

PRISCUM:

GSA Special Edition

The Newsletter of the Paleontological Society

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GSA Denver 2007

**Sunday, October 28 -
Wednesday, October 31**

The Geological Society of America annual meeting provides members of the paleontological community a chance to share ideas and socialize. Students can explore avenues of research for future graduate work, speak with leading researchers in their fields and look for graduate schools, funding and employment. In addition to paleontological talks, GSA sessions on sedimentology, stratigraphy, geochemistry and other fields which are an integral part of our research are forums for new ideas and collaborations. If you have not already signed up to attend the meeting, please consider joining us in Denver this year.

And now is the time to mark your calendars for GSA next year, when the Paleo Society will celebrate its 100th anniversary!

Fees

Early registration deadline: **September 24**

Remember - members of the Paleontological Society qualify for GSA member registration fees! It pays to join the Paleontological Society if you plan to attend GSA.



Registration Category	Fee: Early	Fee: Late
Professional Member	\$310	\$399
Professional Member >70	\$255	\$340
Professional Nonmember	\$405	\$499
Student Member	\$99	\$135
Student Nonmember	\$130	\$165
High School Student	\$40	\$40
K-12 Teacher	\$45	\$50

Come to Denver Friday Night!

- ➔ Be ready for the short course Saturday morning.
- ➔ Have dinner with other Paleo People Friday, October 26, 8:00 pm at the Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brewery, corner of 16th and Curtis on the 16th street pedestrian mall

Paleontological Society Short Course

Pond Scum to Carbon Sink: Geological and Environmental Applications of the Diatoms

Short Course Organizer: Scott Starratt
Sponsored by The Paleontological Society
Saturday, October 27, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Colorado Convention Center, Room 601

Diatoms inhabit almost every body of water in the world, from fresh water streams and lakes, to moist soil and rocks, to marine waters, to ice, and even inside the digestive tracts of other animals. Since the Jurassic, the silica

frustules of diatoms have been preserved in abundance and can be used as a record of past climatic, oceanographic and limnologic conditions. As biostratigraphic tools, diatoms are useful in both marine and continental environments. Modern applications are as indicators of human impact on fresh water bodies and as witnesses for drowning victims.

The short course is free. The short course volume will be available for purchase at the Paleo Society booth for \$20.

Pardee Keynote Symposium *Oxygen, Evolution, and Extinction*

Chaired by Peter Ward and Robert Berner
Sponsored by The Paleontological Society
Sunday, October 28, 8:00 am - noon

Fluctuating oxygen levels have been demonstrated to correspond with major geological and evolutionary events. Low oxygen is implicated in at least six minor or major mass extinctions and changes in land communities and organisms correlate with high oxygen levels. Connections have also been made between oxygen levels and evolutionary rates and diversification of body plans. Experimentation on modern organisms as well as evidence from the geological, geochemical and paleontological records will be presented in this session.

Topical and Discipline Sessions Sponsored or Cosponsored by The Paleontological Society

Sunday Morning

- P6: **Oxygen, Evolution, and Extinction** (oral; organized by P. Ward, R. Berner)
- T1: **Denver Then and Now: From Paleontology to Public Policy on the Front Range Urban Corridor** (oral; organized by I. Miller, K. Johnson, R. Reynolds, B. Ellis)
- **Morphology, Evolution, and Environment** (oral)
- **Faunas, Forms, and Phylogenies** (poster)

Sunday Afternoon

- T102: **The Solar Stew: The Search for Ingredients of Life and Biomarkers in our Solar System: Past or Present** (oral; organized by P. A. Morris, S. Grasby)
- **Taphonomy and Paleoecology** (oral)
- **Geographic Diversity Patterns** (oral)

Monday Morning

- T97: **Trace Fossils, Mass Extinctions, and Event Boundaries: Endobenthic and Fossorial Responses to Terrestrial and Extraterrestrial Perturbations** (oral; organized by S. T. Hasiotis, J. R. Morrow)
- T53: **Evidence for Paleoenvironmental Change during the Paleogene from the Interior Basins of Western North America** (oral; organized by C. A. Stiles, A. R. Carroll, M. E. Smith)
- **Paleoecology and Preservation** (oral)

Monday Afternoon

- T53: **Evidence for Paleoenvironmental Change during the Paleogene from the Interior Basins of Western North America** (poster; organized by C. A. Stiles, A. R. Carroll, M. E. Smith)
- T120: **Geological and Geophysical Data Preservation Best Practices** (oral; organized by T. L. Dickinson, J. C. Steinmetz)

PS Luncheon, Awards, Annual Business Meeting and Reception, 12:00 - 5:00

PS/NSF Future Research Directions in Paleontology - Town Meeting 5:00 - 6:00

Tuesday Morning

- T98: **Selectivity of Ancient and Modern Extinctions: Bridging the Gap Between Neontological Prediction and Paleontological Observation** (oral; organized by J. Payne, S. Finnegan)
- T101: **Emerging New Methods in Early Earth Studies: Unraveling the Co-Evolution of Earth and Life** (poster; organized by D. Oehler, C. E. Blank, J. Farmer).
- **Early Life** (oral)
- **Environments, Ecosystems, and Interactions** (poster)

Tuesday Afternoon

- T11: **Combined Ecological and Geologic Perspectives in Modern Terrestrial Ecosystems** (oral; organized by J. Holloway, M. Waldrop)
- T99: **Environmental Change and Evolution: Micro-paleontological Case Studies** (oral; organized by R. M. Leckie, B. Huber)
- T101: **Emerging New Methods in Early Earth Studies: Unraveling the Co-Evolution of Earth and Life** (oral; organized by D. Oehler, C. E. Blank, J. Farmer)
- **Stratigraphic and Systematic Paleontology** (oral)

Wednesday Morning

- T100: **Whole-Organism Paleoecology and the Relationship of Form, Function, and Ecological Interactions I: In Memory of Richard Alexander** (oral; organized by L. Leighton, G. Dietl, P. H. Kelley)
- **Phylogeny and Morphology** (oral)
- **Diversity, Evolution, and Turnover** (poster)

Wednesday Afternoon

- T100: **Whole-Organism Paleoecology and the Relationship of Form, Function, and Ecological Interactions II: In Memory of Richard Alexander** (oral; organized by L. Leighton, G. Dietl, P. H. Kelley)
- **Diversity and Extinction** (oral)
- **Paleoclimate and Paleoenvironmental Change** (oral)

Other Events of Interest

Field Trips

413. Fish, Turtles, Plants and Insects within the Morrison Formation: A Walk through a Late Jurassic Ecosystem

Saturday, October 27

418. Old and New Geologic Studies along the Front Range between Golden and Morrison, Including Structural, Volcanic, and Economic Geology and Paleontology

(1) Sunday, October 28

428. Old and New Geologic Studies along the Front Range between Golden and Morrison, Including Structural, Volcanic, and Economic Geology and Paleontology

(2) Thursday, November 1

Hot Topics: What's all the Flap about Feathered Dinosaurs?

Two speakers will present evidence supporting their different points of view regarding this controversial topic.

Pro feathered dinosaurs: Scott Hartman, Science Director, Wyoming Dinosaur Center

Con feathered dinosaurs: John Ruben, Chair, Zoology Department, Oregon State University

Don't Forget the First Annual Paleontological Society GSA Student Poster Award!

The first Paleontological Society GSA Student Poster Award competition will be held this fall at GSA in Denver. All undergraduate and graduate student members of the Paleontological Society, including those who join at the meeting, will be automatically entered. Posters will be judged by a panel of professional geologists including representatives from every paleontological field. Examples of criteria used in judging are: overall poster appearance, effectiveness of communicating information, professionalism of the student, ability of the student to present the poster, etc. The winner will receive a \$250 prize. If you plan to submit a poster but would not like to be entered in the competition, please stop by the Paleontological Society booth at GSA.

Visit the PS Booth

Hosted by John and Mary Lou Pojeta

- ★ Renew your PS membership
- ★ Bring a friend or colleague to join
- ★ Buy PS bumper stickers for yourself, your friends, your family and your students
- ★ Purchase a stunning PS lapel pin
- ★ Pick up free brochures
- ★ Browse and buy PS publications including the 2007 short course volume
- ★ Mingle with the not-so-rich and paleo famous

Announcing the First Annual Paleontological Society

Student Poster Award

@ GSA Denver 2007

Winner will receive a **\$250** prize and recognition at the 2008 meeting

All student members of PS who submit poster abstracts to GSA will automatically be entered in the competition - those who join at GSA may also be eligible

Paleo Society Lapel Pins

Stunning lapel pins illustrating the Paleontological Society logo will be available for sale at the PS booth. If you would like to order a pin, please contact Jennifer McElwain (jmcelwain@fieldmuseum.org).



Paleontological Society Officers

President: Derek E. G. Briggs
President Elect: Douglas H. Erwin
Past-President: David J. Bottjer
Secretary: Roger K. Thomas
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Councilor (Unrestricted): Margaret M. (Peg) Ya-
cobucci
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Co-editors *Paleobiology*: Thomas K. Baumiller,
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