



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES
INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON STRATIGRAPHY

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Much time and effort has been devoted to an entirely new webpage structure. Many of the subcommissions have agreed to join as a families within the ICS webpages, retaining their own content and editorial control but adopting a more common appearance. This will increase both visibility and transparency of the ICS and its activities and subcommissions (see <https://stratigraphy.org/>).

Three venues for the next STRATI congress have been proposed: Exeter, Valencia and Wuhan. The ICS has now called for formal proposals for these and any others to be submitted to the ICS for discussion and selection.

The ICS has submitted proposals for its participation in the DDE project.

A scheme of colour coding for the Quaternary has been accepted by the executive board of the Map of World. The ICS will amend its charts accordingly.

Devonian

Apart from the three bullet points (objectives) that were included in the SDS report to ICS in 2019 (see below), I would add two more points in yellow (if it can be included in the ICS report).

- Development of an internationally approved chronostratigraphical timescale for the Devonian with maximum time resolution.
- Promotion of new and modern stratigraphical techniques and their integration into Devonian multidisciplinary schemes.
- Application of GSSP decisions internationally and as a base for a better understanding of patterns and processes in Earth History, including Devonian major global environmental changes.
- GSSP of the basal Emsian boundary in the South Tien Shan Mts. in Uzbekistan was revisited by L. Slavík (Secretary of the SDS) during a Geotourism forum in 2019. On behalf of the SDS he communicated the main issues and problems to the local specialists.
- The SDS annual meeting in New York State including two field excursions (pre-conference fieldtrip to the lower and middle Devonian and post-conference fieldtrip to the Late Devonian) were postponed until Summer 2021.

Permian

- The Sakmarian-base GSSP has been page-proofed. It will be published soon in *Episodes*.
- A Special Issue has been published (Shen and Rong, 2019. Integrative Stratigraphy and Timescale of China: *Science in China Series D: Earth Sciences*, 62, 1:1-348). One issue of Permophiles (Issue 67, SPS Newsletters) has been published.
- The Guadalupian timescale has been greatly refined based on recently published geochronology and biostratigraphy (Wu, Q., Ramezani, J., Zhang, H., Yuan, D. X., Erwin, D. H., Henderson, C. M., Lambert, L. L., Zhang, Y. C., and Shen, S. Z., 2020, High-precision U-Pb zircon age constraints on the Guadalupian in West Texas, USA: *Palaeogeography, Palaeoclimatology, Palaeoecology*, 548, p. 109668. Shen et al., reviewed).
- Joerg Schneider and co-authors have provided a comprehensive review of the terrestrial Permian stratigraphy (Schneider, J. W., Lucas, S. G., Scholze, F., Voigt, S., Marchetti, L., Klein, H., Opluštil, S., Werneburg, R., Golubev, V. K., Barrick, J. E., Nemyrovska, T., Ronchi, A., Day, M. O., Silantiev, V. V., Rößler, R., Saber, H., Linnemann, U., Zharinova, V., and Shen, S. Z., 2020, Late Paleozoic–early Mesozoic continental biostratigraphy — links to the Standard Global Chronostratigraphic Scale: *Palaeoworld*, v. 29, p. 186-238).
- SPS has supported the participation of two voting members and two young scholars to Strati 2019 and ICCP 2019 and held two SPS business meetings respectively during the International Carboniferous and Permian Congress 2019 and STRATI 2019.

Cretaceous

- **Coniacian GSSP**

The working group of the Coniacian GSSP has prepared and already discussed a first version of the proposal and the final version is expected to be submitted in few days to the Subcommittee for voting. The Salzgitter-Salder section in Germany will be proposed as candidate stratotype section. Primary criterion is the appearance of the inoceramid *Cremnoceramus deformis erectus*.

- **Hauterivian GSSP**

The GSSP proposal to formalise the base of the Hauterivian Stage at the FO of the ammonite genus *Acanthodiscus* at La Charce in SE France was unanimously approved by the IUGS on December 2019.

The formal publication of the Hauterivian GSSP is just published online in *Episodes*: Mutterlose, J., Rawson, P.F., Reboulet, S., with contributions by Baudin, F., Bulot, L., Emmanuel, L., Gardin, S., Martinez, M., and Renard, M. (2020). The Global Boundary Stratotype Section and Point (GSSP) for the base of the Hauterivian Stage (Lower Cretaceous), La Charce, southeast France. *Episodes*, Published online September 1, 2020.

- **Berriasian GSSP**

The proposal of the Berriasian GSSP was discussed by the voting members of the Cretaceous Subcommittee in January 2020. It has been revised according to the comments received and is currently under voting. Deadline for submitting the votes by the voting member of the Subcommittee is October 7, 2020.

The Tré Maroua section in SE France is proposed as stratotype section. Primary criterion is the base of the calpionellid Alpina Subzone (marked by dominance of small *Calpionella*

alpina, with rare *Crassicollaria parvula* and *Tintinopsella carpathica*) that occurs at the base of bed 14 in the Tré Maroua section.

- **Albian and Hauterivian GSSPs - golden spike ceremony**

The chair of the Subcommittee has contacted the local authorities of the Département of Drôme on the official steps to follow for the establishment of a geopark for the protection of the Albian GSSP at Pré-Guittard (ratified by IUGS in 2016) and for the organization of the official ceremony for placing the golden spikes at both the Albian GSSP and Hauterivian GSSP. The two stratotype sections are located nearby but belong to different municipalities, to the Commune of Arnayon the Albian GSSP and to the Commune of La Charce the Hauterivian GSSP. For this reason and especially because of the covid-19 situation we are currently deadlocked.

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