

# IAS

## NEWSLETTER

N°144

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**Contributions to be sent to:**

André Strasser  
IAS General Secretary  
Institut de Géologie  
Pérolles  
1700 Fribourg  
SWITZERLAND

Tel. +41 37 29 89 78  
Fax +41 37 29 97 42  
E-mail: andreas.strasser@unifr.ch

## GILLIAN HARWOOD 1946-1996

**I**t is my sad duty to report that Gillian Harwood died on 12 March 1996 following a protracted illness.

Over the last twenty years Gill Harwood has been a most energetic and active researcher on many aspects of evaporite and carbonate sedimentation and diagenesis. Although most of her publications concentrated on the Zechstein (Permian) of the U.K., she had enormous field experience of evaporites of all ages and from diverse settings (Canada, U.S.A., Middle East, Eastern Europe and Russia). Recently, she has been amongst the first sedimentologists to relate the principles of sequence stratigraphy to evaporite basins. Gill was also involved in the ODP project, as a member of an international team studying the late Tertiary Bahamas Platform.

Gill identified and began to fill significant gaps in carbonate diagenesis research. In particular, she concentrated on the application of mineral magnetism and magnetostratigraphy in an attempt to constrain the timing of diagenetic events, particularly within reefal settings. She also stressed the importance of diagenetic events associated with late Tertiary uplift. More recently Gill had moved to investigate the relationship between sedimentary geology and environ-

mental change. Until her death Gill was spearheading a multidisciplinary research team examining the evolution of a Holocene, clastic-dominated barrier island sequence (Norfolk U.K.) with respect to sealevel rise over that period. The aim of this research (her research team is continuing with the project) is to predict how a coastal sediment package might behave during future, anthropogenic-induced, sealevel rise.

Gill's international research reputation was recognised by an award from the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and recently the award of the Wollaston Fund of the Geological Society of London 'for outstanding contributions to wide-ranging studies on evaporite and carbonate diagenesis'. Gill's enthusiasm for geology and for fieldwork in particular, inspired many students at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. This enthusiasm and her apparently boundless energy will be sorely missed and long remembered by her sedimentological friends and colleagues worldwide.

*Julian Andrews,  
School of Environmental Sciences,  
University of East Anglia,  
Norwich, NR4 7TJ. U.K.*

## SEDIMENTOLOGY PUBLICATION TIMES

The histogram below shows the publication time (initial manuscript submission to publication) for papers published in *Sedimentology* (issues 1-6 1995 and issues 1-2 1996). The following comments assume that the science described is sound and further work etc. is not required for the paper. On this basis the clear bimodal distribution is probably explained in the following way.

Some papers, typically shorter ones and ones that are meticulously prepared, tend to be easier for referees to comment on, and easier for editors to handle. A paper in this category is typically being published in 9-16 months. Papers in the publication time range 18-24 months are typically taking longer to review, and require more editorial work, possibly 2-3 rounds of corrections, revisions etc. If English is not your first language it will obviously take longer for referees and editors to correct a manuscript. The way to approach this problem is to get an English speaking sedimentologist friend or colleague to read and

correct your manuscript before submission.

Obviously there are exceptions to these interpretations (slow reviewers, postal problems, delays by authors in making revisions etc). The longer times beyond 24 months clearly represent a combination of unfortunate but usually unavoidable circumstances specific to individual authors.

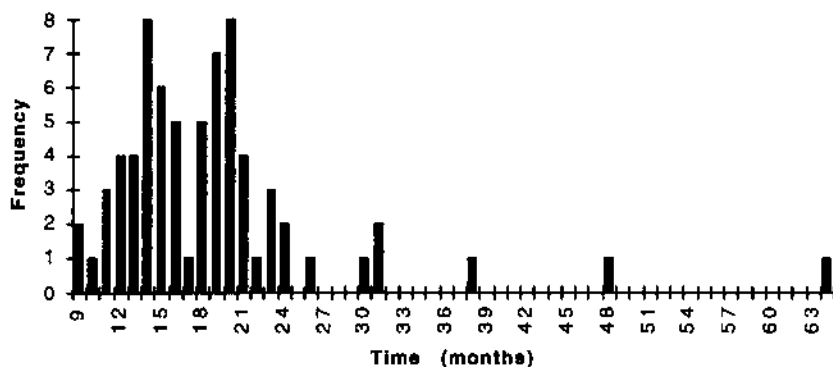
However, the point to take away is simple. Shorter manuscripts which are meticulously prepared get reviewed, edited and published quickly. We hope you all agree that publication times less than 18 months from initial submission are acceptable. We think this figure compares favourably to other earth science journal publication times.

*Julian Andrews,*

*Guy Plint,*

*Brian Jones (Editors Sedimentology).*

**Sedimentology publication times (between  
initial submission and final publication)  
February 1995 - April 1996**



## HISTORY OF IAS INTERNATIONAL CONGRESSES AND REGIONAL MEETINGS

1946	1st	Ghent	Belgium
1949	2nd	La Rochelle	France
1951	3rd	Groningen / Wageningen	The Netherlands
<i>1952 founding of IAS at the Geological Congress in Algiers</i>			
1954	4th	Goettingen	Germany
1958	5th	Geneva / Lausanne	Switzerland
<i>1962 first volume of Sedimentology</i>			
1963	6th	Amsterdam / Antwerp	The Netherlands / Belgium
1967	7th	Reading / Edinburgh	U.K.
1971	8th	Heidelberg	Germany
1975	9th	Nice	France
1978	10th	Jerusalem	Israel
1980	1st	Bochum	Germany
1981	2nd	Bologna	Italy
1982	11th	Hamilton	Canada
1982	3rd	Copenhagen	Denmark
1983	4th	Split	Yugoslavia
1984	5th	Marseille	France
1985	6th	Lérida	Spain
1986	12th	Canberra	Australia
1986	7th	Krakow	Poland
1987	8th	Tunis	Tunisia
1988	9th	Leuven	Belgium
1989	10th	Budapest	Hungary
1990	13th	Nottingham	U.K.
1991	12th	Bergen	Norway
1992	13th	Jena	Germany
1993	14th	Marrakesh	Morocco
1994	15th	Ischia	Italy
1994	14th	Recife	Brazil
1995	16th	Aix-les-Bains	France
1996	17th	Sfax	Tunisia

## REPORT ON THE 17TH IAS REGIONAL AFRICAN-EUROPEAN MEETING OF SEDIMENTOLOGY, TUNISIA

**F**or the second time Tunisia hosted a regional meeting in sedimentology. This year the meeting was held at the Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs in Sfax on the east coast of central Tunisia.

The meeting attracted around 300 sedimentologists mainly from countries in central and southern Europe and from North Africa. Most participants were relatively young university people and only very few of the "big names" were present. I guess that some of these top-level sedimentologists already had been in Tunisia in 1987 in connection with the 8th Regional Meeting and therefore decided not to participate in this second meeting in Tunisia.

The scientific programme encompassed three parallel sessions and lasted three days. 120 oral papers were given. The quality of the presentations, however, varied tremendously. Some presentations were little more than regional descriptions of sediments or stratigraphy. Other talks were of good international standard covering topics such as sequence stratigraphy, carbonate platforms and reefs, basin analysis, fluvial and deltaic siliciclastics, environmental sedimentology, sedimentary record of impact events, Mid-Late Pangea, climatic, tectonic and eustatic signatures in extensional basins, hydrocarbon source rocks and

reservoirs, evaporites and ore deposits. There were relatively few presentations dealing with facies geometry and stratigraphic architecture and to many oil geologists therefore the meeting may have been of limited value. Some talks were truly top-level presentations and contained new ideas on sedimentary processes. One of the best talks I followed was given by a young Ph.D. student from Göteborg in Sweden. In her talk Piret Plink described the sedimentology and sequence stratigraphical aspects of Quaternary ice-marginal deltas in Sweden. Piret pointed out the complexity of these depositional systems and explained how the large-scale cyclicity in the deltaic successions was related to the interaction between accommodation space and sediment flux. In glacio-marine settings variations in accommodation are related to eustasy, glaciostatic uplift and ice-margin displacement, whereas the sediment flux is controlled by displacement of the inflow point and by changes in the sediment supply. In my opinion much more sedimentological research of this kind is needed in order to better understand the sedimentary architecture and depositional dynamics of many Quaternary depositional successions in previously glaciated areas.

Posters were placed in an area next to one of the session halls. The posters also covered a broad field of

topics within sedimentary geology. Unfortunately a number of announced posters never appeared and many of the posters displayed were of poor quality. Clearly there is a need to send precise guidelines for poster presentations in connection with coming IAS meetings.

The congress was well organized. There was plenty of room in the lecture halls, abundant supply of strong coffee and fresh orange juice in the breaks and a very helpful staff informing you on all subjects of interest. Only the slide projectors were a little troublesome. There was a good shuttlebus service between hotels, conference center and the lunch place. Lunches were inexpensive and very tasty, and they were of course accompanied by the local very strong tea.

The scientific sessions were the major event for many of the participants, but for some of us the most important part of the meeting were the excursions. I had chosen one of the pre-conference excursions in southern Tunisia. This excursion was lead by E. Davaud (Univ. Geneva), A. Strasser (Univ. Fribourg) and Y. Jedoui (Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Sfax). The subject of the excursion was Holocene peritidal and evaporitic sedimentation in the region around Zarzis, and almost 25 sedimentologists from Ireland, Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Poland, Hungary, Switzerland, France, Italy and Spain participated. The excursion was very well planned

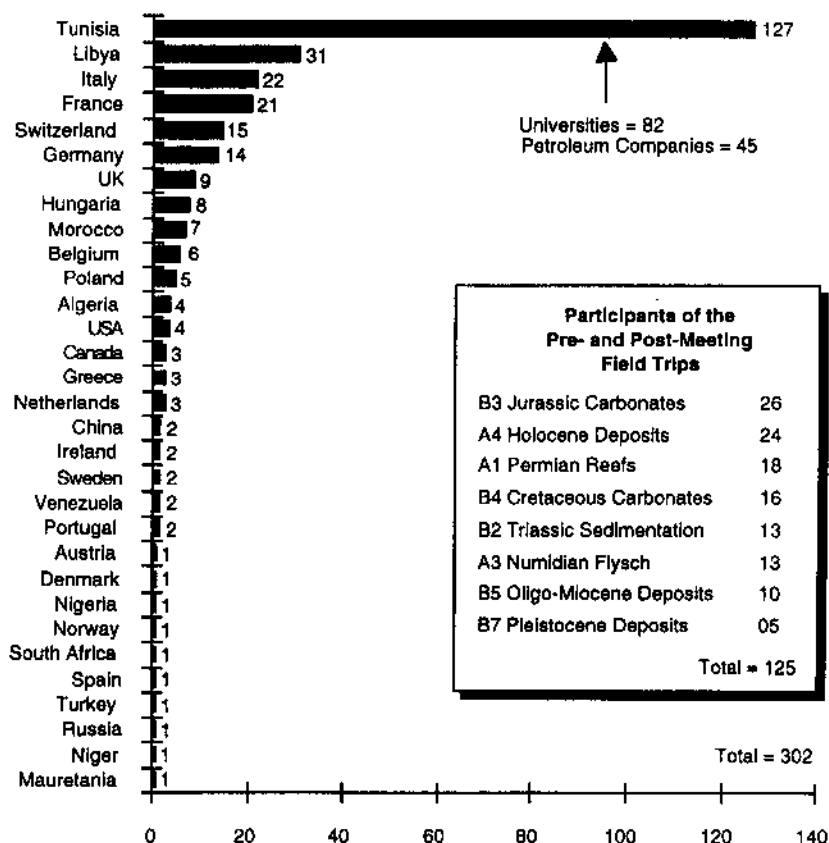
and the participants had the opportunity to study a broad variety of modern and Holocene sediments and sedimentary environments, including a modern beach barrier island system, Holocene eolianites and beach rocks, modern lagoonal deposits and Holocene lagoonal and salt lake deposits (Sabkha el Melah). The visit to the latter locality was very instructive and it especially impressed a Dane living in a humid temperate climate belt. The excursion clearly demonstrated the importance of detailed sedimentological studies of Holocene depositional systems. The sediments of these systems can be dated accurately and thereby placed very precisely in sequence stratigraphical or climatic frameworks.

To conclude I think this was a good regional meeting in a friendly country. The excursion in which I participated was excellent and from what I heard from colleagues also the other excursions were well planned and of a high scientific content. The scientific session suffered somewhat from the lack of many top-level sedimentologists, and the sessions covered perhaps too many fields of sedimentary geology. An idea could be to invite key-note speakers to coming regional meetings and perhaps also to concentrate on fewer topics.

*Lars B. Clemmensen,  
Geological Institute,  
University of Copenhagen,  
DK-1350 Copenhagen K, Denmark.*



## PARTICIPANTS AT THE 17TH IAS REGIONAL MEETING, SFAX 1996



## IGCP PROJECT 362 WORKING GROUP MEETING "INTEGRATED STRATIGRAPHY"

**Baku, Azerbaijan, 28 August - 5 September 1996**

**P**roudly we present the announcement for an IGCP-362 meeting in Azerbaijan within the frame of the "Integrated Stratigraphy" Working Group. Already in 1990 during the "Pelagic and Flysch Facies" meeting of IGCP Project No. 262 (the forerunner of No. 362) in Krakow (Poland) initiatives were made to organize a meeting in Azerbaijan. This meeting had to be postponed several times however. In the meantime our Azeri colleagues stayed in close contact with us and with Wolfgang Schnabel in particular, to work out and test preliminary programmes and also produce an excursion guide. At this moment the circumstances to have a meeting are improved. Last September Wolfgang Schnabel and Martin Wilpshaar went to Azerbaijan to visit our Azeri colleagues; they were received with enormous hospitality. The purpose of their visit was to examine the excursion route and other facilities for the future Working Group meeting. The excursion area of the Greater Caucasus (NW of Baku) is more than fantastic and of great importance for

the TBC-project. After this visit it was obvious that the organisation of a meeting next year will be a success and we already like to thank our Azeri colleagues to have the opportunity to visit their country.

### PROGRAM

Wednesday 28 August: Arrival and ice-breaker.

Thursday 29 August / Friday 30 August: Meeting in Baku

Saturday 31 August - Wednesday 4 September: Excursion to the Greater Caucasus

Thursday 5 September: Departure

*Mascha Tiemessen,  
Laboratory of Palaeobotany and  
Palynology,  
Heidelberglaan 2,  
3584 CS Utrecht, The Netherlands.*

## 1ST LATIN AMERICAN CONGRESS OF SEDIMENTOLOGY

Margarita Island, Venezuela, November 10-12, 1997

**W**hy such a conference?

There is a renewed and increasing interest of the geological world community for Latin America, the main attraction being the outstanding oil prospects in countries such as Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Trinidad and Venezuela. Consequently, this means also an increasing interest for sedimentology.

The recent new "Oil Opening" in Venezuela will give us the extra push to attract even more interest in sedimentology and more interaction among us. The attractivity to foreign scientists is expected to be increased by the first opportunity ever given to look at and discuss core material from Venezuelan fields (core workshop). We thus aim at giving, to as many overseas scientists as possible, the arguments to convince their bosses to come and visit us in South America.

Making this first Congress a big success will ensure the future of other such venues. We do appreciate that congresses on sedimentology have been held before in Latin America. For example, Argentina is already having its 6th National Congress. Brazil has hosted the 14th International Sedimentological Congress in 1994.

Why do we need you? Why do we need to make it international? When considering the number of sedimentologists in Venezuela, a national congress would not give us the impetus we need to move into higher gear at this very opportune point in time. If the number of sedimentologists members of SEPM is indicative, Mexico, Brazil and Argentina have respectively 40%, 85% and 230% more sedimentologists than Venezuela.

We will try our very best to make this congress a success, and it will be a success! Nevertheless, your participation and support are vital. We want this event to be the first one of many more to come, each year organised by a different country.

In order to have a Latin American flavour to the congress, sessions on South America will be held. Communication will be channelled through a correspondent in each Latin American country. This way we will try to make sure that no one and no interest is forgotten.

*Dr. Mounir Mahmoudi,  
Lab. Geol. El Chaure, Corpoven  
Puerto La Cruz, Venezuela.*

## CALENDAR

### **TAPHOS '96 - "El análisis tafonómico y su proyección sobre las disciplinas geológicas y arqueológicas"**

June 13-15, 1996

SPAIN (Zaragoza)

Contact: Guillermo Meléndez, Secretaría de la II Reunión de Tafonomía y Fossilización, Departamento de Geología (Paleontología), Univ. de Zaragoza, 50009 Zaragoza, Spain.  
Tel: +34 976 351209; Fax: +34 976 565852

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### **BASIN ANALYSIS AND MODERN SEDIMENTOLOGY**

5th Annual Meeting of Polish Sedimentologists

June 17-21, 1996

POLAND (Warsaw)

Contact: Dr. Pawel Karnkowski, Instytut Geologii Podstawowej, Uniwersytet Warszawski, al. Zwirki i Wigury 93, 02-089 Warszawa, Poland.  
Tel: +48(22) 223051 / ext. 70;  
Fax: +48(22) 220248

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### **CARBONATES AND GLOBAL CHANGE: A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY APPROACH**

SEPM / IAS Research Conference

June 22-27, 1996

SWITZERLAND (Wildhaus)

Contact: Maria Mutti, Geological Institute, ETH-Zentrum, CH-8092 Zurich, Switzerland  
Tel.: +41 1 632 3673  
Fax: +41 1 632 1080  
E-mail: maria@erdw.ethz.ch

### **CORAL REEFS AND CARBONATE PLATFORMS WITHIN SILICICLASTIC SETTINGS - MODERN AND ANCIENT**

Sub-symposium on the occasion of the 8th International Coral Reef Symposium

June 24-29, 1996

PANAMA (Panama City)

Contact: Prof. Reinhold Leinfelder, Inst. für Geologie und Paläontologie, Univ. Stuttgart, Herdweg 51, D-70174 Stuttgart, Germany.  
Tel: +49 711 121 1339 (or -1340)  
Fax: +49 711 121 1341  
or: Prof. Robert Ginsburg, Univ. of Miami, RSMAS, 4600 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami, Florida 33149-1098, U.S.A.  
Fax: +1 305 361 4094

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### **CARBONATE RAMPS : OCEANOGRAPHIC AND BIOLOGICAL CONTROLS, MODELLING AND PLAY CHARACTERISTICS**

BSRG Research Conference

July 2-3, 1996

ENGLAND (London)

Contact: Dr. V.P. Wright, P.R.I.S., The University of Reading, PO Box 227, Whiteknights, Reading, RG6 6AB, U.K.  
Tel: +44 (0)1734 318946  
Fax: +44 (0) 1734 310279  
E-mail: slsdepo@reading.ac.uk

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### **IGCP PROJECT 362**

Working Group Meeting "Integrated Stratigraphy"

August 28 - September 5, 1996

AZERBAIJAN (Baku)

Contact: Mascha Tiemessen  
Lab. of Palaeobotany and Palynology  
Heidelberglaan 2  
3584 CS Utrecht, The Netherlands  
Tel.: +31 302 53 26 29  
Fax: +31 302 53 50 96  
E-mail: M.Tiemessen@boev.biol.ruu.nl

**FOSSIL AND RECENT  
DEPOSITIONAL ENVIRONMENTS  
BETWEEN NORTH SEA AND  
LAKE CONSTANCE**

**11th Annual Meeting of the Aachen  
Sedimentology Group**

September 12-14, 1996

GERMANY (Aachen)

Contact: Prof. A. Muller, RWTH Aachen,  
Germany.

Tel: +49 241 80 5726

Fax: +49 241 88 88 151

E-mail: A.Muller@RWTH-Aachen.de

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**ALLUVIAL BASINS**

**Sediment Transfer Rates and  
Budgets for Cenozoic Basins**

September 13-18, 1996

FRANCE (Giens, near Toulon)

Contact: Dr. Josip Hendekovic, European  
Science Foundation, 1 quai Lezay-Mamésia,  
67080 Strasbourg Cedex, France.

Tel: +33 88 76 71 35

Fax: +33 88 36 69 87

E-mail: euresco@esf.org

InterNet <http://www.esf.org/euresco>

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**5TH INTERNATIONAL  
CRETACEOUS SYMPOSIUM  
IGCP Project 362 "Tethyan and  
Boreal Cretaceous"**

September 16-24, 1996

GERMANY (Freiburg)

Contact: TU Bergakademie Freiberg,  
Dezernat Wissens- und Technologietransfer,  
Akademiestr. 6, D-09696 Freiberg,  
Germany.

Tel: +49 3731 393339

Fax: +49 3731 393633

**FIELD WORKSHOP ON HIGH-  
RESOLUTION SEQUENCE  
STRATIGRAPHY OF AN UPPER  
CARBONIFEROUS BASIN-FILL**

September 20-23, 1996

IRELAND (Clare Basin)

Contact: T. Elliott,

Dept. of Earth Sciences,

Univ. of Liverpool, P.O. Box 147,

Liverpool L69 3BX, UK

E-mail: [elliott@liv.ac.uk](mailto:elliott@liv.ac.uk)

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**ITALIAN SEDIMENTOLOGICAL  
GROUP**

**Annual General Meeting**

October 10-14, 1996

ITALY (Catania)

Contact: Prof. Albina Colella

Istituto di Oceanologia e Paleocologia

Università di Catania

Corso Italia 55, 95129 Catania, Italy.

Tel: +39 95 7195770

Fax: +39 95 7195790

E-mail: [Al.Colella@agora.stm.it](mailto:Al.Colella@agora.stm.it)

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**COMPARTMENTALIZED  
RESERVOIRS: their Detection,  
Characterization and Management**

October 20-26, 1996

U.S.A. (Houston)

Contact: Dr. Susan Longacre, Texaco

EPTD, 3901 Briarpark, Houston TX

77042, U.S.A.

Tel: +1 713 954 6068

Fax: +1 713 954 6113

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**COMPARATIVE EVOLUTION OF  
PERITETHYAN RIFT BASINS**

November 11-15, 1996

EGYPT (Cairo)

Contact: William Cavazza, Dept. Earth and  
Geoenvironmental Sciences,

University of Bologna, Italy.

Fax: +39 51 243336

E-mail: [cavazza@geomin.unibo.it](mailto:cavazza@geomin.unibo.it)

**GEOFLUIDS II**

March 10-14, 1997

U.K. (Belfast)

Contact: Dr. J. Parnell, School of  
Geosciences, The Queen's University of  
Belfast, Belfast BT7 1NN, U. K.

Tel: +44 1232 335148

Fax: +44 1232 321280

E-mail: J.Parnell@qub.ac.uk

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**UNRAVELLING TECTONIC AND  
CLIMATIC SIGNALS IN  
SEDIMENTARY SUCCESSIONS**

June 26-27, 1997

U.K. (at Burlington House, London)

Contact: Dr. Lynne Frostick or Dr. Martyn  
Pedley, Research Institute for  
Environmental Science and Management,  
University of Hull, Cottingham Road, Hull  
HU6 7RX, U.K.

Tel: +44 1482 465385

Fax: +44 1482 466340

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**PALEOFORMS '97**

Study of Paleozoic Foraminifera

August 17-21, 1997

U.S.A. (Bellingham, WA)

Contact: Charles A. Ross, Dept. of  
Geology, Western Washington University,  
Bellingham, WA 98225-9080, USA.

Tel: +1 360 650 3634

Fax: +1 360 650 3148

E-mail: rossjrp@henson.cc.wvu.edu

**18TH IAS REGIONAL MEETING  
OF SEDIMENTOLOGY**

September 2-4, 1997

GERMANY (Heidelberg)

Contact: Thilo Bechstädt, Geologisch-  
Paläontologisches Institut, Univ.

Heidelberg, Im Neuenheimer Feld 234,

D-69120 Heidelberg, Germany.

Tel: +49(0)6221 548292, 545989 (secre.)

Fax: +49(0)6221 545503

E-mail: thilo.bechstaedt@urz.uni-  
heidelberg.de

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**6th INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE ON FLUVIAL  
SEDIMENTOLOGY**

September 22-27, 1997

SOUTH AFRICA (Cape Town)

Contact: Mrs Sally Elliott

The Conference Organiser, 6 ICFS,

Postgraduate Conference Division,

UCT Medical School, Observatory 7925,  
South Africa.

Tel: +27 21 406 6911/ 406 6381

Fax: +27 21 448 6263

Email: sally@medicine.uct.ac.za

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**1ST LATIN AMERICAN  
CONGRESS OF SEDIMENTOLOGY  
8TH VENEZUELAN CONGRESS  
OF GEOLOGY**

November 10-12, 1997

VENEZUELA (Margarita Island)

Contact: Dr Mounir Mahmoudi,  
Laboratorio Geológico El Chaure, Corpoven  
Puerto La Cruz, Edo. Anzoátegui -  
Venezuela

Tel: +58 81606450 - 58 81 818915

Fax: +58 81606445 - 58 81 603377

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