



International Geological Correlation Program - UNESCO

IGCP 572: Recovery of ecosystems after the Permian-Triassic mass extinction

Third annual Field workshop at GUtech, Muscat, Oman February 20-26, 2010

Second circular

Scientific Committee for the Third IGCP 572 Field workshop : Michaela Bernecker (GUtech, Muscat), Sylvie Crasquin (Paris), Alda Nicora (Milano), Aymon Baud (Lausanne), Charles Henderson (Calgary), Leopold Krystyn (Vienna) and Oliver Weidlich (Kassel).

Objectives

There is much evidence to indicate that many of Earth's ecosystems are under threat during the present day. This is nothing new, as the Earth has suffered major extinction and upheaval on numerous occasions over the geological past, the most serious of which occurred during the Permian-Triassic transition. Of the major factors proposed to have caused the Permian-Triassic biotic crisis, including increased carbon dioxide concentrations, oceanic anoxia, hypercapnia, and rapid global warming, some are observed in the present day, and others are predicted for the near future. The Permian-Triassic rock and fossil records may thus record a natural experiment in global-scale ecosystem collapse that, if properly deciphered, could provide insights into the possible responses of modern ecosystems to present day climate and environmental change.

The field workshop aims to investigate the recovery of ecosystems following the end-Permian mass extinction through analyses of the rock and fossil records via studies of biostratigraphy, paleontology, paleoecology, sedimentology, geochemistry and biogeochemistry.

Potential participants: Members of the IGC 572 Program, Members of the Permian Subcommittee on Stratigraphy, Members of the Triassic Subcommittee on Stratigraphy, all interested Geoscientists from Middle-East and Oil Companies.

Schedule: February 20-26, 2010



The GUtech building, Oman

The topics of the one and a half day conference at GUTech, February 21 and 22, 2010, will address recovery patterns of various fossil groups; reconstruct global Permian-Early Triassic oceanic and climatic conditions; outline P/Tr ecosystem types; and correlate these types of data within a global stratigraphic framework. New data on Permian-Triassic transition in Oman will be presented.

Please email final registration form until January 15, 2009 to michaela.bernecker@gutech.edu.om

Abstract submission deadline January 15, 2010

The four and a half day field workshop excursion will offer the participants the opportunity to visit the magnificent outcrops of the Oman Mountains that provide unparalleled access to the Permian-Triassic transition units along the Gondwana margin of the Tethys, from shallow carbonate platform, Tilted block margin, continental slope and abyssal plain deposits.



Permian-Triassic large outcrops on the Saiq Plateau, Oman Mountains, February 24 field day.

Fieldtrip Organisation and Schedule:

Leaders: O. Weidlich, A. Baud, B. Beauchamp, L. Krystyn, A. Nicora, C. Henderson, S. Richoz, T. Aigner

Half-day, February 22: Permian-Triassic transition in Wadi Aday (Oliver Weidlich)

One-day fieldtrips (return to Muscat in the evening, please book your hotel) :

February 23: Permian-Triassic bloc in Wadi Wasit (A. Baud, L- Krystyn)

February 24: Permian-Triassic transition on Saiq Plateau (A. Baud, T. Aigner)

Two-day fieldtrip (Hotel in Hatta, UAE, included) :

February 25: Permian-Triassic transition in deep water: the Buday'ah section (A. Baud, B. Beauchamp, L. Krystyn, A. Nicora, C. Henderson)

February 26: Permian-Triassic transition in slope deposit: the Wadi Maqam section (Sumeini), (A. Baud, B. Beauchamp, L. Krystyn, S. Richoz)

IGCP 572 Website: <http://www.igcp572.com/>

GUTech Website: <http://www.gutech.edu.om/>

For further information contact : Michaela Bernecker michaela.bernecker@gutech.edu.om