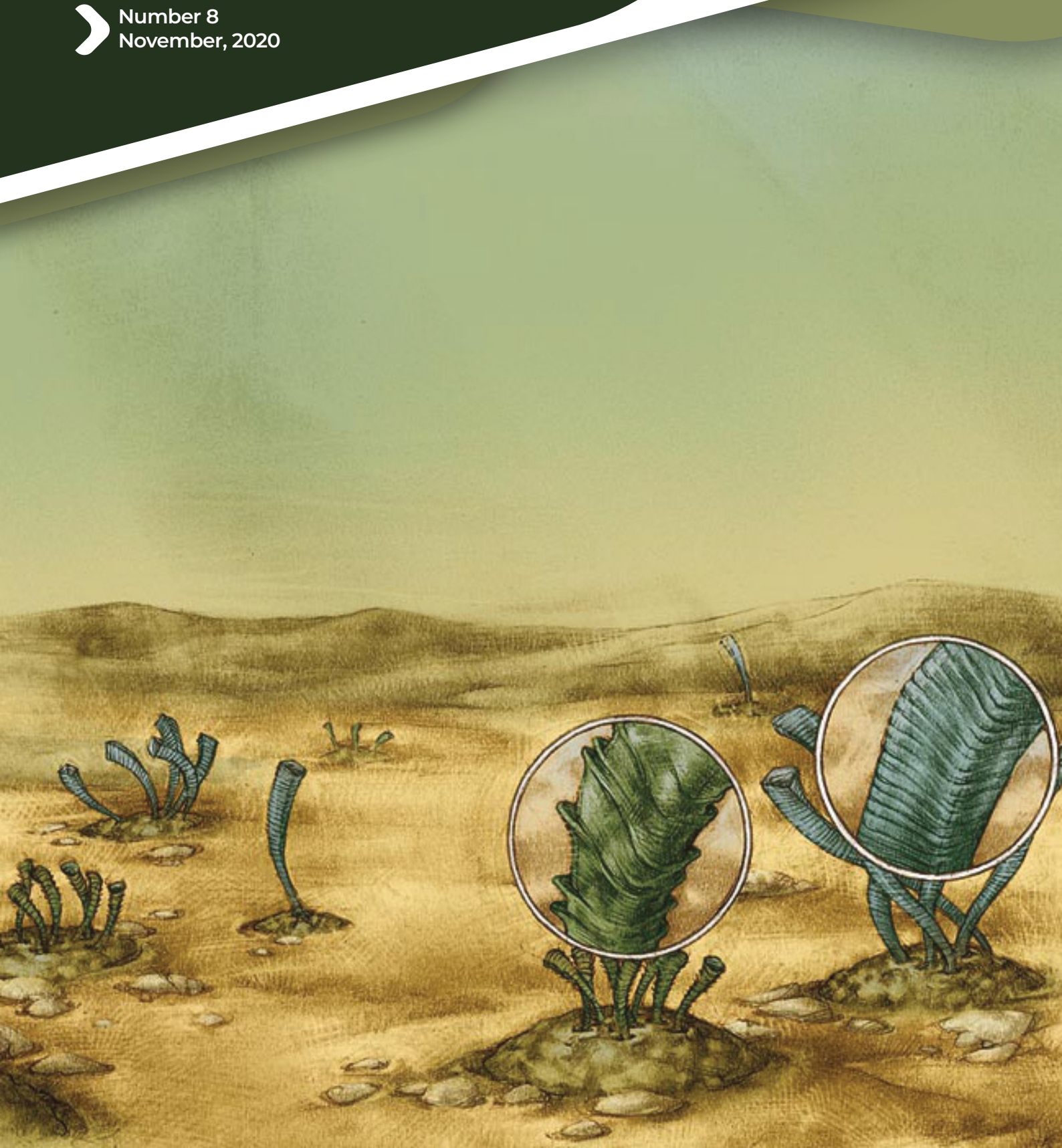


Edies

International Commission on Stratigraphy
Subcommission on Ediacaran Stratigraphy



➤ Number 8
November, 2020



Edies

International Commission on Stratigraphy
Subcommission on Ediacaran Stratigraphy



Urucum Massif, Ediacaran Jacadigo Group, Corumbá, Brazil



**Newsletter of the Subcommission
on Ediacaran Stratigraphy**



Remarks from the Chair

By Marc Laflamme

Greetings everyone!

I truly hope all of you were able to stay healthy and safe this past year. What was sold to us as “a few weeks of working from home” has exploded into a global phenomenon, with most of us having to think fast on our feet as we attempted to adjust to the new normal. From derailed field seasons to anxious students, I know you have all been pushed to your limits of personal resilience (and sometimes well beyond!), and I thank you for taking the time to help all those special people in your lives.

As you can imagine, this was not the ideal situation to start my term as Chair. It seems like just yesterday that Lucas, Jim, Tara, and I were discussing how to deal with the Subcommittee trip to Brazil and Argentina in 2020, having to take the difficult (yet clearly correct) decision to postpone. I purposely delayed this newsletter “until we had something positive to share”, however as the year progressed it became obvious that we couldn’t wait any longer, so I thank you for your patience. As voting members, I look forward to transferring our discussions to the virtual world. We are on the cusp of being able to make some proposals for potential means by which to subdivide the Ediacaran, after which I am hoping we can have some positive discussions on how best to achieve our goals. These discussions are never easy (and are likely to be all the more challenging to perform virtually) but given our united goal I am excited by the prospect of making real headway towards subdividing the Ediacaran.

To this end, we have begun to put in place a few different avenues to help with the discussion. First off, with the formation of the new executive committee and the addition of several new voting

members, we felt it was time to upgrade our website to mirror these changes. To this end, we would like to link up your professional profiles (i.e. university or personal websites) with our centralized site. We would also like to have a section highlighting research progress by our voting members that would include recent publications and field reports. Dr. Tara Selly (U. Missouri) has graciously volunteered to help with the design and upkeep of the site and will be reaching out over the next few weeks for some info to help populate the site.

I’d also like to draw attention to a Journal of Paleontology special issue we propose to put together to investigate the taxonomy, taphonomy, and phylogeny of all things Ediacaran. Specifically, I’d like us to take a critical look at the taxonomic issues at the center of many Ediacaran taxa, given how important their identification and distribution may be to picking ideal index fossils. Of notable interest will be the taxonomy of the “mineralizing” and “non-mineralizing” tubular taxa (i.e. “Cloudinomorpha”), the extent and nature of Ediacaran bioturbation, the phylogenetic affinities of the Ediacara biota, and the utility of acritarchs and other microfossils in subdividing Ediacaran time. It is my hope that this venue serves as a repository for the ongoing taxonomic and phylogenetic issues at play, and to allow for healthy discussions of the controversies.

Finally, I’d like to seek out your help in identifying potential “Honorary Members” to reward. We began the process a little over a year ago, but I put it aside when COVID took hold. I’d like to reopen the discussion, so please send us your recommendations. Specifically, we are looking for individuals who have served our community (preferably as past members of the Precambrian or Ediacaran Subcommittees).

Looking forward to sharing a pint with all of you at our next conference. With vaccines rolling out, I have faith we will be able to return to “in person” meetings by 2022. Until then, stay healthy, stay safe.



Notes from the Secretary

By Lucas Veríssimo Warren

Our welcome to the 8th newsletter of Edies! This is a very important edition as it inaugurates a new stage in the Subcommittee on Ediacaran Stratigraphy. After 8 years of excellent work done by the former SES Officers, especially in the figure of Shuhai Xiao, Guy Narbonne and Marc Laflamme, we now have a new coordinating team and voting members. I'd like to express my gratitude and happiness for working as a secretary with the new Chair and Vice chair, Marc Laflamme and James Schiffbauer. I'm personally convinced this will be a period of excellent partnership and many advances in Ediacaran's sciences. Our special welcome to Tara Selly who have joined the team and will help us with all questions related to the maintenance and improvement of our webpage (<https://sites.google.com/view/ediacaran/home>). The year 2020 definitely changed the initially proposed schedule by the Subcommittee. Due to the SARSCOV pandemic, all presential meetings and field trips planned for 2020 were unfortunately canceled, including the three expeditions to Brazil and Argentina. However, despite all the problems arising from the pandemic, our members actively continued their research resulting in an expressive number of articles published this year. At this point, I'd also like to highlight the special issue (Volume 348) of the Precambrian Research "Neoproterozoic Earth-Life system", that brings important contributions to paleontology, sedimentology and geochemistry of the neoproterozoic oceans with a focus on the relationship between geobiological changes and evolutionary forcings. Finally, we hope that in the year of 2021 the pandemic will have been controlled and we will be able to gradually return with our field activities and meetings previously scheduled. I am grateful for the efforts of all members to make this subcommittee diverse, plural and scientifically active

› Upcoming meeting and workshops

Due to the SARSCOV pandemic all field trips planned for 2020 were unfortunately canceled, including the

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TES Working Group Members

› SES OFFICERS



Marc Laflamme - Chair
University of Toronto at Mississauga
Canada (Chair)



James D. Schiffbauer - Vice Chair
University of Missouri
USA



Lucas V. Warren - Secretary
São Paulo State University
Brazil

› SES WORKING GROUP CHAIRS

Second Ediacaran Stage Working Group



Zhou Chuanming
Chinese Academy of Sciences
China

› TES WORKING GROUP CHAIRS

Terminal Ediacaran Stage Working Group



Guy Narbonne
Queens University
Canada

› UESr Chair



James D. Schiffbauer - Vice Chair
University of Missouri
USA

› HONORARY MEMBERS



Andrew H. Knoll
Harvard University
USA



Malcolm Walter
University of New South Wales
Australia

› Voting Members



Luis Buatois
University of Saskatchewan
Canada

Zhou Chuanming
Chinese Academy of Sciences
China



Mary Droser
University of California
USA

Dimitriy Grazhdankin
Novosibirsk
Russia



Alan Jay Kaufman
University of Maryland
USA

Marc Laflamme
University of Toronto at Mississauga
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Alexander Liu
University of Cambridge
UK

Malgorzata Moczydlowska-Vidal
Uppsala University
Sweden



Mukund Sharma
Birbal Sahnii Institute of Palaeosciences
India

Guy Narbonne
Queens University
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Rachel Wood
University of Edinburgh
UK



Shuhai Xiao
Virginia Tech
USA



Xunlai Yuan
Chinese Academy of Sciences
China



Maoyan Zhu
Chinese Academy of Sciences
China



► **Corresponding Members (a partial list; membership continues to grow)**

Antcliffe, Jonathan	University of Lausanne	Switzerland
Boggiani, Paulo César	University of São Paulo	Brazil
Butterfield, Nicholas	University of Cambridge	UK
Chen, Xiaohong	Wuhan Centre of China Geological Survey	China
Chumakov, Nikolay	Russian Academy of Sciences	Russia
Do Carmo, Dermeval A.	University of Brasilia	Brazil
Evans, David A.D.	Yale University	USA
Erdtmann, Bernd-D.	Technical University Berlin	Germany
Erwin, Douglas	Smithsonian NMNH	USA
Fedonkin, Mikhail	Russian Academy of Sciences	Russia
Frimmel, Hartwig	University of Wuerzburg	Germany
Gaucher, Claudio	Universidad de la República	Uruguay
Hoffmann, Karl-Heinz	Geological Survey of Namibia	Namibia
Hofmann, Mandy	Senckenberg Research Institute	Germany
Jenkins, Richard	University of Adelaide	Australia
Knoll, Andrew H.	Harvard University	USA
Kochnev, Boris	A.A. Trofimuk Institute of Petroleum Geology and Geophysics SB RAS	Russia
Leme, Juliana de M.	University of São Paulo	Brazil
Linnemann, Ulf	Senckenberg Naturhistorische Sammlungen Dresden	Germany
Melezhik, Victor	Geological Survey of Norway	Norway
Nagovitsin, Konstantin	A.A. Trofimuk Institute of Petroleum Geology and Geophysics SB RAS	Russia
Patricia Vickers-Rich	Monash University	Australia
Pokrovsky, Boris G.	Russian Academy of Sciences	Russia
Rainbird, Robert	Carleton University	Canada
Semikhatov, Mikhail A.	Russian Academy of Sciences	Russia
Sergeev, Volodya N.	Russian Academy of Sciences	Russia
Smith, Emily F.	Johns Hopkins University	USA
Sun, Weiguo	Chinese Academy of Sciences	China
Van Kranendonk, Martin	University of New South Wales	Australia
Walter, Malcolm	UNSW Sydney	Australia
Walde, Detlef	University of Brasilia	Brazil
Wang, Xiaofeng	WCGS	China

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