

The Newsletter of the Paleoenvironmental Change Specialty Group of the AAG

November 2013
Volume 5, Issue 2



Message from the Chair

Greetings from the PEC Chair!

We are looking forward to the next AAG meeting in Tampa, April 8-12, 2014. PEC will again have an active presence at this meeting, as indicated by the several sessions that have already been proposed. For instance, Sally Horn, Michelle Goman, and I are soliciting abstracts by both professionals and students that will examine various aspects of paleoenvironmental reconstruction, so if interested please email Sally (shorn@utk.edu) to present in one of these oral paper sessions. There will also be at least two PEC-sponsored panel sessions, one of which will be on tips for obtaining post-doc, faculty and government positions organized by our Student Representative, Tripti Bhattacharya (tripti@berkeley.edu).

We will also be running elections for positions on the PEC Board: (1) Chair, as my term will expire next spring; (2) Student Representative (one-year term); and (3) a Director position (2-year term), since Chad Lane's term will be up in the new year. We thank Chad for his years of excellent service on the Board. Also we gratefully acknowledge Michelle Goman who has created and distributed our biannual newsletter for the past several years; she will step down after this newsletter is posted. Maria Caffrey, who replaced Kevin Spigel (thanks Kevin) as Secretary-Treasurer last spring, graciously offered to assume the role of Newsletter Editor. So we thank Maria for taking on this additional task! We also want to acknowledge Katrina Moser for continuing on next year as one of the Board's Directors.

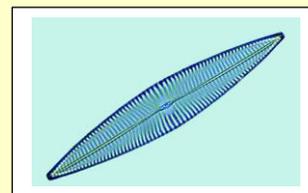
If you are interested in running as a candidate for any of these open positions, please contact Maria Caffrey (Maria.Caffrey@Colorado.EDU). We'll hold the election sometime in March 2014.

So please consider attending the AAG meeting in Tampa. See a list of special sessions in the next few pages.

~~Catherine~~

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Message from the Chair	1
Call for Abstracts for Tampa	2-3
Panel Sessions at Tampa	4
Student Presentation and Grant winners	5
Student Competition Announcements	6
Call for PEC board nominations	7
Message from out Advertiser	8
Forthcoming Meetings	8



PEC Executive Board

Catherine Yansa (Chair)
Michigan State University

Samantha Kaplan (Past Chair)
University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

Michelle Goman (Newsletter Editor)
Sonoma State University

Maria Caffrey (Secretary/Treasurer)
University of Colorado, Boulder

Katrina Moser (Director)
University of Western Ontario

Chad Lane (Director)
University of North Carolina Wilmington

Tripti Bhattacharya (Student Liaison)
University of California, Berkeley

Submit your abstracts to PEC sponsored Sessions in Tampa

There are a wide variety of sponsored sessions at Tampa! Formal abstract deadlines for submission on the AAG website are by December 3rd. However, individual organizers have specified session submission deadlines. Check out the offerings below, contact information and individual session deadlines. For information on the meeting go to: <http://www.aag.org/cs/annualmeeting>

Historical Ecology: Historical records provide valuable insights into past ecological conditions. This session will focus on ecological conditions during the historical time period obtained from historical records such as aerial photographs, diaries, herbarium specimens, interviews, museum archives, presettlement land surveys, and other sources. The records could be of plants, animals or other taxonomic groups, or of human or natural disturbance of ecological conditions.

Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Reconstruction of past landscapes and ecosystems for one time period
- Records of ecological change within a region for multiple time periods
- Records of natural disturbances within a region
- Investigations into causal mechanisms of ecological change
- Methodological or data quality issues in the use of historical records

Sponsorships: Biogeography; Human Dimensions of Global Change; Landscape; and Paleoenvironmental Change Specialty Group.

Contact: Chris Larsen (larsen@buffalo.edu) or Yi-Chen Wang (geowyc@nus.edu.sg)

Deadline: November 23rd

~*~

Dendrochronology Sessions: We plan to organize 4-6 paper sessions (including 2 invited sessions) and a dendro poster session. This year we are encouraging an engaging poster session for researchers at all levels. However, we will try to accommodate those with a preference for the paper sessions.

Likely sessions will include: Frontiers in Dendrochronology (invited sessions); Dendroecology; Dendroclimatology; Dendro-disturbance; Dendrochronological Applications

We continue to encourage researchers to present in other themed sessions that suit your research, but hope we can attract many tree-ring scientists to attend these organized sessions (both paper and poster) to provide interaction and exchange of ideas and possible future collaborations.

Contact: Stockton Maxwell (rmaxwell2@radford.edu) or Henri Grissino-Mayer (grissino@utk.edu) with a working title and subdisciplinary category.

Deadline: November 19th.



Geoarchaeology: Soils, Sediments, Cultural Stone, and Paleoenvironments: The topic is broadly defined to include paleoenvironmental and stone conservation studies employing a wide variety of geomorphic, geochemical, paleobotanical, and archaeological approaches. These sessions will be co-sponsored by the AAG Paleoenvironmental Change Specialty Group and Geomorphology Specialty Group.

Contact: Tim Beach (beacht@georgetown.edu), Casey Allen (casey.allen@ucdenver.edu) or Greg Pope (popeg@mail.montclair.edu)

Deadline: December 2nd

~*~

Paleoecological investigations of wildfire: Wildfire is an important ecological process in many forest ecosystems across the world. Climate change and other human activities have disrupted past wildfire regimes and threaten to disrupt current regimes, creating inherent uncertainty regarding the future of an ecologically significant process.

Fire dynamics are complex, with numerous controls (*e.g.* climate, fuel availability, aspect, elevation, *etc.*) that vary over different spatial and temporal scales. Paleoecological investigations of wildfire can provide insight into and a better understanding of fire dynamics and changes in regimes, which may lead to improved forest management strategies.

This session aims to showcase the complexity, progress and challenges of analyzing the paleoecological record of wildfire using different proxy methods (*e.g.* tree rings, sedimentary charcoal, pollen, *etc.*). Sponsored by the Biogeography Specialty Group and the Paleoenvironmental Change Specialty Group.

Contact: Vanessa Stretch (vstretch@uoguelph.ca) and Emma Davis (EmmaDavis@email.carleton.ca)

Deadline: November 19th.

~*~

PALEORECORDS OF REGIONAL AND GLOBAL CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE: We invite you to participate in a series of paper sessions that will focus on paleoenvironmental research in different areas of the world. We seek papers that involve paleoenvironmental reconstructions with varying aims, including understanding paleoclimate, vegetation history, geomorphic processes and landscape change, and human-environmental interactions of the past. We will sort papers into sessions by region after abstracts have been submitted, with the size of regions driven by paper submissions. One of the featured themes of this year's meeting is "The American South," and we hope to have at least one session on paleoenvironmental research in the southeastern U.S. that can be highlighted as PEC's contribution to this theme. Many of the papers and sessions will also fit the featured meeting theme of "Geographies of Climate Change."

If you are interested in presenting in one of these sessions, please submit your abstract to AAG by the AAG deadline of December 3, 2013, and immediately send your abstract (with list of authors and paper title) and PIN (which the AAG provides once your abstract is submitted) to Sally Horn (shorn@utk.edu), so that we have all of your information at hand on December 4, when we will organize the sessions.

Contact: Sally Horn, University of Tennessee (shorn@utk.edu), Michelle Goman, Sonoma State (goman@sonoma.edu), and Catherine Yansa, Michigan State University

Deadline: December 3rd.

Panels at the Annual Meeting in Tampa

Panel on: Strategies for acquiring and succeeding in post-doc, faculty, or government positions

The Paleoenvironmental Change (PEC) Specialty Group of the AAG will organize a panel on strategies for acquiring and succeeding in post-doc, faculty, or government positions. We aim to bring together a mix of faculty, post-docs, and PhDs working in government to share their experiences and answer questions in an informal setting. We expect our primary audience to be student members of PEC and co-sponsoring specialty groups, but everyone is invited!

Tripti Bhattacharya (PEC Student Liaison)

~*~

Panel on: Duelling Teleconnections: Implications for Paleoenvironmental Reconstruction

Sponsored by the Paleoenvironmental Change Specialty Group (PEC) and Biogeography specialty Group (BSG)

Presenters:

- (1) Philip van Beynen, School of Geosciences, University of South Florida;
- (2) Kristine DeLong, Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University; and
- (3) Valerie Trouet, Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research, University of Arizona

Facilitator:

Catherine Yansa, Department of Geography, Michigan State University

A main impetus for paleoenvironmental research is the reconstruction of important teleconnections beyond their historical records. These include the El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO), Pacific Decadal Oscillation (PDO), North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO), Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation (AMO) and the Arctic Oscillation (AO). The historical records of such teleconnections often span only the last century (several phase changes) and it is imperative that their temporal oscillations and magnitude be confirmed for their potential future projections. Such confirmation requires high resolution paleoclimate proxies which include speleothem, coral and dendroclimatological records amongst others. These records from disparate regions can provide insights into the spatial extent and magnitude of each teleconnection. Their reach can be global in nature and they often interact even though they have different origins and driving mechanisms, such as the ENSO (Pacific) and the NAO (North Atlantic). Paleoenvironmental interpretations can be complicated because of their different oscillations/phases and changing amplitudinal intensities. Another complication is that with changes in their intensities, for certain climate periods, their absence may lead to the downplaying of their importance for that region. The use of various spectral analyses of the accurate chronologies of the proxy time series can help simplify their interpretations with regards to paleoenvironmental impacts of these teleconnections.



<http://www.whoi.edu>

CONGRATULATIONS to PEC Students

Student Presentation Winners

Hello everyone,

I am glad to announce that all votes for the PEC presentation competition have now been tallied and winners determined for the 2013 AAG in Los Angeles. The winners of each category are as follows:

Poster competition:

Jessica Hirsch et al., Characterizing paleolake environments of the Al-Azraq Basin, Jordan using stable isotopes, ICPMS, scanning electron microscopy, and magnetic susceptibility

Prizes: Certificate and \$50.00

Undergraduate/M.S. Paper Presentation:

Danielle Haskett, A Chironomid-based Reconstruction of Late Quaternary Thermal Conditions at the Snowmastodon Site, Snowmass Village, Colorado

Prizes: Certificate and \$100.00

Ph.D. Paper Presentation:

Lixin Wang, Holocene climate changes in northwest Madagascar: evidence from a two-meter-long stalagmite from the Anjohibe Cave

Prizes: Certificate and \$100.00

Chad Lane (lanec@uncw.edu)

PEC Director, organizer of the student presentation competition.

Student Grant Competition

The 2013 student grant competition winners are:

Masters/Undergraduate winner is Aaron Koop, University of Kansas (supervisor Prof. William Johnson).

Title of proposal: Stratigraphic controls of late-Quaternary sediments and paleosols on canyon development in the Central Great Plains. Prize=14C date

The Ph.D. winner is Allison LeBlanc from Virginia Tech (supervisor Prof. Lisa Kennedy). Title of

proposal: Paleoenvironmental investigation of low elevation sites in the Caribbean. Prize = \$200.

Congratulations to the grant recipients. We look forward to hearing more of your research as it progresses.

Katrina Moser (kmoser@uwo.ca)

PEC Director, organizer of the student grant award.

Student Presentation Competition Tampa AAG 2014

All students and recent graduates presenting their research at the upcoming Annual Meeting of the AAG in Tampa should consider entering the 2013 Paleoenvironmental Change (PEC) Specialty Group student presentation competition. There are three categories in the competition this year: (1) posters, (2) undergraduate/master's student papers, and (3) Ph.D./recent Ph.D. papers.

We are happy to announce cash awards of a \$100 for first place finishers in each of the two paper competitions and a \$50 cash prize for the first place finisher in the poster competition. Of course, this is nothing compared to the prestige and beautiful certificate you will also receive. All kidding aside, this is a very nice addition to any C.V. and a great way to get more people to hear your talk or visit your poster, so all eligible students or recent graduates should consider applying for this competition! I also hope that all of you advisors out there will encourage your students to apply.

To enter the competition, you must submit an application form to Chad Lane (lanec@uncw.edu) by February 1, 2014. The form is available on the PEC discussion board hosted on the AAG website. You can also contact Chad Lane (lanec@uncw.edu) directly for a copy of the form, or if you have any other questions or concerns.

Student Grant Competition 2014

Please stay tuned for the upcoming student grant competition. Check your email for the first call for submissions. Deadline will be March 8th.

For more information please contact:

Katrina Moser (kmoser@uwo.ca)

PEC Director, organizer of the student grant award.



Call for NOMINATIONS

Interested in a rewarding service opportunity?

Please consider running for office for the Paleoenvironmental Change Specialty Group Board.

Elections will be held in the spring just prior to the Annual meeting.

If you are interested in running for office please contact PEC Secretary Maria Caffrey and submit a brief bio (Maria.Caffrey@Colorado.EDU).

Elections will be held for the following positions:

PEC Chair (2 year term)

Director (Student paper competition) (2 year term)

Student Liaison (1 year term)



**Radiocarbon Dating
Without Regrets**

BETA

**Beta Analytic
Radiocarbon Dating**
www.radiocarbon.com

- Reliable turnaround time
- High-quality, ISO 17025 accredited results
- Prompt responses within 24 hours

Results in as little as 2-3 days
Australia Brazil China India Japan Korea UK USA

QuicklakeH meeting in Turkey, 15-19 Sept. 2014

QuicklakeH 2014 is an international multidisciplinary workshop and fieldtrip to discuss the interactions between lakes and human during the Quaternary period.

Two days of lectures in Ankara (15-16 Sep., 2014) and three days of fieldtrip (17-19 Sept, 2014) to largest saline and freshwater lakes of Europe (Lakes Tuz and Beysehir) and Catalhoyuk and Meke maar lake in the Konya basin.

Topics will range from Quaternary geology, geomorphology, archaeology, climatology, history, geochemistry to natural hazards.

Call for papers open: 15 February 2014. Abstract submission deadline : 15 May 2014
Notification of acceptance: 15 July 2014.

Conveners: Nizamettin Kazanci (Ankara University, TR)
Suzanne A. G. Leroy (Brunel University, UK)
Alper Gurbuz (Nigde University, TR)

For details and contacts:

Kuvaterner Arastirma GRUBU

Quaternary research group

www.kuvaterner.org

<http://quicklakeh2014.kuvaterner.org>

www.brunel.ac.uk/ife/meetings/quicklakeh

First circular available from quicklakeh2014@kuvaterner.org

International Limnogeology Congress 2015 (ILIC6)

June 15th – 19th, 2015

The International Association of Limnogeology (IAL) will hold its Quadrennial International Limnogeology Congress (ILIC6), at the Peppermill Resort Hotel in Reno, Nevada.

The ILIC6 website <http://ilic6.org/>

