PSAMMONALIA

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International Association of Meiobenthologists

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29 July to 3 August 2007
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This Newsletter is not part of the scientific literature for taxonomic purposes.
Editorial

The summer is winding down in Myrtle Beach...kids are back in school, Fall semester at the university is 3 wks old, most of the 15+ mil tourists who visit the area every year have gone home, and Ernesto, the first hurricane of the season now a tropical storm, is dropping 20+ cm of rain on our coast as I type. Seems like a fitting time to report results from our summer “Psammonalia poll” and begin planning to attend next summer’s 13th International Meiofauna Conference (THIRIMCO) in Recife, Brazil.

Results from the online vote for the 13 recommendations are presented on the next pages. Many thanks to everyone who participated! Except for items 9, 10 and 12 there is a super majority in favour of each item. Those items with a majority of the votes in favour will be drafted for inclusion in the Bylaws of the society (see below Constitution Article 14). Institution of the recommendations receiving a majority of the votes in favour will begin next year, 2007, in anticipation of THIRIMCO.

Article 14. Bylaws

Bylaws to augment this Constitution may specify details and less fundamental provisions, but shall not alter the intended meaning of this Constitution, or circumvent its provisions.

Additional bylaws may be proposed in writing by any two members in good standing and shall be adopted if a majority of the members are in its favour as shown by a mail ballot.

Bylaws may be amended upon recommendation by the Council, by a majority vote of members of the Association in good standing in a mail ballot.

Speaking of triennial meetings, initial web offerings for THIRIMCO which is to be held in Recife, Brazil (photo below) the week of 29 July to 3 August, 2007 are available online. The initial dates of 5-10 August floated for the meeting proved to be unworkable, and I suspect Paulo Santos is keeping his fingers crossed that this will be the only glitch the conference experiences. Be sure to check out the website at: http://www.ufpe.br/thirimco/.

Cheers,
Keith

Kinda looks like Myrtle Beach…but I don’t believe the restaurants are serving grits.

Society Vote

The following are the final vote tallies for the web poll on the societal recommendations listed below:

Recommendation 1. The society should communicate with its members twice per year.

FOR: 62 AGAINST: 9
**Recommendation 2.** Communication should be primarily by a newsletter on the society’s website.

FOR: 65  
AGAINST: 6

**Recommendation 3.** The chairperson should notify the members by e-mail when a new issue of *Psammonalia* has been posted.

FOR: 71  
AGAINST: 1

**Recommendation 4.** Members without electronic access should receive a paper copy by mail.

FOR: 67  
AGAINST: 5

**Recommendation 5.** After a new issue is posted, the previous issue should be archived on the web site intact.

FOR: 67  
AGAINST: 5

**Recommendation 6.** The most recent issue and the archives should be freely accessible.

FOR: 65  
AGAINST: 7

**Recommendation 7.** After a new issue is posted, appropriate components of the issue that it replaces should be copied to topic areas on the web site.

FOR: 61  
AGAINST: 9

**Recommendation 8.** Citations of recent publications by members, contributed by the members, should be included in the newsletter.

FOR: 67  
AGAINST: 5

**Recommendation 9.** The recent literature section should be omitted from the newsletter.

FOR: 13  
AGAINST: 58

**Recommendation 10.** Membership in the society and the payment of dues should be separated from access to the newsletter.

FOR: 41  
AGAINST: 30

**Recommendation 11.** The back issues of *Psammonalia* should be scanned and posted on the web site.

FOR: 60  
AGAINST: 12

**Recommendation 12.** The back issues should be dismembered and relevant portions posted in appropriate topic areas on the web site.

FOR: 39  
AGAINST: 30

**Recommendation 13.** The webmaster should be authorized to hire an assistant to do the work on the back issues.

FOR: 61  
AGAINST: 8
The 13th International Meiofauna Conference will be held in Recife, Brazil the week of 29 July to 3 August, 2007. Preliminary information can be found at: http://www.ufpe.br/thirimco/. Luckily the organizers were able to adjust the meeting dates when it was discovered that an 8,000+ participant conference had been scheduled for the original THRIMCO dates, potentially overwhelming local conference facilities. Please mark your calendars and consider early submission of the preliminary registration form at: www.ufpe.br/thirimco/registration.htm.

News from Meiofauna Marina

We have now finished work on the fourth volume of Meiofauna Marina. It includes papers on Foraminifera, Nematoda, Kinorhyncha, Priapulida and Copepoda. As happy as we are with this volume, we still have to mention some concerns for the future. There are still too few subscriptions to Meiofauna Marina and too few manuscripts received. Many potential authors request an indexed journal for their publications. This is under way for Meiofauna Marina, but this process takes a few years and we are asking you for patience and support. You as an author can help to raise the quality of Meiofauna Marina to the level you wish it to have by submitting excellent papers!

For the future issues, beginning with the next volume, we will subdivide Meiofauna Marina into two sections. On part is for all publications laying within the scope of the journal, the other part will deal with special, targeted topics. Our topic for the next volume, 16 (2007) will be:

Dichotomous keys for meiofauna organisms

If you are able to present such a key for a certain taxonomic group (maybe in a particular geographical region), we specially welcome your contribution for the next issue. In order to organize contributions, please announce your intention to write such a key prior to writing to either of the editors:

Pedro Martinez Arbizu: pmartinez@senckenberg.de
Andreas Schmidt-Rhaesa a.schmidt-rhaesa@uni-bielefeld.de
M. Antonio Todaro todaro.antonio@unimore.it
We are looking forward to your contributions!

Andreas Schmidt-Rhaesa
Pedro Martinez Arbizu
M. Antonio Todaro
Editors of Meiofauna Marina

Member News & Information

A message from Dr. Bruce C. Coull:

On June 30, 2006, I retired from my University of South Carolina positions as a full-time faculty member and Dean of the School of the Environment.

I will, however, remain at the University of South Carolina as Carolina Distinguished Professor and Dean, Emeritus. In this role I will be working with the Center for Humans and Nature of New York and Chicago, USA (http://www.humansandnature.org) to explore, articulate, and promote long-term social and moral responsibilities for the earth’s living communities. The work will integrate historical dynamics and ongoing interactions of humans and nature.

I will no longer conduct research, nor will I direct student projects, theses or dissertations on meiofauna. If you are interested in pursuing studies related to the ecology of meiofauna, contact former students/postdoctoral researchers listed under the School of Coull on this web site (http://www.biol.sc.edu/%7Ecoull_lab/schoolofcoull_framed.htm) or examine the International Association of Meiobenthologists membership list (http://www.meiofauna.org/membersh.html) for potential advisors.

I maintain an interest in all things meiofaunal and it has been a great life studying them. I hope that the next generation of researchers will learn much more about these creature friends and that the researchers have as much fun as I have had trying to understand our ubiquitous and omnipresent aquatic denizens.

Bruce C. Coull
bccoull@sc.edu

“Meiobenthology, 2nd”

For the past two months I have been busy revising and partly rewriting the 2nd edition of my book "Meiobenthology - The Microscopic Fauna of Aquatic Sediments." Springer was interested in printing a 2nd edition after the 1st sold out just two years after its appearance in 1993. Now, after my retirement I am finding the time to complete this task. I hope that Springer will accept all my ideas to freshen up the contents of the book, as well as its appearance. And of course, I hope that I get ahold of all the important new literature and do not omit any relevant work. I am afraid the rewriting will take the rest of the year so let’s hope that the printing process itself won’t take too long.

Should IAM members and readers of Psammonalia have any good ideas, hints or topics they found missing in the 1st edition, please, don’t hesitate to notify me.

Olav Giere
olav.giere@zoologie.uni-hamburg.de
Dear Sir,

This is just a note to express my appreciation for your efforts on behalf of the benthic invertebrate community. Psammonalia is both interesting and informative. I am a retired engineer-marine biologist and am currently amusing myself by collecting and identifying benthic fauna here in central Florida. I am working in the Tsala Apopka chain of lakes attempting a species list by lake. My first and most challenging problem is perfecting my collection skills.

Sincerely,
Karl J. Starzinger
Kjstarz@netsignia.net

Address Changes/Updates

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Resources


Drawing together the work of 25 nematologists from 12 countries, this book examines the taxonomy and ecology of freshwater nematodes. The ecology section explores their distribution, diversity, abundance, biomass, and their relation to their physico-chemical and biological environment. The second section gives a taxonomic account of freshwater nematodes with pictorial keys at the genus level and a complete list of species within each genus. The book also summarizes previous work in the area and indicates avenues for future research. Overall, it provides a unique synthesis of a subject that has previously been poorly documented, and it should remain a standard reference work for many years.
Found at: //www.cabi-publishing.org/Bookshop/

Obituary

**Dr. W.D. Gus Russell-Hunter**
**May 21, 2005**

On May 21, 2005, Dr. W.D. Russell-Hunter (known to his friends as “Gus”) passed away in the privacy of his own home in Easton, Maryland of a heart
attack. He was born on May 3, 1926 in Rutherglen, Scotland. He is survived by a son, Peregrine D. Russell-Hunter, his daughter-in-law Janet Whitehill Russell-Hunter, and his three grandchildren; Hannah Margaret Russell-Hunter, Sarah Lindsay Russell-Hunter, and Malcolm Whitehill Russell-Hunter; all of Arlington, Virginia and Royal Oak, Maryland.

He was married to Myra Porter Rankin Chapman on March 22, 1951 in the Glasgow University Chapel, within weeks of earning tenure with the University. His career as a marine biologist, freshwater ecologist and invertebrate zoologist and her career as an artist took them from Glasgow, Scotland eventually to the United States and decades of distinguished work at both Syracuse University in upstate New York and the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

Dr. Russell-Hunter’s career in marine biology began, as a result of the Second World War, as a Scientific Officer with the British Admiralty on a marine anti-fouling team whose research was made urgent by the sinking of the fouled – and therefore slower – HMS Hood by the German Bismark earlier in the war. His placement on the Scientific and Technical Register due to his academic achievement moved him to this duty from his training as a Pilot and Observer flying in Swordfish (the last cloth and wood biplane to see significant combat in the war). His first published papers in 1948 and 1949 were derived from this work and his honors research at the Glasgow University, following his BSc with honors in 1946, continued in this vein and led to the publication of now-classic works about marine and freshwater organisms and their physiological ecology, behavior, and functional morphology.

In 1949, Dr. Russell-Hunter led an expedition of scientists and ecologists to the Garveloch Islands off the West Coast of Scotland. This diverse young group of explorers made ecological, geological, malacological, ornithological, and even archaeological discoveries on these uninhabited islands. At the time of his death, he was attempting to publish the resulting book, The Isles of the Sea, along with getting back into print his four major texts: Aquatic Productivity © 1970; A Biology of Lower Invertebrates © 1968; A Biology of Higher Invertebrates © 1969 and A Life of Invertebrates © 1979 all of which were foundational for decades of students of invertebrate zoology throughout the world in their various translations.

In 1953, Dr. Russell-Hunter was awarded his PhD from Glasgow University. In 1953 and 1954 Dr. Russell-Hunter was in Jamaica as a Carnegie Brown Fellow at the University of the West Indies. Both before and after that research, he published significant papers which set new standards for the study of freshwater invertebrates. He was awarded a DSc by Glasgow University in 1961.

Dr. Russell-Hunter’s career with the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) began in 1961 when he served as a lecturer in the influential Invertebrate Zoology Course until 1963. He served as the Director of that course from 1964 to 1968. He served as the Editor of the
MBL’s *Biological Bulletin* from 1968 to 1980. His editorship during those years fueled the Bulletin’s rise to prominence as a leading general biological journal. Dr. Russell-Hunter was also a four-term member of the Board of Trustees of the MBL and served on in *emeritus* status thereafter.

Dr. Russell-Hunter’s teaching and research career with Syracuse University from 1963 to 1990 was equally distinguished, and he and his many graduate students not only produced significant research but also created an environment for learning about biology which was a jewel in the crown of the University’s well-respected Biology Department. There, he received grants from NIH, NSF, and the Army Corps of Engineers. He was recognized by the University with his selection as the recipient of the William Wasserstrom Award in 1988 honoring his teaching career.

He authored and published over one hundred and twenty research articles, and that number almost doubles when considering the work of his graduate students in which he was directly involved but chose not to follow the common practice of adding his name so as to allow them a better chance to launch their own careers. This facet of his life – that of mentor and teacher – was perhaps his greatest hallmark as his generous and gracious work advising his graduate and undergraduate students created a diaspora of researchers and teachers through whom he has had a global impact on the fields of physiological ecology, malacology, and invertebrate zoology.

Dr. Russell-Hunter’s career and work was honored in 1984 at the “International Symposium on the Physiological Ecology of Freshwater Molluscs Honoring Dr. W.D. Russell-Hunter” for the 50th Annual Meeting of the American Malacological Union. Dr. Russell-Hunter was again honored in 1999 when the Freshwater Mollusc Conservation Society presented him with their first ever Lifetime Achievement Award. He has been listed for many years in Who’s Who in America.

Dr. Russell-Hunter was also a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, a Fellow of the Institute of Biology of the United Kingdom, a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), as well as a member of the Ecological Society of America, American Malacological Union, Glasgow Natural History Society, Malacological Society of London, Society of Systematic Biology, and Society of International Limnology, among others.

For the last decade of his life he was also a member of the St. Andrews Society of the Eastern Shore in Easton, Maryland.

In later years, after the death of his wife in 1989, for whom he cared during her decade-long battle with cancer, Dr. Russell-Hunter turned to oil and acrylic painting (for which he won awards), boating, reading, model railroading, and to the Religious Society of Friends. He was involved with both the Syracuse Meeting and Third Haven Friends Meeting, where he was a member and a long-time member and Clerk of the Worship and Ministry Committee.
A memorial service in the form of a Meeting for Worship will take place at Third Haven Friends Meeting, in the old Meeting House on Washington Street in Easton MD, at 11:00am on Saturday June 4, 2005. There will be a brief reception afterwards in the Common Room, where a small selection of Dr. Russell-Hunter's publications and artwork will be on display.

Memorial contributions can be sent to the Marine Biological Laboratory, c/o Ms. A. Kristine Johnson, Director of Special Gifts and Planned Giving, 7 MBL Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543-1015. She can be reached at (508) 289-7766 or kjohnson@mbl.edu. A memorial service honoring Dr. Russell-Hunter at the MBL in Woods Hole is in the planning stages for late July or early August of this year at which time his ashes will be sprinkled at the middle-ground buoy in Vineyard Sound.

Recent Literature


Bursey, C. R., K. E. Richardson, and D. J. Richardson. 2006. First North American records of Kathlania leptura and Tonaudia tonaudia


53:100-106.


Langlois, T. J., M. J. Anderson, and R. C. Babcock. 2006. Inconsistent effects of reefs on different size classes of macrofauna in adjacent sand habitats. Journal of
Tchesunov, A. V., and J. R. Okhlopkov. 2006. On some selachinematid nematodes (Chromadorida : Selachinematidae) deposited in the


DON’T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN IAM!
THE APPLICATION CAN BE FOUND AT:
http://www.meiofauna.org/appform.html