

Edies

International Commission on Stratigraphy
Subcommission on Ediacaran Stratigraphy



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Transition between Neoproterozoic Nikols and Chenchin formations, Patom Uplift, Russian Federation.
The picture is courtesy of Jay Kaufman



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Corumbella from the Ediacaran Tamengo Formation, Corumbá Group, Brazil



**Newsletter of the Subcommission
on Ediacaran Stratigraphy**



Remarks from the Chair

By Marc Laflamme

Dear Members!

I hope this finds you well, and you have been able to stay safe and healthy over the past year. As you can imagine, it has been difficult to continue the subcommission activities in the absence of international travel, but with the world beginning to reopen, we hope to pick up where we left off. I would like to showcase a few activities the executives and I have been undertaking in the absence of formal meetings and field trips. First off, I'd like to draw your attention to a special issue in the *Journal of Paleontology* that the executive have been editing. This volume includes investigations into Ediacaran taxonomy, paleoecology, biostratigraphy, and functional biology, with contributions from all across our subcommission. We are almost finished with the review process and have several of the articles nearing the proof stage, so stay tuned! We continue to work on our web presence, so please let us know if there is anything you would like to see on the website, and we will try to accommodate these requests.

I'd like to also draw some attention to the short-course organized by Charlotte Kenchington and Frankie Dunn at Oxford University. Many of us were in attendance, both virtually and in person, which allowed for a series of fantastic conversations surrounding Ediacaran taxonomy. As a topic that is quite close to my heart, it was a joy to hear about the new directions being undertaken all the while critically evaluating the systems we currently employ. Given the importance of proper species identification, and the taphonomic difficulties associated with Ediacaran preservation, these

kinds of short courses allow us to bring the community together to dive deep into the biases governing our interpretations of the Cambrian explosion. I know I would personally love to sit in on a similar endeavor devoted to the "tubular" fossils, where controversies surrounding their original mineralogy, temporal distribution, taxonomy, and overall phylogenetic history remain contentious. So please reach out to us if you would like to host a similar discussion, and we can see how to help with the organization. I am also lined up to give a talk at the Geological Association of Canada – Mineralogical Association of Canada meeting in Halifax in May in the technical session entitled "IUGS, Geoparks (Geoheritage) and IGCP" being organized by Guy Narbonne. I hope to use this venue to reflect on the definition of Ediacaran Series and Stages, and to highlight where we are missing data to make these important decisions. We continue to collect data on the latest Ediacaran sections worldwide, which I hope to share with you soon.

We recently instituted an "Honorary membership" to celebrate our former subcommission members who continue to influence our discipline. As it has been a few years, we opted to include five new honorary members that represent the diversity of our field. We received quite a few proposals from our members; unfortunately, we were not able to accommodate all of them, but they will remain on our list for future inclusion. So, in alphabetical order, we would like to congratulate our following colleagues for their immense influence on our science, and welcome them to join Profs. Andy Knoll and Malcom Walter in our illustrious list of Honorary Members of the Ediacaran Subcommission: **Profs. Jim Gehling, Gerhard Germs, Kathleen Grey, Sören Jensen, and Weiguo Sun.** Congratulations! And welcome back to the Subcommission (I bet you thought you could escape us!) I will be sharing this news with all of our new honorary members, so feel free to send them your well wishes!

I am also delighted to shine some light on recent awards that our members have won. Please note that I am certainly not aware of all the notable awards for which our members have been successful in winning, so please let us know of what I have missed so we can celebrate as a community. Long time voting member and (now) honorary member **Prof. Andy Knoll** was awarded the prestigious Crafoord Prize in Geosciences by the Royal Swedish Academy (2022), which is a complement to the Nobel Prize. Voting member **Prof. Mary Droser** is the 2022 recipient of the National Academy of Sciences Award Charles Doolittle Walcott Medal for her continued dedication to our discipline. Voting member **Prof. Luis Buatois** was this year's recipient of the Raymond C. Moore Medal for Paleontology from the Society for Sedimentary Geology (SEPM). So as you can see, Ediacaran paleontology is having an important impact on our discipline as a whole, and our dedicated members are being recognized internationally for their exceptional work. Congratulations all around!

Finally, I'd like to get some feedback on our attempt to re-launch our proposed field trip to the Corumba and Bambui Groups of Brazil that was originally planned for summer 2020. We had hoped to run these in 2022, but I believe it best to postpone again to 2023 given the fluctuating state of our global response to the pandemic, combined with the need for many of us to recommence our personal fieldwork and thus would not be able to commit to the fieldtrip. I hope we can use summer 2023 as a target to join us in exploring these important late-Ediacaran sections.

Take care, and hope to see many of you in person soon,

Marc

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



Gerhard Germs
Affiliated professor at University of the Free State
South Africa



James Gehling
Senior Researcher at South Australian Museum
Australia



Kathleen Grey
Geological Survey of Western Australia
Australia



Soren Jensen
Universidad de Extremadura
Spain



Sun Weiguo
Chinese Academy of Sciences
China

› Voting Members



Luis Buatois
University of Saskatchewan
Canada



Zhou Chuanming
Chinese Academy of Sciences
China



Mary Droser
University of California
USA



Dimitriy Grahdankin
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Alan Jay Kaufman
University of Maryland
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Marc Laflamme
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University of Cambridge
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James D. Schiffbauer
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Tara Selly
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USA



Justin Strauss
Dartmouth College
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Rosalie Tostevin



Lucas V. Warren
Universidade Estadual Paulista
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Rachel Wood
University of Edinburgh
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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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