THE SOCIETY FOR ORGANIC PETROLOGY

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 29, No. 2 June, 2012 ISSN 0743-3816

29th TSOP ANNUAL MEETING
& 64th ICCP Meeting
September 15 – 24, 2012
Beijing, China

Jinsuo Lignite Coal, Yunnan, China.
This coal will be the subject of a Field Trip at the Annual Meeting.
Photo from ICCP-TSOP Meeting website.

Call for Papers - Abstracts due July 15, 2012

TSOP 29th Annual Meeting
& 64th ICCP Meeting

September 15-24, 2012
Beijing, China

www.iccp-tsop2012.org

Call for papers: Abstracts due July 15, 2012

Abstract should be submitted by July 15, 2012 via email at tsopiccp2012@gmail.com or daishifeng@gmail.com

If submitting by post, please enclose a copy of your abstract on a CD at the following address:

Prof. Shifeng Dai
State Key Laboratory of Coal Resources & Safe Mining
China University of Mining and Technology (Beijing)
D-11, Xueyuan Road, Haidian District
Beijing 100083
P.R. CHINA

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The Society for Organic Petrology

TSOP is a society for scientists and engineers involved with coal petrology, kerogen petrology, organic geochemistry and related disciplines. The Society organizes an annual technical meeting and field trips; sponsors research projects; provides funding for graduate students; and publishes a web site, a quarterly Newsletter, membership directory, annual meeting program and abstracts, and special publications. Members may elect not to receive the printed Newsletter by marking their dues forms or by contacting the Editor. Members are eligible for discounted subscriptions to the Elsevier journals ***International Journal of Coal Geology*** and ***Review of Palaeobotany and Palynology***. Subscribe by checking the box on your dues form, or using the form at www.tsop.org. Contact Paul Hackley phackley@usgs.gov if you do not receive a bill or have any other problems with a subscription. For the best prices on subscriptions to AGI's ***Geotimes***, see their web site at www.geotimes.org/current

TSOP is a Member Society of AGI and an AAPG Associated Society

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GUIDELINES:

The TSOP Newsletter welcomes contributions from members and non-members alike. Readers are invited to submit items pertinent to TSOP members' fields of study. These might include meeting reports and reviews, book reviews, short technical contributions including those on geologic localities or laboratory methods, as well as creative works such as poems, cartoons and works of fiction. Photos, graphs and other illustrations are welcomed. Low-resolution images are discouraged, as they cannot be reproduced well in print. Articles are preferred in Microsoft Word, RTF or plain text formats.

Contact the Editor:

Rachel Walker
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e-mail: drrachelwalker@gmail.com

Address Changes
Please report any changes in address or contact information to: Paul Hackley, TSOP Membership Chair, phackley@usgs.gov

Members can update their own information by logging into the secure TSOP website:
www.tsop.org/mbrsonly/

The TSOP Newsletter is published quarterly by The Society for Organic Petrology and is distributed to all Society members as a benefit of membership. Membership in the Society is open to all individuals involved in the fields of organic petrology and organic geochemistry. For more information on membership and Society activities, please see:

www.tsop.org

For purposes of registration of the TSOP Newsletter, a permanent address is:

The Society for Organic Petrology,
c/o American Geological Institute,
4220 King St., Alexandria,
VA 22302-1520 USA

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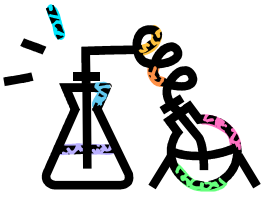

Newsletter Submission Deadlines

September Issue: September 5th, 2012
December Issue: December 5th, 2012
March 2013 Issue: March 5th, 2013
June 2013 Issue: June 5th, 2013

Dues reminder

Members who have not paid their 2012 dues by January 1st are considered in arrears and if they haven't paid by March 31st they are dropped from the membership list. Please make an effort to keep your dues payments current. Many members are now choosing to pay their dues online at www.tsop.org/dues. The form is easy to follow and works for all payment methods including checks (mostly for US members), money orders, wire transfer and credit/debit/bank card.

TSOP funding is dependent upon members' dues, so please check to ensure you are up to date. If you are not sure what your dues status is, please check online at www.tsop.org/mbrsonly or contact the Treasurer at mavery@nrcan.gc.ca. Don't forget, you can escape the hassle of yearly dues payments and save money and time by taking advantage of our popular ***5 years for the price of 4*** discount.

Mike Avery
TSOP Treasurer

Do you know what you are missing? The advantages of activating your Members-only account keep stacking up as new features and improvements are added to the site. Logged in members now are able to:

- see their dues payment history,
- edit their contact information or see other private information like dues expiry date,
- search the online membership directory,
- get to know other members with directory photos and add your own,
- access Annual Meeting abstract volumes along with group photos and even some field trip guides and short course notes,
- easily access dues and/or voluntary donations via the online payments system.

Activating your account is easy. See 'Activating your account' on the Members-only main page at www.tsop.org/mbrsonly

Your suggestions for how to make use or improve the secure site are welcome!

Website Photos and Content Welcome!

The Internet Committee would welcome the assistance of TSOP members in expanding the content of the website. We welcome your submission of a personal photo to the member directory, which can be done by sending a 150x200 pixel passport style photo to the secure website manager (Mike Avery) at admin@tsop.org. Send one in and get to know your fellow TSOP members by sight, useful for future meetings!

We also welcome the submission of member photos and reports of TSOP meetings and activities. Please remember to include captions and credit the photographer on any photos submitted. For photo and other content submissions, please contact Dave Glick at webmaster@tsop.org.

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Don't forget, TSOP is now on Facebook!

The link to our Facebook page is on the TSOP Homepage. You're welcome to 'Like' us!

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Student Travel Awards

TSOP has funds available to support travel costs for students who are presenting papers or posters at this years' Annual Meeting in China. Students must be presenting at the meeting. Please contact Editor Rachel Walker for application details: drrachelwalker@gmail.com

Spackman Awards

A total of seven applications have been received for student research grants under the TSOP Spackman Awards program for 2012 (see list below). These are from students on four different continents, and deal with organic matter in a number of different ways. The students, and their supervisors, are thanked for their applications.

The applications will be assessed by an independent panel drawn from senior TSOP members, and the winner (or winners) will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the Society in Beijing later this year.

Name	University	Degree	Project
Paula Gonçalves	University of Porto	PhD	Characterisation of the organic facies variations and the petroleum generation potential of a Jurassic sequence of the Lusitanian Basin (Portugal)
Swagata Paul	Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay	PhD	Organic geochemistry of Mesozoic coal-bearing sequence of Western India
Mohammad Wahid Rahman	Southern Illinois University	PhD	Geochemistry of thermally altered coals: impact of rapid heating on physical and chemical properties of coal macerals
Megan Rohrssen	University of California, Riverside	PhD	Stratigraphic lipid biomarker records of marine microbial community structure and response to Late Ordovician environmental change
Rita Susilawati	University of Queensland	PhD	Controls on microbial methane generation in selected low-rank Indonesian coals
Marie Thomas	Louisiana State University	PhD	Palynological reconstruction of last glacial cycle paleoenvironments of the Gulf of Papua
Emily Wooton	University of California, Riverside	PhD	A high resolution paleontological and chemostratigraphic study of the Late Devonian biocrises

Colin R. Ward
Chair, Research Committee

2012 Ohio Valley Organic Petrographers Meeting

29th March, 2012
University of Kentucky
Center for Applied Energy Research
Lexington, KY, USA

The Ohio Valley Organic Petrography group met up again on the 29th of March, 2012 at the CAER in Lexongton, Kentucky. Continental breakfast for the attendants was sponsored by W. Nuhsbaum, Inc. The meeting was a success with presentations given listed as follows:

Jen O'Keefe (Morehead State) – Transmitted-light studies of funginite in Chinese coals.

Cortland Eble (Kentucky Geological Survey) – Organic petrology of Lower Devonian coals from Nova Scotia.

Agnieszka Furmann (Indiana) - Organic and inorganic matter characterization of the Second White Specks Formation, Canada.

Yanyan Chen (Indiana) – Micro-FTIR characterization of coal macerals.

Solomon Nyathi (Indiana) – Influence of particle size on selected characteristics of coke

Jim Hower (UK CAER) - Truman Shepherd coal fire.

Allen Quaderer (Indiana) - Response of organic matter and minerals to the heat of intrusion: Comparison of coal and associated clastic sediments.

Robert Pace (UK CAER) - Heating stage studies of biomass.

Morehead State undergraduate students:

- Luke Schwab & Zachary Barnett - Distribution of fungal forms in a western Tennessee Lignite.
- Eric Matteson - Size fractionation of stoker ash following modification of the ash handling system
- Michaela Howard & Jared Harmon - Organic Petrography and Preliminary Palynology of the lower and middle Peach Orchard, Ivyton Quadrangle
- Adam Layne - Organic Petrography of a western Tennessee Lignite

Hower & O'Keefe's maceral origin chart discussion, leading to open discussion, followed by adjournment of meeting.

This is a great meet up for those working in and researching organic petrography related topics in the Midwestern states of the US. It provides a friendly forum for feedback, which is especially valuable for students.

Watch for announcements of future Ohio Valley Organic Petrographers meetings in this newsletter.

Ohio Valley Organic Petrographers
University of Kentucky Center for Applied Energy Research
Lexington, KY
29 March 2012

Front row (from left): Rollin Robinson (W. Nuhsbaum Inc.), Solomon Nyathi (Indiana), Agnieszka Drobniak (Indiana Geological Survey), Agnieszka Furmann (Indiana), Luis Caro (Universidad Nacional de Colombia), Yanyan Chen (Indiana), Maria Mastalerz (Indiana Geological Survey), Cortland Eble (Kentucky Geological Survey), Sarah Mardon (UK CAER), Michaela Howard (Morehead State)

Back row: Robert Pace (UK CAER), Allen Quarderer (Morehead State), Jim Hower (UK CAER), Luke Schwab (Morehead State), Trent Garisson (UK CAER), Eric Matteson (Morehead State), Adam Layne (Morehead State), Zachary Barnett (Morehead State), Jared Harmon (Morehead State), Jen O'Keefe (Morehead State)

Collaborators Wanted!

Based on our recent standardisation of Rock-Eval parameters for Recent materials using pure biological and chemical compounds (Carrie et al., 2012, Organic Geochemistry), there appears to be great promise in deciphering the oxygenated signals (S3, OI), and in particular, those associated with CO (using Rock-Eval 6; S3CO, OICO, OIRE6). We have used these new ratios to great benefit in Recent materials (freshwater and marine sediments and peat deposits) (manuscript in prep.), and are eager to see how these compare with geologically older samples (dispersed OM, lignites to anthracites, petroleum source rocks).

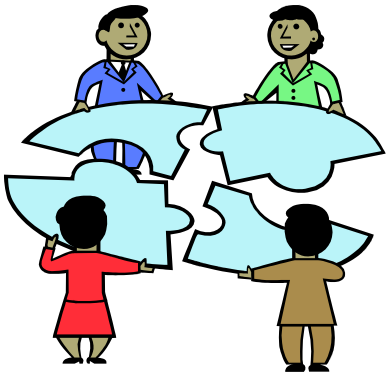
As such, we are looking for collaborators who will share their data (previously published is preferred) to create a database of how these ratios change across geological ages, depositional environments, and any other pertinent information. In particular, we are looking for Rock-Eval 6 data (S1, S2, S3CO, S3CO2, RC, TOC, Tmax), although Rock-Eval II data (S1, S2, S3, RC, TOC, Tmax) will also be used.

If you are interested in collaborating, please contact Jesse Carrie: jesse.carrie@gmail.com

or

Hamed Sanei: hamed.sanei@nrcan.gc.ca

Thank you!



Shell Canada Job Posting
Organic Petrologist
Calgary, AB

Shell Canada is seeking an Organic Petrologist for their Calgary, Alberta location.

Responsibilities:

Provide microscopic assessment and quantification of Dispersed Organic Matter (organic matter/maceral composition of kerogen, solid hydrocarbons, pyrobitumens and oils), their reflectance and fluorescence properties as related to maturity, origin, organic facies and charge history in source, reservoir and carrier rocks. Will work closely with a senior organic petrologist and collaborate with geochemists and basin modelers.

Requirements:

- 5-10 years experience as a practicing expert in organic petrology, preferably with accreditation from ICCP.
- Masters or PhD in geology or geochemistry with major organic petrology component in studies.
- Skilled in collection and interpretation of organic petrology data for source, reservoir and carrier beds relative to maceral analyses, thermal maturity and organic facies. High competency required in qualitative and quantitative reflected and fluorescent light analyses including percent reflectance and VIS spectrometry of macerals and petroleum.

To be considered for this position, please submit your resume to april.hallikas@shell.com and quote the Job ID# U30180.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Lexington 2012:

A Joint Meeting of AASP - The Palynological Society and
CIMP - Commission Internationale de la Microflore du Paléozoïque
Subcommissions

21-25 July 2012

Conference Co-Hosts
Cortland F. Eble, *Kentucky Geological Survey*
Jennifer M.K. O'Keefe, *Morehead State University*

We invite submission of presentations (oral or poster) on all aspects of palynology. Studies concentrating on any portion of the geologic column and modern settings are welcome. A special symposium on the Late Devonian – Carboniferous in Honor of Geoff Clayton and Ken Higgs will be held on Tuesday, July 24, 2012.

Please format your abstract following the guidelines for *Palynology*
(or see: http://people.moreheadstate.edu/fs/j.okeefe/AASP2012/AbstractSub2012.html)

Please use one or more of the following keywords in the e-mail subject line:
CIMP Symposium; Marine; Terrestrial; Holocene/Recent, Cenozoic, Mesozoic, Paleozoic; Processing; Industrial; Forensic

Submit all Abstracts to:

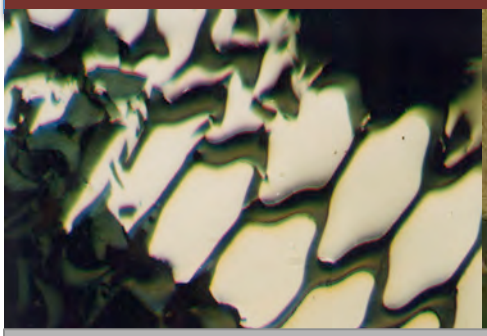
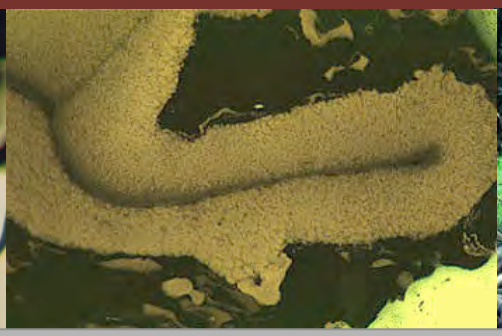
PalynologyLexington@gmail.com

Conference website:

http://people.moreheadstate.edu/fs/j.okeefe/AASP2012/AASP2012.html

Contact Jen O'Keefe (j.okeefe@moreheadstate.edu) or Cortland Eble (eble@uky.edu) for more details.

Introduction to Coal Geology
July 16-18, 2012
Carbondale, IL USA

A 3-day short course in the basics of coal geology.

Topics include:

Coal as a rock: Macerals, lithotypes, minerals, and trace elements
Environments of deposition of coal
Coalification, rank determination
Coal heterogeneity and coal sampling approaches
Coal testing and classification
Coal mining geology and exploration approaches
Mining and coal preparation
Coal utilization
Coal in the energy market

Primary Instructors: Professors Sue M. Rimmer, John C. Crelling, and Ken B. Anderson

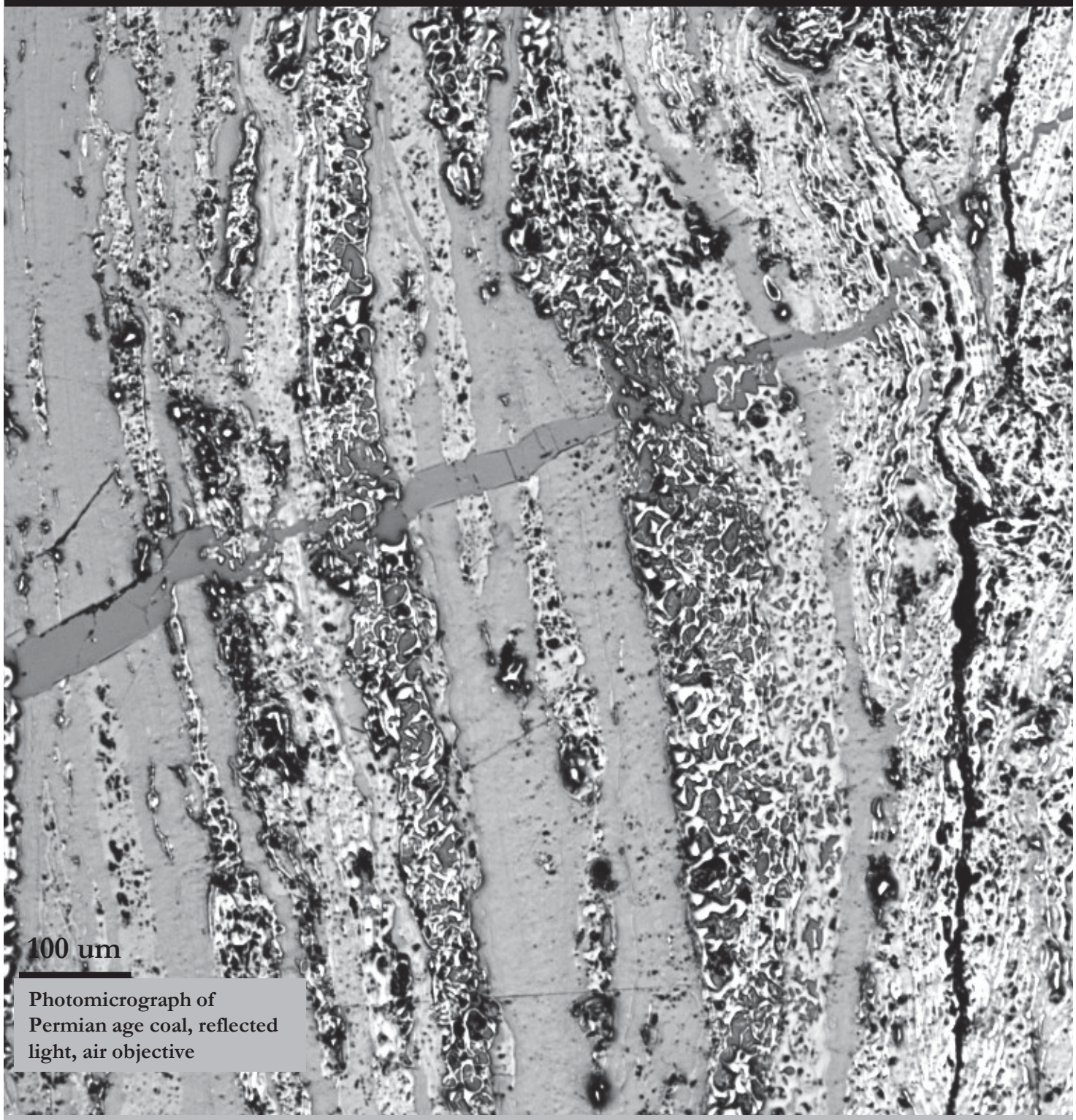
Registration Fee: $850
Registration Deadline: July 5, 2012
For more information, please contact: srimmer@siu.edu
Website: www.geology.siu.edu/coalcourse.html

Hosted by: Department of Geology and the Coal Research Center, Southern Illinois University Carbondale

5th ICCP TRAINING COURSE

ORGANIC PETROLOGY

31 July – 3 August, 2012
Brisbane, Australia
Presented by Prof (em) Claus Diessel and Dr. Walter Pickel



Photomicrograph of Permian age coal, reflected light, air objective

Registration Fees

Company/Professional	AUD$1200
Government/Non profit	AUD$ 800
Full time students	AUD$ 250

For further details or to register visit
www.iccop.org **activities**
Or contact DSc Henrik Petersen, VP of ICCP **hip@geus.dk**
Prof Joan Esterle, host **j.esterle@uq.edu.au**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Check www.tsop.org/cal.htm for more info!

2012

June:

24-29th, 2012: 22nd Goldschmidt Conference, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Session 9b: Geochemistry of petroleum, coal combustion and gasification products. www.vmgoldschmidt.org/2012/abstracts.htm

July:

15-22nd, 2012: 9th International Symposium on Environmental Geochemistry, Aveiro, Portugal. http://9iseg.web.ua.pt/

21-25th, 2012: 45th Annual Meeting of The Palynological Society, AASP. University of Lexington, Lexington, Kentucky. See flyer page 9. www.palynology.org

August:

5-10th, 2012: 34th International Geological Congress, Brisbane, Australia. www.34igc.org

September:

15-24th, 2012: ICCP and TSOP meetings, Beijing, China. www.iccp-tsop2012.org/

ICCP meeting 15-19th Sept. (registration starts 14th Sept); Yunnan field trip 20-22nd Sept; TSOP meeting 23-24th Sept. These three segments have separate registration fees so that participants may choose to go to one or both meetings and the field trip to suit their own professional and scientific requirements. TSOP registration fees are discounted before 15 July, 2012. Abstract deadline: 15 July 2012.

October:

15-18th, 2012: International Pittsburgh Coal Conference, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA. www.engineering.pitt.edu/pcc/
Focus on environmental emissions issues and technologies surrounding the continued use of coal.

November:

4-7th, 2012: Geological Society of America Annual Meeting, Charlotte, North Carolina, USA: Geosciences: Investing in the Future. www.geosociety.org/meetings/2012/