



**THE PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**EMAIL DIGEST**  
January 6, 2011

***Happy New Year!***

January is upon us and so are some important deadlines. Nominations for Society awards as well as proposals for GSA topical and Pardee sessions are due in the coming weeks. Some of the details are listed below. We also are announcing the Student Poster Award winners for GSA 2010---*Daren A. McGregor* and *Patrick R. Getty*. Congratulations to you both!

This is the first PS Email Digest of 2011, but is also the first digest that we are sending via our new management office at GSA. As you may recall, the Paleontological Society has migrated some of its day-to-day management duties to the Geological Society of America as a *contractor*. We have been working with them over the past 2 months to coordinate this effort. If you note any glitches or confusion, please let us know so we can address these problems. We ask for your patience in this process. As mentioned previously, many other societies such as SEPM and SVP have professional management services and this was our way to provide you, our members, with the best means by which we could serve your needs.

***We wish you all the very best in 2011!***

-----Lisa Park, Secretary, The Paleontological Society

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**CONTENTS**

- January 11—Deadline for Topical Session Proposals for 2011 GSA meeting
- New Data Management Policy at NSF
- Undergraduate Poster Winners—GSA Denver 2010
- PS Strimple Award Deadline—February 1, 2011
- New PhD Opportunity—Uppsala University, Sweden—Deadline is January 31, 2011

**REPEATED ITEMS**

- PhD opportunities at MacQuarie University, Australia
- Assistant Professor, Oberlin College, Ohio
- 21<sup>st</sup> Canadian Paleontology Conference
- University of Florida, Florida Museum of Natural History-PCP PIRE Postdoctoral Fellowship for International Research and Education on Ancient Biodiversity and Global Change in the New World Tropics

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**CALL FOR TOPICAL SESSIONS FOR GSA 2011**

We would like to encourage paleontologists of all stripes to submit proposals for topical sessions at GSA in Minneapolis (9-12 October 2011). Topical sessions are a great way to make sure that the topics that most interest you are the ones on the schedule at the



meeting because you organize the talks and invite the speakers. To get Paleontological Society sponsorship of your session, simply contact me, the society's program coordinator; with Society sponsorship, you can request funds to bring speakers who would not normally attend GSA.

The deadline for submitting a session proposal is January 11 -- for more details, see GSA's website: <http://gsa.confex.com/gsa/2011AM/TopicalRequirements.epi>

Tom Olszewski  
Paleontological Society Program Coordinator  
PS Council

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#### **NSF DATA MANAGEMENT POLICY**

For those researchers submitting grant proposals to the US National Science Foundation, please note that there is a new requirement for ALL proposals of a data management plan. Further information about the requirement can be found at the following link---

<http://www.acpt.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/dmp.jsp>

Please feel free to contact the Sedimentary Geology and Paleobiology (SGP) program directors, Rich Lane (rlane@nsf.gov), Lisa Park Boush (lboush@nsf.gov) or Paul Filmer (pfilmer@nsf.gov), if you have any questions. There will be a template available within the GEO directorate webpage that will help guide you in this process.

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#### **UNDERGRADUATE POSTER WINNERS--GSA DENVER 2010** **Outstanding Poster Awards: GSA 2010, Denver**

Paleontology students, both undergraduate and graduate, presented a vast array of research at the recent GSA Annual Meeting in Denver, CO. Their posters were evaluated for a range of different aspects focused on the science and its presentation by the students at the meeting. Based on these evaluations, the first and second place finishers were:

**Daren A. McGregor** (Colby College; with co-authors Patricia Kelley and Gregory Deitl) for: Paleontologic Analysis of the Waccamaw Formation at Neils Eddy Landing, Acme, North Carolina;

and

**Patrick R. Getty** (University of Connecticut; with co-author Andrew Bush) for: Sand Pseudomorphs of Dinosaur Bones: Implications for (Non-)Preservation of Skeletal Material in the Hartford Basin, USA

**Congratulations** to the winners and their advisors as well as a welcome to the society's new student members. A **thank you** to all of the members of the Paleontological Society who volunteered to help evaluate student posters at this meeting; it would not have been



possible without your assistance. Furthermore, if there are members who would like to join in the evaluation endeavor, please contact Peter Harries (harries@usf.edu).

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### **PS AWARD DEADLINES**

#### **Strimple Award—Deadline is February 1, 2011**

Know of an amateur who has furthered the field of paleontology? Please recognize that person by nominating him or her for the Paleontological Society Strimple Award.

The Strimple Award recognizes outstanding achievement in paleontology by amateurs (someone who does not make a living full-time from paleontology). Contributions may be an outstanding record of research and publication, making outstanding collections, safeguarding unique paleontological materials through public service, teaching activities in the area of paleontology, and collaborations with others working in paleontology.

Anyone, including other amateurs, may make a nomination. Nominators do not have to be members of the Paleontological Society.

The nominations should include 1) nominee's full name, address, phone number (and email if available); 2) contact information for nominator; 3) certification by the nominator of the amateur status of the nominee; 4) description of the nominee's achievements in paleontology (not to exceed three pages); 5) supporting letters and other documentation.

#### **Please submit nominations by February 1, 2011, to**

Sandra J. Carlson, Chair of the Strimple Award Committee  
Department of Geology  
University of California at Davis  
One Shields Avenue  
Davis, California 95616-8605

If you have questions, please contact Sandra Carlson at the above address, call 530-752-2834, or email [sjcarlson@ucdavis.edu](mailto:sjcarlson@ucdavis.edu)

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### **PHD STUDIES AT UNIVERSITY OF UPPSALA, SWEDEN**

#### **The Department of Earth Sciences at Uppsala University, Sweden**

We are happy to announce a PhD position on the "Origins of Proterozoic-Cambrian photosynthetic microbiota" in the Palaeobiology Programme of the Department of Earth Sciences, Uppsala University, Sweden. Application deadline is January 31, 2011. For detailed information see below or follow this link

(<http://www.personalavd.uu.se/ledigaplatser/2871PhDEng.html>).

Please feel free to pass this information on to anybody that might be interested.

The Palaeobiology Programme

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### **REPEATED ITEMS**

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### **PHD STUDIES AT MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY, AUSTRALIA**



### **The Department of Biological Sciences at Macquarie University**

(<http://www.bio.mq.edu.au/>) encourages inquiries from students of macroecology, macroevolution, and palaeobiology who are interested in joining our PhD program. Our group includes the following five faculty members whose research involves large-scale patterns and processes. General topics for potential PhD projects are listed after each name.

#### **Drew Allen**

drew.allen@mq.edu.au

<http://www.bio.mq.edu.au/about/staff/person.htm?id=aallen>

- Metabolic theory of ecology
- Heterogeneity in rates of molecular evolution
- Neutral biodiversity theory
- Integrating stochastic population dynamics and macroevolution
- Trait-based models of community assembly

#### **John Alroy**

john.alroy@mq.edu.au

<http://www.bio.mq.edu.au/~jalroy/>

- Mass extinctions and diversity dynamics
- Latitudinal gradients
- Community assembly rules
- Dynamics of evolutionary trends
- Phylogenetic diversity and calibration of molecular clocks
- Comparisons of local and global patterns

#### **Glenn Brock**

glenn.brock@mq.edu.au

<http://www.bio.mq.edu.au/about/people/staff/gb.html>

- Emergence and phylogeny of bilaterians during the Ediacaran-Cambrian transition
- Biomineralisation and development of early skeletons during the Cambrian Explosion
- Biomarker fingerprinting of stem and crown group animals (with A/P Simon George)
- Ecospace and bioengineering in the lower Palaeozoic
- Trends in ancient and modern reef systems
- Taphonomic or palaeoecological studies

#### **Matthew Kosnik**

matthew.kosnik@mq.edu.au

<http://www.bio.mq.edu.au/~mkosnik/>

- Time-averaging and the preservation of stratigraphic order in marine sediments
- Changes in molluscan/crustacean/diatom/foram communities through time
- Latitudinal gradients in molluscan diversity and predation intensity

#### **Josh Madin**

joshua.madin@mq.edu.au

[http://www.bio.mq.edu.au/computational\\_ecology/madin\\_lab.html](http://www.bio.mq.edu.au/computational_ecology/madin_lab.html)

- Ecological consequences of changing calcification rates and storm dynamics on coral reefs
- Biomechanics, including heat budget and mechanical modelling



- Functional traits and macroecology of reef organisms, including the operation of dispersal barriers
- Marine population dynamics

Scholarships are available for up to 3.5 years and include a stipend. The four PhD scholarships that are currently allocated to individual members of our group are described in the attached PDF. PhD students funded with these scholarships may be co-supervised by two faculty members. Applications can also be considered under the general Macquarie University Research Excellence Scholarship (MQRES) program ([http://hdr.mq.edu.au/information\\_about/scholarships](http://hdr.mq.edu.au/information_about/scholarships)).

In accord with standard Macquarie procedures, please make direct inquiries with a potential supervisor prior to submitting any formal application. We look forward to hearing from you!

Cheers,

John Alroy  
Future Fellow  
Department of Biological Sciences  
Faculty of Science  
Macquarie University  
Sydney, NSW 2109

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**COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES, OBERLIN COLLEGE  
FACULTY NON CONTINUING POSITION AVAILABLE**

Visiting Assistant Professor of Paleontology

The Department of Geology at Oberlin College invites applications for a full-time, non-continuing faculty position in the College of Arts and Sciences. Appointment to this position will be for a term of one year, beginning first semester of the 2011-2012 academic year, and will carry the rank of Visiting Assistant Professor.

The incumbent will teach a total of five courses in the general area of Paleontology and Historical Geology including a topical introductory course, an intermediate-level course in historical geology with laboratory, an upper level course in paleontology with laboratory, and another course in their area of expertise. Among the qualifications required for appointment is the PhD degree (in hand or expected by first semester of academic year 2011). Candidates must demonstrate interest and potential excellence in undergraduate teaching. Successful teaching experience at the college level is desirable.

The Department consists of six faculty members. We have about 25 majors, with approximately equal numbers of men and women. Research facilities and instrumentation include an outstanding fossil collection for both research and teaching, the ability to process rock samples and make thin sections in house, Trimble GPS total station, Trimble handheld GPS receivers, a scanning electron microscope with an EDS analyzer, and XRD diffractometer, a large format printer/plotter, and a computer lab equipped with statistical, illustration, and ArcGIS software. All instrumentation is available for both teaching and research. In addition, the College has yearly competitions for small research grants.



To be assured of consideration, a letter of application, a Curriculum Vitae, graduate academic transcripts, and at least three recent letters of reference\* should be sent to Karla Hubbard, Chair, Department of Geology, Oberlin College, Oberlin OH 44074, [karla.hubbard@oberlin.edu](mailto:karla.hubbard@oberlin.edu), Fax: 440-775-8038, by **February 11, 2011**. Application materials received after that date may be considered until the position is filled. Salary will depend on qualifications and experience. \*By providing these letters you agree that we may contact your references.

Oberlin College is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer with a strong institutional commitment to the development of a climate that supports equality of opportunity and respect of differences based on gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity and expression. Oberlin was the first coeducational institution to grant bachelor's degrees to women and historically has been a leader in the education of African-Americans; the college was also among the first to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. In that spirit, we are particularly interested in receiving applications from individuals who would contribute to the diversity of our faculty.

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### **21<sup>st</sup> CANADIAN PALEONTOLOGY CONFERENCE**

This is a preliminary notice of the 21<sup>st</sup> Canadian Paleontology Conference to be held in Vancouver in August, 2011. The website for this meeting is <http://132.156.108.208/cpc/>.

Location: Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Dates: August 19-20, 2011

Field Trips: August 21-22 (Coast Mountains and Gulf Islands)

#### **Specific Dates and Venues**

August 19th, 2011: Registration, Reception, Meetings

August 20th, 2011: Conference and Banquet

August 21st, 2011: Field trip 1 - Harrison Lake

August 22nd, 2011: Field trip 2 - Saltspring Island

- The CPC will be held at the University of British Columbia with accommodation available on campus
- The Reception will be held in the Pacific Museum of the Earth, part of UBC's brand new Earth Sciences Complex
- The Conference will be held in the Irving K. Barber Learning Centre (booking tentative)
- The Banquet (and optional music jam session) will be held in the magnificent Beaty Biodiversity Museum and Research Centre (booking tentative)

Anticipated Registration Fee (including banquet): approximately \$200 (student and public rate will be less than half this amount); firm rates will be posted in March 2011

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### **REPEATED ITEMS**

**University of Florida, Florida Museum of Natural History**



## **PCP PIRE Postdoctoral Fellowship for International Research and Education on Ancient Biodiversity and Global Change in the New World Tropics**

A two-year postdoctoral fellowship is available starting in the **2011-2012** academic year associated with the PCP (Panama Canal Project = Proyecto del Canal de Panamá) funded by NSF's PIRE (Partnerships for International Research and Education). The postdoctoral fellow will work with scientists at the University of Florida (UF), Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI), and other participating institutions to: 1) study ancient biodiversity and global change as recorded in the geological exposures in, and around, the Panama Canal; and 2) participate in outreach and educational opportunities associated with the PCP-PIRE.

Minimum requirements include a PhD (completed at time of appointment) in geology, biology, or other relevant discipline. Experience in geology/paleontology fieldwork and supervisory experience with field projects is expected. The postdoctoral fellow will spend extended periods of time, and/or live in Panama assisting in, and/or supervision of fossil collecting and educational and outreach activities. Spanish language competency is expected. The PCP PIRE Postdoctoral Fellow requires development and acceptance of a formal mentoring plan. Likewise, there will be some opportunity for mentoring students and possible teaching opportunities.

The PCP-PIRE Postdoctoral Fellowship is open to United States citizens or permanent residents, and includes an annual salary of \$40,000 (commensurate with experience), health insurance, and funds for research and travel.

PCP-PIRE is a U.S.-Panamanian partnership to document the ancient marine and terrestrial biodiversity and global climate change of the New World Tropics (NWT) preserved in the 25-million-year fossiliferous sequence in Panama and promote international education, collaboration, and exchange. Research focii include the magnitude and timing of diversity change in the NWT; the biogeographic origins, relationships, and dispersal history of the Central American fauna and flora; antiquity of the rainforest; effects of global climate change on tropical biodiversity through time; and other fundamental questions related to the emergence of the Isthmus of Panama and its past on biodiversity.

The optimal candidate will have training and research experience in Cenozoic paleontology of the New World, optimally either vertebrate or invertebrate, and expertise in modern analytical tools that can be used to elucidate the phylogeny, paleobiology, biostratigraphy, paleoecology, and/or paleoclimatology of the Panama Canal faunas. The optimal candidate will likewise engage in Broader Impact activities related to the goals of the PCP PIRE.

**Application Deadline: 15 February 2011.** Electronic application materials should be directed to Ms. Claudia Grant, PCP PIRE Program Assistant ([cgrant@flmnh.ufl.edu](mailto:cgrant@flmnh.ufl.edu)) and include as an integrated pdf document: (1) a cover letter describing the applicant's interests and experience relevant to this position; (2) current CV; (3) up to 3 reprints of relevant publications; and (4) a list of names and contact information (email) for 3 references.



See the program website ([www.flmnh.ufl.edu/panama-pire](http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/panama-pire)) for additional details and description of the PCP PIRE. Contact either Bruce MacFadden ([bmacfadd@flmnh.ufl.edu](mailto:bmacfadd@flmnh.ufl.edu)) or Jonathan Bloch ([jbloch@flmnh.ufl.edu](mailto:jbloch@flmnh.ufl.edu)) for further details.

PCP PIRE is funded by National Science Foundation award 0966884 to the University of Florida by the Office of International Science and Engineering (OISE), EAR (GEO), and DRL (EHR).

PCP-PIRE and the University of Florida are committed to diversity in education and encourages the applications of women and underrepresented minorities.

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As always, if you do not wish to receive these monthly updates, please email the PS Secretary, Lisa Park at [lepark@uakron.edu](mailto:lepark@uakron.edu) and you will be removed from the list. If you would like to have something posted on the digest, please contact the Secretary. Note that suitability of submissions will be evaluated before posting.

*Lisa E. Park*  
Secretary, The Paleontological Society