# NAMS NOTES

## NAMARWATCH PROGRESS

Charles Schafer would like to update the NAMS membership on the progress of the NAMARWATCH idea (which has been discussed in several past addition of the NAMS News). He shall be sending a cover letter to the Commission on Ocean Policy next week, which is intended to be an introduction to the discussion paper on the NAMARWATCH idea that he has been circulating to some of his southeastern USA University-based colleagues. This Commission's final report is apparently due to be sent to the President in early February and may include some long term implications for ocean research and for marine micropaleontologists(?). Information about the Commission is available at: <http://www.oceancommission.gov> and indirectly on the web site of the National Oceans Industries

Association ([noia.org](http://noia.org)) - which appears to be primarily a petroleum industries-based group.

Charles would like to point out that perhaps NAMS should be doing some lobbying on behalf of marine micropaleo in relation to ocean resource and environmental management issues (e.g., how seafloor communities react to climate change?).

## CUSHMAN FOUNDATION PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Bill Hamlin (13104 South Ridge Circle, Leander, TX, 78641) has a set of Cushman Forum research publications through 1980 and a set of Micropaleontology Vol 1-20. He would like to know if a research institute or an individual would be

interested in having them. Contact him if you are.



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## 2002 AAPG Annual Meeting March 10-13 Houston, Texas



### *Selected Highlights*

#### **Chronostratigraphy and Sequence Stratigraphy: Pushing the Limits of Correlation and Resolution**

Exhibit Hall A - Poster Session - Monday March 10, 1:30 PM to 5:30 PM

#### **MARINE MICROPALAEONTOLOGY RESEARCH GROUP**

Doubletree Allen Center, Travis II Room  
Monday March 10th 7:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

#### **Chronostratigraphy and Sequence Stratigraphy: Pushing the Limits of Correlation and Resolution**

Room 307 - Morning Oral Session, Tuesday March 11, 8:00 a.m. to 11:40 a.m.

#### **SEPM/NAMS: Biostratigraphy and Sequence Stratigraphy: Biotic and Taphonomic Response to Sea Level Fluctuations**

Exhibit Hall A - Poster Session - Wednesday March 12, 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM

## BUGWARE NEWS

### **HAPPENINGS AT BugWare, INC.**

Like most of the small consulting firms in the oil patch, BugWare had a busy year in 2001. Office based work remained steady, but wellsite work was particularly heavy with BugWare personnel logging nearly 600 days of wellsite service provided to seven major and independent oil companies in the Gulf of Mexico.

The three Senior Paleontologists at BugWare, Mitch Covington, Jim Pospichal, and Steve Root were joined in 2001 by three new Assistant Paleontologists. These new AP's, Creed King, Susan Foley, and James Arney are acquiring on the job training in nannofossil paleontology while assisting at wellsite and in the office. Though their primary responsibility at wellsite is sample preparation, they bring their own microscope and assist the SP by previewing slides in order to pick up abundance increases and identify standard markers. With the typical wide open schedule of offshore work, an assistant paleontologist can make a significant difference in the quality of data provided to the operating company and partners.

Creed King received his BS in Geology at the University of Alabama in 1988 and worked as project manager for a drilling company in the coal and methane gas industry. He then was involved in environmental consulting until he joined BugWare in early 2001, and now has significant offshore experience in the deepwater GOM.

Susan Foley received her BS in Geology at Tulane University where she did a project emphasizing industrial micropaleo. She

joined BugWare in early 2001 and has also accrued extensive offshore experience.

James Arney is the newest addition to the BugWare staff, joining in late 2001. He is finishing up his MS in Geology at Florida State where he did a Paleogene nannofossil thesis from his participation on Ocean Drilling Program Leg 191.

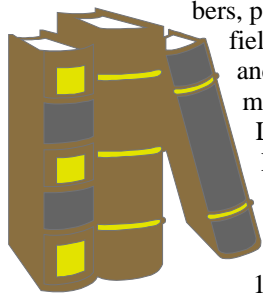
Back in the office, these Assistant Paleontologists learn nannofossils on their own time by going over slides and reports that have already been worked, or by previewing slides from new jobs ahead of the Senior Paleontologist. Hopefully these new folks will soon add to the shrinking pool of paleontologists in the GOM.



## NEW BOOK

### MANUAL OF PRACTICAL LABORATORY AND FIELD TECHNIQUES IN PALAEOBIOLOGY

Owen Green would like to call attention to a recent publication which he thinks might be a useful book to micropalaeontologists. While being suitably bashful about self-promotion he feels it might be of interest to NAMS members, particularly those involved with the field collection, and subsequent physical and chemical preparation of samples for microfossils. A Manual of Practical Laboratory and Field Techniques in Palaeobiology by Owen R. Green was published by Kluwer Academic Publishers, (Dordrecht, The Netherlands) (USD 135:00, EUR 125:00, GBP 85:00) in April 2001.



Details of the book on the Kluwer web site ([www.wkap.nl/prod/b/0-412-58980-X](http://www.wkap.nl/prod/b/0-412-58980-X)), which also contains a link to the chapter headings. Owen's approach to preparation has been to detail procedures for microfossils as these are usually much more difficult to extract intact than macrofossils. Kluwer have produced an excellent little flyer (10x21cm double sided) - excellent for mailing! Owen has copies.

## RADWORLD DATABASE

### NEW INTERNATIONAL PALAEOONTOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION WEB SITE

Dear colleagues,

For some years, as you may know, Catherine Nigrini, Jean Pierre Caulet, and Annika Sanfilippo have been constructing a comprehensive searchable relational database (RadWorld) containing the taxonomy and stratigraphic and geographic distribution of all (Paleozoic through Cenozoic) radiolarians and a catalogue of radiolarian references (RadRefs)

RadWorld currently contains references to the original descriptions and type species of 2526 genera and the original descriptions of 5265 species of Radiolaria. We think that we have included almost all described genera and about 90% of all published papers. There are, of course, many more species that have been described in the literature. All taxonomic information prior to 1860 has been entered. Taxonomic data is partially complete up to 1930. However, all type species described both before and after 1930 have been entered. Complete references to 4249 papers pertaining to Radiolaria can also be found in the database.



As of today (February 12, 2002), the first installment of this database is available on the web site of the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris. The first offering contains the descriptions of 220 genera, their type species, and some subsequent emendations. We will post additional genera pages on this web site at irregular intervals.

We invite your comments about the usefulness of this site. We would certainly like to be made aware of any errors or omissions. Finally, we would welcome electronic copies of genera and/or species you have described. This would decrease our workload enormously and advance the building of the entire database.

Address of the site (best seen with I.E. and a high screen definition):

<http://www.mnhn.fr/mnhn/geo/radworld/radworldsite/radsearch.html>

Catherine Nigrini

## COURSE OFFERING

Rutgers University will offer a 3 credit graduate-level course Studies in Micropaleontology in the summer session 2002. We invite Rutgers students, other university graduate students, and industry scientists to participate. The course will include lectures, labs, and optional field trips, and will meet May 28 to June 7 (9 days) at Rutgers Univ., Piscataway, NJ (1/2 hour from Newark airport).

The course will focus on the paleoecology and biostratigraphy of microfossils; the primary objective is to give a broad overview of different microfossil groups in order to allow the student to continue with detailed studies in one or more particular group(s). The course will be led by Marie-Pierre Aubry, assisted by Bill Berggren, Dick Olsson, Ken Miller, Katz, and Jim Wright. Topics will include: 1) an introduction to Micropaleontology, stratigraphic thought, and lab techniques; 2) Cenozoic nannoplankton (Aubry); 3) Neogene planktonic foraminifera (Berggren); 4) Paleogene & Mesozoic planktonic foraminifera (Olsson); 5) Modern and shallow-water benthic foraminifera (Miller/Katz); 6) Cenozoic deepwater benthic foraminifera (Katz); 7) radiolaria, dinocysts, and other microfossils (Aubry); 8) micropaleontology of isotopic studies (Wright). Additional topics will be tailored according to enrollment, and may include agglutinated benthic foraminifera, diatoms, sequence stratigraphy, or more detailed work in the primary topics.

People outside the Rutgers Univ. system should contact Ken Miller ([kmg@rci.rutgers.edu](mailto:kmg@rci.rutgers.edu); 732-445-3622) for permission to register.

# ODP CALENDAR



## JOIDES Resolution Legs 202-205

<http://www-odp.tamu.edu>

Leg	Region	Co-Chiefs	Dep. Port	Date	Objectives
202	SE Pacific Paleoceanography	Alan C. Mix Ralf Tiedemann	Valparaiso, Chile	April 7	To assess climate and oceanographic changes in the southeast Pacific over Neogene time.
203	Equatorial Pacific	John A. Orcutt Adam Schultz	Balboa, Panama	June 6	To drill one reentry hole in the western equatorial Pacific, the location of a future Dynamics of Earth and Ocean Systems (DEOS) multidisciplinary observatory.
204	Gas Hydrates	G. Bohrmann A. Trehu	San Francisco	Aug 5	Drilling Hydrates on Hydrate Ridge, Offshore Oregon
205	Costa Rica	J. Morris H. Villinger	San Diego	Sept 6	Investigate igneous and alteration history of the basement at reference Site 1039R-A, on incoming plate. Also to characterize and monitor the three hydrological systems of basement-subducting sediment-décollement.

## NAMS Renewal Information

Your official NAMS address label on this newsletter is the key to your dues responsibility. Please note the code and/or date after your name on the mailing label. The date tells you the year through which your dues are paid.

**2002** or later - dues are paid up

**2001** - please pay \$10.00 for 2002 dues

**2000** - please pay \$10.00 for 2002 dues, \$10.00 for 2000 dues, and \$.50 late fee.

**1999** - you must pay \$31.00 this year or you will be **dropped from membership!!**

**PLEASE RENEW NOW  
BEFORE YOU FORGET!**

remit to:

NAMS, SEPM  
Martin Farley, Treasurer  
Geology, BA 206  
University of North Carolina  
at Pembroke  
Pembroke, NC 28372

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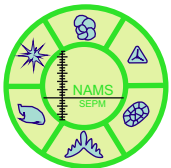
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\$0.50 each late penalty (dues prior to 2002)

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Thanks!

The next issue of *NAMS News* will be published before the 2002 GSA Annual Meeting. Please send news to the Editor through **February 30, 2002**. News regarding meetings, symposia, people, books, internet information, software, new journal articles, and just about anything else regarding micropaleontology is welcome. Submit your news by email (preferred), FAX, letter, or phone to the Editor:

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**FIRST CLASS**

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PLEASE FORWARD