



## THIRD CIRCULAR

### PROGRESS IN ECHINODERM PALAEOBIOLOGY (PEP'15) SPAIN 14<sup>TH</sup>-21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE, 2015

---



**Figure 1.** Palaeozoic outcrops close to Barrios de Luna (León, Cantabrian Mountains), a locality that we will visit during the field trip. Photo: Courtesy of Rodrigo Castaño.

#### Presentation

This conference will celebrate the career of our colleague and friend Dr. Andrew Smith (Natural history Museum, London), a world-renowned specialist in echinoderms who retired in late 2012.

The conference will be focused on **echinoderm palaeobiology**, a major area of interest for Andrew. Contributed presentations will review the current state of knowledge for a range of fossil groups, highlighting recent advances, but more importantly identifying areas of uncertainty and possible future research paths. Other echinoderm-related topics that include data from the fossil record are also welcome. Andrew will provide a plenary talk about the earliest steps of echinoderm evolution. In addition, there will be short workshops on Spanish fossil material and state-of-the-art analytical techniques for studying echinoderms (e.g. tomography, computer modelling and 3-D printing). Finally, there will be a field trip to visit several important Palaeozoic outcrops in northern Spain, which have yielded a wide variety of fossil echinoderms.

The format of the meeting including scientific sessions, interactive workshop and a relatively long field trip will give us the opportunity to discuss, at length and in an enjoyable atmosphere, different scientific topics. This is also an excellent opportunity for early career researchers to promote their research to an international audience of echinoderm experts.

The presentations and workshops will take place in [Zaragoza](#), a welcoming city, which has been influenced by four cultures (Iberian, Roman, Arabic and Christian) that have marked its character in diverse ways. The field trip will take place close to Zaragoza (Iberian Chains) and in the north western part of Spain, between the cities of León and Oviedo (Cantabrian Mountains).

More information **is now available** at the [web page](#) of the meeting and on [Facebook](#).



**Figure 2.** A selection of Palaeozoic echinoderms from outcrops that will be visited during the field trip.

---

## Organizing and Scientific Committee

### *Organizing committee*

Samuel Zamora (Museo Geominero, IGME, Zaragoza, Spain)  
J. Javier Álvaro (Centro de Astrobiología, Madrid, Spain)  
Miguel Arbizu (Universidad de Oviedo, Oviedo, Spain)  
Jorge Colmenar (Universidad de Zaragoza, Zaragoza, Spain)  
Esperanza Fernández (Universidad de León, León, Spain)  
Juan Carlos Gutiérrez-Marco (Instituto de Geociencias, CSIC, Madrid, Spain)  
Isabel Rábano (Museo Geominero, IGME, Madrid, Spain)  
Imran Rahman (University of Bristol, UK)  
Enrique Villas (Universidad de Zaragoza, Zaragoza, Spain)  
José Ignacio Canudo (Museo Ciencias Naturales-Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain)

### *Scientific committee*

William I. Ausich (Ohio State University, USA)  
Stephen K. Donovan (Naturalis Biodiversity Center, Netherlands)  
Andrew S. Gale (University of Portsmouth, UK)  
Tomas W. Kammer (West Virginia University, USA)  
James Nebelsick (University of Tübingen, Germany)  
Andreas Kroh (Natural History Museum Vienna, Austria)  
Bertrand Lefebvre (CNRS, Lyon, France)  
Colin D. Sumrall (University of Tennessee, USA)  
Johnny Waters (Appalachian State University, USA)

---

### **Preliminary programme**

*Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>*: Registration, evening ice breaker and reception.

*Monday 15<sup>th</sup>*: Registration, welcome participants, talks and posters.

*Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup>*: Talks, including the plenary talk from Andrew Smith, and posters in the morning, and workshops in the afternoon.

*Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>*: Field trip – selected localities with echinoderm fossils from the Spanish Palaeozoic. Detailed information available at the [web page](#).

---

### **Institutional Support and Sponsors**

- Spanish Geological Survey (IGME)
  - Palaeontological Association (PALASS)
  - Universidad de Zaragoza
  - Fundación Conjunto Paleontológico de Teruel-Dinópolis
  - Gobierno de Aragón
  - Comarca del Aranda
  - Comarca de Campo de Daroca
  - Asociación Cultural Bajo Jalón
  - Sociedad de Amigos del Museo Paleontológico de la Universidad de Zaragoza (SAMPUZ)
- 

### **Publications**

A **conference proceedings volume**, edited by Samuel Zamora and Isabel Rábano, will be published by the Geological Survey of Spain (Cuadernos del Museo Geominero) and provided to attendees together with the rest of the registration package. This will also contain the field guide and information about the workshops. Participants wishing to present a talk or poster at the meeting should prepare a short paper up to three pages long (approximately 500 words per page) and with no more than two colour or black and white/gray scale figures, one of which may be a plate (i.e. full page size). Short papers should be submitted to Samuel Zamora ([s.zamora@igme.es](mailto:s.zamora@igme.es)). Detailed guidelines

for authors are available at the conference web page under “Proceedings”. Submissions will not be accepted unless at least one author is formally registered for the conference.

All the short papers accepted by the scientific committee and published in the conference proceedings volume will be freely accessible through the Geological Survey of Spain’s web page. For an example of what the final volume will be like, please see the papers from the last [Trilobite Conference](#) held in Spain.

In addition, a **special volume** dedicated to Andrew containing longer papers will be published in an indexed journal. Further details will be provided in the next circular.

---

## Important Dates

Submission of extended abstracts and registration deadline: *15<sup>th</sup> February 2015*

Limit for payment: *1<sup>st</sup> of April*

Fourth circular with final details: *May 2015*

Article submission to the special volume: *October 2015*

---

## Registration

Registration should be completed at the same time as short papers submission (*15<sup>th</sup> February 2015*), although final payment of the registration fees can be extended to *1<sup>st</sup> of April*.

### Cost

Payment should be done by an international bank transfer to:

Banco Sabadell

IBAN: ES11 0081 0578 0100 0116 3220

BIC: BSABESBBxxx

<b>Regular conference fee: 120 euros</b>
Covers formal registration, ice breaker, abstract volume, printed guidebook, snacks and drinks, coffee-breaks.
<b>Student conference fee: 100 euros</b>
Same as above.
<b>Post-conference excursion: 600 euros</b>
Includes transport, guidebook, accommodation in double rooms on hotels and all meals. <a href="#">THE NUMBER OF PLACES IS LIMITED.</a>

### Gala Dinner

A gala dinner will be held on the evening of Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> and is expected to cost about 50 euros. Payment should be in cash at the conference.

### Student Grants

The [Palaeontological Association](#) has kindly provided us with four student grants that will cover the cost of the field trip. Applicants should be in the process of undertaking a PhD, present their work as a talk, write a paper for the special volume and attend the full meeting. They must also be members of the Pal Ass at the time of the conference.

Students wishing to apply for a grant should send an email to Imran Rahman ([Imran.Rahman@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:Imran.Rahman@bristol.ac.uk)) explaining how they will benefit from attending the meeting. Applications will be reviewed by members of the organizing and scientific committee. Deadline for applications: 24<sup>th</sup> of January.

### Registration

Please complete the registration form and submit your proceeding to [s.zamora@igme.es](mailto:s.zamora@igme.es) or [samuel@unizar.es](mailto:samuel@unizar.es).

*Sincerely yours,  
The Organizing Committee*