

associated organization of the International Association of Aerobiology (IAA) and acts as the representative of the IAA in the Americas. You may join the PAAA at www.paaa.org. PLEASE JOIN US!



PAAA News

Winter 2005

Pan-American Aerobiology Association www.paaa.org

Don't miss

Aerobiology 2005 Symposium

University of Tulsa, Tulsa, Oklahoma

2 - 5 June 2005

PAAA Conference Web Page: <http://pollen.utulsa.edu/Aerobiology-2005.htm>

PAAA Association Web Page: <http://www.paaa.org/>

Conference Deadlines:

Abstract Submission Deadline.....March 15, 2005

Acceptance Notification.....April 15, 2005

Advance Registration.....May 1, 2005

The Pan-American Aerobiology Association (PAAA) is an assemblage of individuals with diverse scientific backgrounds and expertise who have a common interest in the sources, dispersal, and deposition of airborne biological particles. The organization was officially constituted in June 1989 during the Second Canadian (and first Pan-American) Symposium on Aerobiology. The PAAA is an

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PAAA Executive Committee - 2005

President - Michael Muilenberg – mmuil@hsph.harvard.edu
Vice President - William Solomon – (734) 936-5634
Corresponding Secretary - Charles Barnes – barnescs@umkc.edu
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*The Pan-American Aerobiology Association (PAAA) is an assemblage of individuals with diverse scientific backgrounds and expertise who have a common interest in the sources, dispersal, and deposition of airborne biological particles. The organization was officially constituted in June 1989 during the Second Canadian (and first Pan-American) Symposium on Aerobiology. The PAAA is an associated organization of the International Association of Aerobiology (IAA) and acts as the representative of the IAA in the Americas. You may join the PAAA at www.paaa.org. Full membership is \$40. U.S. and includes membership in IAA, the International Aerobiology Association. Student membership is \$20. **Amigos y Miembros de la PAAA fuera de los Estados Unidos de América:** aceptaremos gustosos sus contribuciones en español, portugués o francés. Según las posibilidades de la edición, saldrán en el idioma original, o traducidas al inglés.*

Message from the President

Dear fellow PAAA members – I want to begin with an invitation to all to participate more actively in the PAAA. My intent is for this to come across as an invitation, and not me preaching about how more input and participation is needed from the entire membership (but it is!). I certainly find it difficult to squeeze out the bit (or sometimes substantial amount) of time to do something not required by my work or for which there is no financial remuneration, I think maybe all of us find this a problem.

What can you do? 1) We have officer elections coming up during the 2005 meeting. As past president, Scott Isard is chair of the Nominating Committee. Please volunteer for a post! The Nominating Committee typically considers multiple candidates for each position but only presents one candidate to the membership for consideration. In addition, nominations from the floor are always welcomed! If you have suggestions for possible officers (yourself, or someone else), send an email to Scott_s-isard@uiuc.edu. Again, we get back to contributions of time; be realistic but also challenge yourself a bit. There is a small “inner core” of (variably) active, long-time members who are often on the nominating slate; we need others to bring new blood to this group. If you need more information on the responsibilities of the different posts, consult the PAAA Officer Responsibilities section on the PAAA web site (under Statutes, Policies, and Procedures). 2) In San Diego, the re-activation of a number of committees was discussed and implemented. Committee topics include guidelines for use of samplers and guidelines for reporting of laboratory results, among others. If you'd like, start a new committee; give your suggestions to me or any other PAAA officer. Please follow through on your commitments to these committees; this is the only way to achieve our goals. 3) Contributions to the PAAA Newsletter are always welcome. Reviews of books or articles, summaries of recent meetings, news from your lab or firm, photos of interesting spores/pollen/other, etc. can be sent to Dan Friedman - dfriedman@inspect-ny.com he'd love to hear from you!

4) Help organize an annual meeting. This might sound like a daunting task. OK, it is. Yet, it is also rewarding, appreciated, and can readily be done by a small group (two or three) of committed people. You do not need to be affiliated with a university to organize a meeting although sometimes schools will allow you to use their facilities; the San Diego meeting was a good example of this. With advance planning, you could have two or three years to organize the meeting; please think about it.

There are some important things of which all members should be aware. One is the revamped web page. I think it looks great! Annalisa Ariatti, our webmaster, worked on it this past year and did a wonderful job. If you haven't gone to the website in some time, please note that there are some pages that could be useful to you. Do you want to add a link to your aerobiology business? or to your academic web page? If it's appropriate, it can be added to the "Links" page. What about aerobiology publications? Do you have recent articles, books, etc. that could be listed on the "Publications" page? Simply send the information to the webmaster ariatti@uiuc.edu. The web site can be, and should be, a useful and dynamic resource. Please send your suggestions and contributions to Annalisa; she'll be happy to receive them.

Finally, I hope everyone is making plans to attend the upcoming 2005 annual PAAA meeting which will be held in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Estelle Levetin has graciously agreed to organize this meeting. Many will remember that 10 years ago Estelle organized a very successful (and fun!) meeting. Information is available on the PAAA web site and elsewhere in this Newsletter. We all look forward to getting together again.

Kind regards to all, Mike Muilenberg mmuil@hsph.harvard.edu

AEROBIOLOGY 2005 – June Conference

The PAAA (Pan-American Aerobiology Association) will sponsor its annual conference from June 2 – 5, 2005 on the campus of The University of Tulsa in Tulsa, Oklahoma. An Opening Reception will be held on Thursday evening June 2, 2005 with the official opening of the scientific sessions on Friday morning June 3. The symposium will end Sunday June 5. In addition, pre-conference workshops will be held on Thursday June 2 and Spore Camp will be held on Monday June 6.

The primary objectives of the conference are: (1) to foster communication among those involved in the many disciplines encompassed by aerobiology, (2) to provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of recent and ongoing research in aerobiology, (3) to encourage new investigators (including students) in aerobiology.

Since aerobiology is a multi-disciplinary field there will be a wide variety of topics covered during the conference. Among the interests of meeting participants are the production, distribution, dispersal, and deposition of airborne biological particles and the implication of these processes to ecology, human health, plant and animal pathology. The scientific program will be divided into the following topics:

1. General Aerobiology (including aerosol physics, biometeorology, modeling, and statistical methods, etc.).
2. Indoor Air Quality (including microbial ecology and sources, modeling the indoor environment, nature of indoor pollutants, etc.).
3. Medicine and Health (including aeroallergens, airborne infectious disease, epidemiology, inhalation toxicology, risk assessment, etc.).
4. Pathology (including ecology, long distance moving of biota, insect migration and dispersion, modeling, etc.).

Opportunities for Aerobiologists

Aerobiology Volunteers wanted for GAMP

From: Prof. Kees Stigter, leader WMO/CAGM Expert Team on Revision of the Guide to Agricultural Meteorological Practices

Subject: (GAMP) is seeking volunteers

On behalf of the Commission for Agricultural Meteorology, World Meteorological Organization, Geneva, I want to advertise the request for volunteers for updating the Chapter "Aerobiology" of our Guide to Agricultural Meteorological Practices (GAMP). Interested colleagues should contact me at cjstigter@usa.net

Details on the revision of the GAMP may be found on the WMO/CAGM website under "Revision of the GAMP". Or on the website of the International Society for Agricultural Meteorology (INSAM) (www.agrometeorology.org) under "What's new" (Advertisement of Chapters), "Working Groups in operation" (Composition of Groups for each Chapter) and "Agromet Market Place" (Messages on progress).

17th International Botanical Congress, Vienna Austria

From: [IBC Secretary General](mailto:office@ibc2005.ac.at)
Subject: International Botanical Congress 2005 - Vienna

Dear Colleague,

With this we wish to bring to your attention the
17th International Botanical Congress
To be held 18 to 23 July 2005 in Vienna, Austria

(Nomenclature sessions 13 to 16 July). Please distribute this information within your society or organisation:

- Online registration is open on our congress website <http://www.ibc2005.ac.at/> under Registration
- Online abstract submission is open under Abstract Submission
- The Second Circular and information on the updated program (nomenclature section, symposia, general lectures, field trips) are available under Program/Symposia
- Hotel Reservation is possible under Accommodation and Tours
 - Every participant has to register via the Registration on the website.
 - Every abstract (key note lecture, oral, poster) must be submitted online

Deadlines:

for abstract submission: 31 January 2005
for registration at lower fee: 15 April 2005
for registration at higher fee: 3 July 2005

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11th IPC, 4-9 Jul 2004, by Michael Muilenberg

This past July, I had the pleasure of attending the 11th annual International Palynological Congress (IPC), in Granada, Spain. The conference was organized by Dr. Ana Romero, Professor, University of Granada.

On the first evening (Sunday), the plenary lecture, entitled “The use of aerial platforms in aerobiological studies” was given by Eugenio Dominguez of the University of Cordoba, a long-time PAAA member. He presented a fascinating historical account on the use of aircraft for aerobiological monitoring. This is an area of which many of us know little, maybe only something of Fred Meier’s studies in the 1930s, although there has been an amazing amount of research done on biological particles at high altitudes. I think maybe Eugenio’s passionate interest in airplanes was as much a motivation for the topic as was aerobiology.

The plenary lecture was followed by a cocktail reception on the rooftop terrace of the Conference and Exhibition Centre. We all enjoyed the delectable hors d’oeuvres, good wine, and a beautiful evening view of Granada, in addition to the chance to catch up with old friends and colleagues.

Other social events during the IPC included the Andalusian Dinner on Tuesday evening at the Cortijo Gardens a few kilometers outside Granada, featuring a number of dishes typical of the region. There were ample drinks and appetizers, excellent food and, of course, Flamenco dancers. The IAA dinner was Wednesday evening at restaurant called La Chumbera Cave, built partly into a cave above the Albayzin district, an old Moorish neighbourhood. We had a fantastic view of Alhambra, the ancient citadel of the Moorish kings,

across the valley of the Darro River. This dinner was a special pleasure as Frits Spiksma, who retired this past year, was honored for his contributions to IAA and aerobiology in general. Frits is from Leiden, Netherlands, and has attended a number of our PAAA meetings.

Finally, on Thursday evening the IPC Gala Dinner was elegantly presented at La Mamunia Gardens. This popular and crowded fiesta was followed by live music, an open bar, and dancing; needless to say, many attendees (but not this stodgy old man) really loosened up during this event. The Southern Europeans really know how to mix fun and pleasure (or is it supposed to be work and pleasure?).

Oh yes, and the scientific presentations: I had hoped to attend a few of the non-aerobiological pollen sessions. These included presentations on pollen structure, forensic palynology, and many sessions on quaternary palynology, but I got so caught up in the multiple aerobiology talks that I couldn’t get away to hear any of them.

In the aerobiology sessions, topics included long-distance transport, pollen forecasting (including interesting presentations by PAAA members Scott Izard and Carmen Galan, and a poster on predictive models, by Gabriela Murray), and new technologies in fungal and pollen aerobiology.

I had the honor of chairing the session on new technologies in fungal aerobiology and found the presentations by PAAA members Alistair McCartney (immunoassays and PCR for spore detection) and Estelle Levetin (leaf-surface fungi and their contribution to the air spora) most informative.

Among many other insightful and relevant presentations were those by PAAA members Christine Rogers (ragweed seed germination and flowering as influenced by season length and CO₂ levels), Vincent Penel (the impact of the severe 2003 heat wave in Europe on atmospheric pollen), and Paul Comtois and Bernard Clot (on interpretation of pollen data and risk assessment).

After the meeting, Chris Rogers and I traveled to beautiful Cordoba, and were the lucky guests of the most gracious hosts, Carmen Galan and her family. We visited Carmen's laboratory at the University of Cordoba, and were able to visit with a number of our aerobiology friends, including Gabriela Murray (our at-large PAAA Executive Committee member), who was studying with Carmen for a short time. We also saw the brand new laboratories and offices that were being build for Carmen's aerobiology group and her biology colleagues.

This IPC was a wonderful meeting, both scientifically and socially, in a superb venue. My thanks to Dr. Ana Romero and the organizing committee, and all the attending aerobiologists.

I encourage PAAA members to attend the next congress in Bonn, Germany in 2008, you'll find them informative as well as fun!

2004 PAAA General Membership Meeting Minutes PAAA San Diego, CA June 18, 2004

I. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order by Mike Muilenberg at 7:30. It was determined that a quorum was not present. Subsequently, this time will be devoted to an informational and discussion session.

Items of general discussion:

- A. The 2005 PAAA meeting will be in Tulsa hosted by Estelle Levetin some time from Mid May to the end of June.
- B. The officer job descriptions will be posted on the PAAA web site. [www.paaa.org/]
- C. A discussion was held around the subject of attaining not-for-profit status for the PAAA. No one was strongly of the opinion that this should be pursued.
- D. Mike asked for suggestions about what action committees should be pursued. This same question will be printed in the newsletter. Considerable discussion followed. The general consensus was that producing standardized protocols for sampling and counting procedures for the web site should be a priority.
- E. The Latin American Committee will discuss the possibility of a meeting in Argentina or Miami. [*See p. 19, this issue.*]
- F. The person in charge of putting on the PAAA meeting in any given year is responsible for changing the identity of the spore on the PAAA Logo.
- G. The nominating committee for 2005 will be composed of Scott Isard, Connie Jenkins and a third person elected at the general membership meeting. [*See p. 21, this issue.*]
- H. A discussion was held concerning the PAAA membership and the relevancy of the organization. Suggestions included:
 1. Get more people involved in the PAAA
 2. Reorganize the bylaws to provide that more work will be done by the committees and membership, lessening the load on the executive committee.
 3. Provide food at the general membership meeting.

4. Publish the general membership agenda widely ahead of time.

II. The meeting was adjourned until 4:40 pm on June 19, 2004.

III. The general membership meeting was reconvened by Mike Mullenberg at 4:40 pm on June 19 in room 210 of the Manchester Center. A quorum of members (32) was present.

IV. Modifications to the agenda - There were no modifications to the agenda.

V. Review of the 2003 PAAA General Membership Meeting minutes.

The minutes of the General Membership Meeting held Thursday June 12, 2003 in Chicago, Illinois, USA, were reviewed. The minutes were amended to note that a quorum was present. The minutes were approved as amended.

VI. Old Business

A. 2005 Annual meeting

Since the planning for a meeting in Mexico City was proceeding slowly due to numerous obstacles, it was moved and seconded that Estelle Levetin in Tulsa, Oklahoma should host the 2005 PAAA meeting some time between mid-May and the end of June. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Officer job descriptions

To assist new officers in performing their functions, the PAAA officer responsibility descriptions are being compiled and will be posted on the PAAA web site.

C. PAAA Logo

It was initially intended that the spore or pollen type depicted on the PAAA Logo would be changed periodically. It was generally agreed that the person in charge of organizing the PAAA meeting in any given year

would be responsible for changing the identity of the spore on the PAAA Logo.

VII. Reports

A. President

Mike suggested that it is important that the location of the annual meeting should periodically be sited to enhance Latin American Participation in the PAAA. The Latin American Committee Meeting has suggested the possibility of a general meeting in Miami and will propose some specific workshops for several locations in South America.

Mike also indicated that the process of incorporation was still under discussion and that without a general consensus from the membership the process would not proceed.

B. Vice President - No vice president's report was given

C. Treasurer

There are 45 paid members; 76 members that are 1 year delinquent in their dues and 99 members that are 2 years delinquent in their dues.

D. Recording Secretary - No recording secretary's report was given

E. Newsletter Editor

The newsletter has been printed. The newsletter editor is now prepared to accept information in several languages.

F. Web Master

The web site will be reworked and modernized during the next several months.

G. Conference Organizer

Janet Gallup reported that the conference was going well. Janet thanked the many people from the San Diego area who had helped to make the conference a success. The general consensus of the group was that the facilities had been outstanding and the setting was beautiful.

H. At-Large Members

Paul Comtois indicated that we need to spend more effort into expanding our Latin American connections. [See p. 19, *this issue.*]

I. SDA Chair.

The student development award for this year was given to Chaina Bapikee and Erika Kuehne from the Universite de Montreal.

J. The Latin American Committee

The committee awarded \$500 to Yolanda Pineda of Colombia.

VIII. New Business

A. Officer Nominating Committee

The officer nominating committee will be composed of Scott Izard (immediate past president); Connie Jenkins (representing the executive committee) and John Haines (representing the members at large).

B. Review of Standing Committees.

The Biological Sampling Strategies Committee will consist of Larry Syzdek, Janet Gallup, Connie Jenkins and Will Spates. The committee will have two goals. One focus will

be how to count biological particles and the second focus will be on how to use the bioaerosol collectors.

Discussion was held on other committees and ideas for PAAA to work on.

C. Upcoming meetings/activities

- August 24-27, 2004 - The Biometeorology Society will meet.
- November 19, 2004 - The Asian Aerobiology Meetings will be in India.
- July 23-26, 2004 - ASTM will be meeting in Boulder Colorado.
- June 28-29, 2004 - The Society for Health and Remediation will meet in Atlanta.

IX. Other

A. The General Membership awarded the title of Honorary Member to Mary Jelks for her many years of dedication and service to the field of Aerobiology and to the PAAA.

B. The Larry Syzdek Participation Award was voted to Janet Gallup and Estelle Levetin.

X. Call for adjournment. - The meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Submitted by Charles Barnes, Recording Secretary

2004 PAAA Latin American Committee News & Awards

At PAAA 2004 – San Diego, we discussed the possibility of a meeting in 2007 with a Latin American aerobiology emphasis, possibly to be held in Miami, Florida. In addition, and with a shorter lead time, a smaller-scale meeting or workshop might be held in late 2005 or early 2006.

Ideas about the needs or interests of the Latin American aerobiology community are needed and should be sent to Ines or Dan at their email addresses below. From this information, the emphasis or theme of the workshop or meeting will be derived.

2004 PAAA Participation Award Kudos: Gallup & Levetin

Janet M Gallup, Escondido, CA and lead organizer of the stupendous PAAA 2004 San Diego Aerobiology Conference, and Estelle Levetin, Tulsa, OK, lead organizer of the upcoming PAAA 2005 (and certain to be fabulous) PAAA 2005 Tulsa Aerobiology Conference were both recognized by the PAAA Participation Award at our 2004 Conference in San Diego. Offering expertise and sharing a contagious, welcoming enthusiasm, these aerobiologists have for years given generously of their time and knowledge to both expert and neophyte aerobiology enthusiasts.

Requests for consideration for the 2005 awards in any of these categories should be sent to the President ASAP muuil@hsph.harvard.edu. See www.paaa.org for details.

Request for PAAA 2005 Officer Nominations

The PAAA 2005 Nominating Committee which will propose candidates for 2005 includes Scott Isard s-isard@uiuc.edu, Connie Jenkins connie@cts.com, and John Haines jhaines@mail.nysed.gov. PAAA members are welcome to submit their own names or the names of other PAAA members for any PAAA position. Nominations will also be permitted from the floor during the June 2005 membership meeting in Tulsa. If you feel shy, nominate yourself – serving as an officer or on a committee is a great way to learn more aerobiology!

To submit a nomination, contact any of the committee members listed above, or attend the PAAA 2005 membership meeting in Tulsa.

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The Latin American Committee awarded \$500 to Yolanda Pineda of Colombia for 2004. An annual committee award of varying amount is available to encourage PAAA conference participation by assisting in attendance expenses for Latin American members who are distant from the annual conference location.

Requests for 2005 award(s) are welcome and should be sent to Paul Comtois comtois@ere.umontreal.ca or Inez Hurtado ihurtado@tampabay.it.com or Daniel Friedman dfriedman@inspect-ny.com

Amigos y Miembros de la PAAA fuera de los Estados Unidos de América: aceptaremos gustosos sus contribuciones en español, portugués o francés. Según las posibilidades de la edición, saldrán en el idioma original, o traducidas al inglés.

2004 PAAA Student Development Awards

The PAAA 2004 Student Development Award winners (\$500 each) were Chaina Bapikee (“Methodological Factor in Estimating Pollen Seasons Parameters ...” with Comtois) and Erika Kuehne, (“The Gamma PDF in Aerobiology” with Comtois & Jäger) both from Lab. d’aérobiologie, Dépt. de géographie, Université de Montréal.

2004 PAAA Recognizes Dr. Mary Jelks

By an enthusiastic and unanimous vote at PAAA 2004, the Honorary Member designation given to Dr. Mary Jelks. Dr. Jelks is an allergist and avid pollen collector, photographer, and microscopist from Sarasota, FL. She has generously shared her knowledge, photos, and lab recipes with PAAA members since PAAA’s inception, and has encouraged a spirit of inquiry and adventure in both new and old PAAA members.