

RADIOCARBON UPDATES

Third International Symposium on ¹⁴C and Archaeology

This conference will be held in Lyon, France from 6–10 April 1998. Please see the advertisement in the back of this issue for complete details.

New Radiocarbon Laboratories

The tandem accelerator at the Physics Department of Lund University, Sweden, was upgraded to perform AMS ¹⁴C dating in October 1995. The laboratory identifier for Lund AMS is LuA; Lu will be retained for conventional measurements. (See the laboratory list in this issue for addresses.)

Palynosurvey Company of Tokyo, Japan announces the opening of a new laboratory for conventional ¹⁴C dating; lab code is PAL (again, see the laboratory list for details).

Laboratory Conversion

Israel Carmi reports that in the spring of 1995, after 24 years of operation, the radiocarbon laboratory at the Weizmann Institute of Science (RT) stopped using gas proportional counters and converted to liquid scintillation counting of benzene. "The experience gained in preparation of acetylene for gas counters helped in the smooth conversion to the new system. The lab now operates 3 Quantulus LSC counters, which perform very well with samples in the range of 0.3 to 7.5 ml benzene."

Job Announcement: Post-Doctoral Research Position

Organic Geochemistry/Aminostratigraphy/Geochronology

Department of Geology, University of Delaware

Contact: John F. Wehmiller, Dept. of Geology, Univ. of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716 USA

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Appointee will be expected to join an active research program in amino acid geochemistry/geochronology. Ongoing research includes the application of amino acid racemization in mollusks to the Quaternary geochronology and stratigraphy of the US Atlantic Coastal Plain. Closely related research involves the study of diagenetic processes in mollusk specimens, including microscopic studies of biomineral structures and carbonate alteration, isotopic studies of carbonate and organic fractions (in collaboration with the University of Virginia), trace element studies and U-series geochronology. Experience with the operation and maintenance of gas- and liquid-chromatographic systems is essential, as the appointee will be fully responsible for the day-to-day laboratory operations, including work with graduate and undergraduate students. Field work and travel to collaborating laboratories can be anticipated.

The term of the appointment is flexible and can be for several years. Interviews for the position will occur during the Fall of 1996, especially at the Annual Meeting of the Geological Society of America. The position is funded by the College of Arts and Science, Univ. of Delaware, at an annual rate of \$25,000; external funding can be used to supplement this funding.

Interested individuals should send a letter outlining their interests and background to John Wehmiller at the address given above.

Publication Noted

Kilian, M. R., Van der Plicht, J. and Van Geel, B. 1995 Dating raised bogs: New aspects of AMS ^{14}C wiggle matching, a reservoir effect and climatic change. *Quaternary Science Reviews* 14: 959–966.

The paper gives some examples of ^{14}C wiggle-matched raised bog cores. This strategy allows dating with much higher precision, the more so because we found evidence for reservoir effects in raised bogs (which was completely unexpected). In our opinion old CH_4 coming from deeper layers in the bog is oxidized by methane-consuming bacteria and the CO_2 is fixed by mycorrhizal fungi on *Ericaceae*. We also found evidence for the relationship between the sharply rising delta ^{14}C between ca. 850 and 760 cal BC and climate change as is reflected in the vegetation development of the raised bogs.

Internet Resources

Southwestern Archaeology WWW Site

The Southwestern Archaeology (SWA) web site, containing a wide variety of information related to the archaeology and cultural history of the American Southwest, is located at

<http://seamonkey.ed.asu.edu/swa/>

The SWA current events server is located at

<http://seamonkey.ed.asu.edu/swa/sasig.html>

CALIB Calibration Program

The Quaternary Isotope Lab at the University of Washington has set up a WWW home page that includes easy point and click access to the CALIB calibration program. The URL is:

<http://weber.u.washington.edu/~gil/>

WWW Site for University of Texas Radiocarbon Lab

The University of Texas Radiocarbon Lab (Tx) now has a home page on the WWW:

<http://www.utexas.edu/research/vprl>

Offerings include information about the lab and its staff, a detailed account of preparation and counting techniques, our current price list, and links to other sites that provide related information.