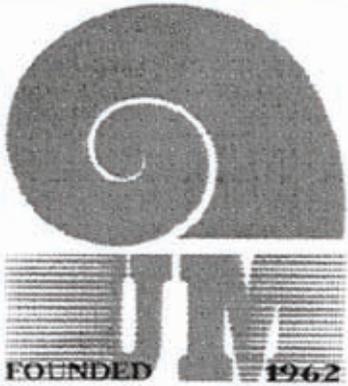


UNITAS MALACOLOGICA



Newsletter

Number 25
August 2007

What's Inside

Message from the (new) President	3
New faces on UM Council	3
Message from the (past) President	4
Secretary's Column	6
WCM Presentation awards	8
Reports on WCM Scientific Symposia	9
Treasurer's Report	15
UM Accounts	18
UM Trust Fund	19

Dear Members,

This summer is the wettest on record for Ireland. (This is quite a feat.) In fact, it is so rainy that many ordinary people have started to notice extraordinary numbers of gastropods in their home gardens. I prefer to believe that this awareness is also partly due to the incredible density of malacologists that recently gathered in Europe. Having more than 400 malacologists in one place must make an impact that can be felt over a mere 800 km.

In this issue, we celebrate the success of the 16th World Congress of Malacology (WCM) held last month in Antwerp, Belgium. We also witness a changing of the guard in Unitas Malacologica, welcoming three new Members of Council, and a newly-promoted President (p. 3).

The Antwerp Congress was the largest ever meeting of Unitas Malacologica, and was also particularly noteworthy as the first overseas meeting of the American Malacological Society. We can see from the attendance at the WCM, as Thierry discusses (p. 4), that Americans clearly welcome the opportunity to leave their homeland and have their meetings elsewhere. (I leave it to you to speculate what might motivate this.)

Our hosts in Belgium welcomed delegates from 45 countries, all of whom have returned home, refreshed, energised, and ready to solve the world's molluscan problems. For all of those members who were not able to join us, we present here a synopsis of all the major scientific symposia, so that you can absorb (or re-live) the experience (p. 9). The feast of options left many people scampering constantly between lecture theatres, or, like me, bartering for reports on talks I missed.

Our coverage here in the newsletter is slightly lacking in that there were a significant number of excellent presentations included in the 'general' talks, subdivided into thematic sessions. Bivalves, deep-sea molluscs, opisthobranchs, and others fell into this category. Abstracts for these and all talks are now available on the UM website (under 'congress')

www.ucd.ie/cobid/unitas

In three years' time we look forward to the first meeting of Unitas Malacologica in Asia, hosted by our new president Somsak Panha in Thailand. See you there!

JDS

Our aim is to further the study of Mollusca by individuals, societies and institutions world-wide

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American Malacological Society | Belgische Vereniging voor Conchylologie | Deutsche Malakozoologische Gesellschaft | Friedrich Held Gesellschaft | Instituto Português de Malacologia | King Leopold III Foundation | Latvian Malacological Society | Malacological Society of Australasia Ltd | The Malacological Society of Japan | The Malacological Society of London | Malacological Society of the Philippines | Malacozoological Association of Yamaguchi | Nederlandse Malacologische Vereniging | Naturmuseum Senckenberg | Sociedade Brasileira de Malacologia | Sociedad Española de Malacología | Sociedad Malacológica de Chile | Società Italiana di Malacologia | Société belge de Malacologie | Society for Experimental and Descriptive Malacology | Société française de Malacologie | The Western Society of Malacologists

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Message from the President

Dear Members,

The presidency has come to Asia for the first time. It is a personal honour and also a responsibility to achieve significant progress within the next three years. I see it as a great opportunity for Asian malacologists to develop regional cooperation.

We have well established and successful societies in Asia such as the Japanese and Korean malacological societies and this is a timely occasion to build on this and establish an umbrella organisation for the whole of Asia. I would like to see an Asian Malacological Society (AsMS?) as a platform for networking globally through UNITAS with the aim of promoting collaborative research and joint support for graduate and post graduate students. The unifying theme will be the need for biodiversity conservation and the role of mollusks in research and conservation management. This will be a major objective and the 2010 Target will be a central focus at the next WCM.

By the time the WCM is held in Phuket, Thailand, in 2010 I hope to see these hopes achieve reality. I want to encourage all malacologists and all aspiring malacologists to become members and active supporters of UNITAS and in particular I ask my colleagues in Asia to join me in supporting and promoting regional cooperation.

We aim to provide the best ever, most enjoyable and memorable WCM in 2010 with outstanding value for money and look forward to hosting you with your families.

Somsak Panha
President, Unitas Malacologica

New Faces

There are several new names now on Unitas Council.

Somsak Panha, UM President, is not a new face to Council, but a new role as UM President. Somsak is Associate Professor of Biology in the Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand. Aged 49, Somsak obtained his Ph.D. in Zoology from Kyoto University, Japan in 1988. The focus of his research is land snail systematics and biogeography based on extensive field programs in Thailand and other countries in Southeast Asia. Of particular interest are the micro snails from limestone karsts and the Southeast Asian tree snail *Amphidromus* as a model for studies in biogeography and evolutionary biology.

Mary Seddon, UM Council Member, is head of the Molluscan Section at the National Museum of Wales. Her research has focused on land snails, both Modern and Quaternary, particularly in North and East Africa. Together with Peter Tattersfield, and colleagues in the National Museums of Kenya and National Museums of Tanzania, Mary is currently studying forest mollusc diversity patterns in the Eastern Arc and Albertine Rift. She is also Chair of the IUCN Species Survival Commission's Mollusc Specialist Group and is busy with a major project assessing the global status of freshwater molluscs.

Ellen Strong, UM Council Member, is a Research Zoologist in the Department of Invertebrate Zoology at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History in Washington DC. She joined the NMNH mollusk staff in September 2004 after two years as an Assistant Professor in the University of Minnesota. Ellen began her malacological career as an undergraduate in paleontology at the UC Berkeley Museum of Paleontology. From there, she relocated to the east coast of the United States to pursue her studies at George Washington University in Washington DC and received her Ph.D. in Biology in 2000. After completing a post-doctoral fellowship in 2001 at the Museum für



Naturkunde in Berlin, Germany, she returned to the NMNH as a post-doctoral fellow until 2002.

Primarily a morphologist, Ellen's research is focused on the systematics of the Caenogastropoda using morphological and molecular data. Other research interests include: anatomy, phylogeny and systematics of the Cerithioidea and other basal caenogastropod lineages; anatomy and phylogeny of the endemic cerithioidean Paludomidae in Lake Tanganyika; adaptation, diversification and the conquest of freshwater; conservation of freshwater gastropods.

Aileen Tan Shau-Hwai, UM Council Member, is currently a senior lecturer in University Science of Malaysia and have been teaching and conducting research in the field of molluscan studies since 1989. She completed her Master and PhD. degree in University Science of Malaysia in 1992 and 2001 as a part-time student while working as a research officer in the institution. Her research area is on mariculture particularly molluscs for the purpose of food security and conservation purposes; marine and coral reef ecology; marine biodiversity; environmental studies.

Her research has been focused on mariculture, particularly the reproduction biology of molluscs. She has successfully worked on the biology and reproduction of oysters for the food industries, and has been actively involved in conservation studies on the Malaysian reefs as well as the reefs around the region, focusing on molluscs and echinoderms.

Message from the Retired President

Dear Members,

Three weeks have passed since the World Congress of Malacology in Antwerp (15-20 July 2007) and although there still remains some administrative work to be done, the bulk of the congress stress is history now. Nevertheless, even this morning I still woke up thinking that I had to change a number of room bookings... When I took over the UM presidency from Fred Wells at the Perth Congress in 2004, I never imagined what I was heading at... Now, more than 5000 congress emails later, I know...!

We were expecting around 350 delegates, but finally there were 421 registrants from 45 countries who physically attended the Antwerp Congress. In effective numbers of participants the top-3 countries were USA (n=75), Germany (n=60) and Spain (n=37), yet proportionally, the absolute topper was Barbados with about 0.75 delegates per 100,000 inhabitants! There were also 48 accompanying people, many of whom joined the different social activities of the congress. Most promising was that 146 registrants (i.e. more than one third of the delegates) were students, which shows that malacological research is not only alive and kicking, but our discipline also seems to have a bright future!! This feeling is further supported by the wide diversity of topics that were dealt with at the congress, for this suggests that molluscan models (an expression that was used for two symposia) are more and more attracting interest from an audience far beyond the relatively small world of malacologists. Molluscs are indeed a very old, highly diverse, and economically/medically important group of organisms that has much to offer to biological research in general. Yet, it is up to us to show this and in this context I feel that the WCM provides an excellent contact forum that can contribute to this 'promotion'.

With respect to the gender representation at the WCM we still have to work towards a more balanced participation of females, for at the Antwerp Congress female delegates (n=130) were still largely outnumbered by males (n=291). Yet, also at this point there is reason

for optimism, given that with both the UM travel grants and the UM student prizes the gender balance was nearly perfect or even slightly skewed towards females! So, and please do not misinterpret me, I'm convinced that with a little more intense stimulation of our female fellow malacologists, we may achieve a balanced overall gender participation at the WCM.

As I already mentioned in my 'presidential introduction' at the Perth congress, I had one major worry about organising the WCM in Belgium (many more worries popped up later on....): how would we compensate for Australia's megabiodiversity setting... a worry that became almost an obsession once I started to realise that the next WCM venue would probably be in Thailand... another biodiversity hotspot! Now, while the term 'spot' perfectly applies to Belgium if one looks at a world map, I'm less sure about the degree of excitement non-Belgian malacologists may feel when they think about our malacofauna... my guess is that it won't be 'hot' dreams. Yet, the lack of malacological diversity in Belgium is definitely counterbalanced by the country's richness in beers, for with about 500 Belgian standard brands, we have far more different beers than mollusc species (marine + terrestrial)! Apparently this issue was, at least quantitatively, explored by some WCM delegates... During the AMS auction on Thursday, for example, the beer consumption amounted to (individual 33 cl bottles): 162 Trappist, 71 Duvel, 46 Hoegaarden, 61 pils, 18 St. Louis, and 10 Bolleke. A well-done job given that 14 bottles of wine (70 cl each) were consumed as well (not to mention mineral water, Coca-cola, tonic, etc.).... but yes, it was a hot afternoon!

About 240 delegates were accommodated at the modestly priced campus facilities, all others booked hotel rooms via the congress or arranged their accommodation independently. Accommodation was indeed also a point of worry because the week before the congress, Antwerp organised the Eurogames, some sort of olympic games for gay people, which of course provoked an unusually high pressure on the availability of hotel rooms. Nevertheless, all in all we did not experience major difficulties with the accommodation, even if we had to improvise a bit for some delegates...

For the remainder, the congress format was very similar to the formula applied in Perth: we started with an icebreaker in the historical reception halls of the Antwerp Zoo, while the conference itself was held at the Groenenborger Campus of the University of Antwerp during the week of 16 to 20 July, with a poster reception on Tuesday evening, four congress day trips on Wednesday, the AMS auction on Thursday evening and the Congress Dinner in Grand Cafe Horta on Friday evening. On Saturday July 21st, there was an extra workshop of the IUCN SSC Specialist Group. On Wednesday, some delegates used the opportunity to visit the collections of the Natural History Museum in Brussels, while still others joined the EQMal microscopy workshop at the campus. The ca. 270 oral communications were presented in 4-5 parallel sessions, while the ca. 195 posters were permanently displayed in the conference halls. Nearly all abstracts were included in the abstract book, which will be made available as downloadable PDF at the UM website.

Evidently, even if it is the UM President's main task to organise the WCM, it was from the very beginning clear to me that I could never do this alone. Luckily I could count on a small, but very dedicated, energetic and enthusiastic group of colleagues and friends, without whose tremendous help and support the Antwerp Congress would never have come to a good end. The list of helping hands is far too long to be included here, but nevertheless I do want to mention a few wonderful people who have done an extraordinary job: Claudine Claes (congress registration database and website), Natalie Van Houtte (abstract book), Karin Breugelmans (organising the TPC accommodation), Kristof Schils & Annelies Claes (organising the MHC accommodation), Wim de Belder (multiple tasks), Lobke Dillen (multiple tasks), Vanya Prévot (multiple tasks), Hilde Vrijders (multiple tasks), Sofie Thys (multiple tasks), the catering team of the UA, and the team of the audio-visual centre of the UA. To all these people, and to all other persons who have helped in the realisation of the Antwerp Congress, I express my warmest thanks!! Yet, probably the most formidable work force I could rely on for running the Antwerp congress, was the co-organiser and my colleague/friend Kurt Jordaens. His incredible multi-task working capacity, stress resistance



and efficiency were the solid backbone of this congress. Kurt you were simply irreplaceable, thank you so much!!

Finally, as retiring President I look forward to the next WCM in Thailand. Somsak Panha's DVD already provided a glimpse of the wonderful meeting we can expect there!! In this spirit I also look forward to function as 'normal' member of the UM Council during the coming three years. This will give me the chance to explore the next congress site in advance... and be reassured, I will assume this task with lots of dedication!!!! At this point I can also look back at three years of smooth UM presidency, a period during which I very much enjoyed working together with the UM Council members, Paula Mikkelsen, Marco Oliverio, Somsak Panha, and Guido Pastorino. Special words of thanks go to Fred Wells, the former past president, who provided me with lots of very helpful advice and suggestions related to congress issues, and to Dai Herbert, who splendidly ran the UM secretariat. In the same spirit I would like to thank Julia Sigwart for her excellent editing of the UM Newsletter (and her patience with me... for I have been quite bad with deadlines for text submissions...) and Edi Gittenberger for taking care of the distribution of hardcopies of the Newsletter. Last, but not least, I would like to express my deep appreciation and friendship to Jackie Van Goethem, not only for his years of dedication as Treasurer of UM, but also for his constant support and advice during my three years as President of UM. It has been a wonderful time!

Thierry Backeljau

*Past President of Unitas Malacologica
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Secretary's Column

Well, we are now well and truly in the second half of the year and another successful WCM has been enjoyed by all who attended – congratulations to Thierry and the Antwerp-Brussels team for a job well done. From a secretarial perspective, there have been two main topics requiring attention, firstly the election of new UM office bearers and secondly the awarding of travel grants to attend the WCM in Antwerp.

Election of Office bearers and venue for WCM 2010

Ballot papers for the election of new office bearers for the vacant posts on the UM Council were sent out in January 2007, as part of the previous newsletter (No. 24). The results of this ballot were formally announced at the UM General Assembly meeting in Antwerp. In total 73 completed ballot papers were returned, which it seems is about 'par for the course'. All candidates nominated were elected and so we welcome Drs Mary Seddon, Ellen Strong and Aileen Tan as new Council Members (see biographical sketches elsewhere). Dr Jackie Van Goethem has your unanimous support to continue as Treasurer and Prof. Somsak Panha moves from Council Member to become our new UM President, whilst Thierry Backeljau becomes our Past President. To the retiring Council Members, Paula Mikkelsen and Marco Oliverio, and Past President Fred Wells, we say farewell and many thanks for your valued contributions.

This of course means that the venue for WCM 2010 will be Thailand – our first meeting in Asia. To whet our appetites at the General Assembly and get the ball rolling, Somsak had prepared a short DVD presentation showing what potentially lies in store for us in Thailand – certainly not a meeting to miss.

In relation to the election, it seems that most members are happy to send their votes electronically, by e-mail. Although this obviously removes the anonymity aspect, it is evidently of little concern to the majority. During the election, I received some comment indicating

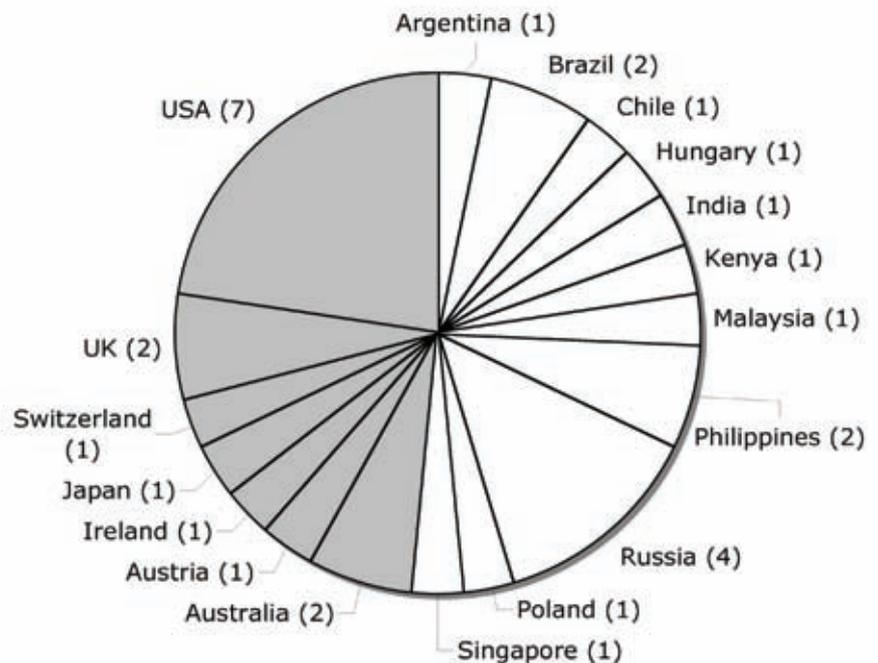
that it would be preferable to have more of a choice when electing new council members, i.e. we should have more candidates than there are vacant positions, so that there is something of a contest – the point seems well made. However, when I raised this issue at the UM General Assembly, consensus seemed to be that this was not necessary. The argument being that since the general membership almost never nominated candidates and it was always left to Council to make nominations, it would not be appropriate for Council to ask candidates to stand, knowing full well that some of them would not be elected. So, I guess if you want more choice then we will need more members to make nominations.

Travel Awards for WCM 2007

The number of applications for Travel Awards for the Antwerp WCM was exceptional. A total of 93 applications was received from 35 countries, requesting more than €57,000. Clearly with only €20,000 available, we were not going to be able to help everyone. In contrast, in 2004 at the Perth meeting, €20,000 was sufficient to enable all applicants to receive an award (27 in total). As a result the competition was intense this year and we had to adhere strictly to the criteria and priorities identified for the awards when assessing and scoring the applications. Preference was therefore given to postgraduate students and malacologists who could not reasonably be expected to source alternative funding. We also endeavoured to avoid duplication with the American Malacological Society and the Malacological Society of London, and so preclude a situation where some students received two grants and others none.

In total we made 31 awards to applicants from 18 countries, representing a total amount of €20,550 – as shown above right in terms of what might be termed malacologically developed (grey) and developing (clear) countries. The balance between the two is good and ultimately the differing figures relate largely to the number of applications received from the respective countries.

Quite coincidentally and without any manipulation by the evaluation panel, the gender balance of the eventual award winners was 52%



Distribution of UM travel awards to attend WCM 2007 in Antwerp, comparing malacologically 'developed' (grey) and 'developing' (white) countries.

female and 48% male. So it looks like we are on solid ground on that front as well.

Obviously it was disappointing to have to deny travel assistance to the unsuccessful applicants, but nonetheless, the number of applications received is a good indication both of the strength of our discipline, and the popularity and value of the WCM meetings.

Dai Herbert
UM Secretary

UM student prizes at WCM 2007

Other student prizes for excellent research talks and posters were awarded by the American Malacological Society and the Malacological Society of London. Below are the awards given by Unitas Malacologica. *Congratulations to all!!*

Best oral presentations:

1st – 300.00 EUR

Christoph Allgaier, Dept of Zoology, Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen, Germany
Active camouflage in a snail

2nd – 200.00 EUR

Nicolas Puillandre, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris
New insights on the phylogeny of the Conoidea (Neogastropoda) using molecular data

3rd – six years' UM membership

Meaghan Parker, Dept of Zoology, University of Hawaii, Honolulu, USA.
Achatinellid land snails of the Pacific islands: phylogenetics, phylogeography and evolution

Best poster presentations:

1st – 300.00 EUR

Martine Claremont, Natural History Museum, London
Unravelling a taxonomic tangle and a morphological mystery: a molecular phylogeny of the Rapaninae (Neogastropoda: Muricidae)

2nd – 200.00 EUR

Silke Tenner, Museum of Natural History, Humboldt University, Berlin
Morphology, ecology and species: diversification patterns in an ancient lake species flock of Tylomelania (Cerithioidea: Pachychilidae) from Lake Mahalona, Sulawesi, Indonesia

3rd – six years' UM membership

Viviana Fiorentino, Dip. Scienze Ambientali "G. Sarfatti", Univ. di Siena, Italy
Phylogeny and morphological variability in land snails: the Sicilian Marmorana (Pulmonata, Helicidae)

King Leopold III Fund Awards

The King Leopold III Fund for Nature Exploration and Conservation has awarded several prizes for the best communications (and work done) that have a great potential to enhance the conservation of molluscs.

In view of the many excellent presentations based on exploration and inventory, the jury, after careful consideration, decided to split the available budget in six equal parts and proclaimed six first prizes, in alphabetical order:

Prem BUDHA (Centre for Biological Conservation, Kathmandu, Nepal): Distribution of terrestrial snails in Nepal

Igor MURATOV (Zoological Museum, Moscow State University, Russia): Terrestrial malacofauna of Central Asia: results of more than 150 years of exploration

Eike NEUBERT (Forschungsinstitut Senckenberg, Frankfurt am Main, Germany): Malacology in the arid areas of the Middle East: unexplored or empty?

Chis OKE (University of Benin, Edo State, Nigeria): Land snail diversity in a limestone formation in Odukpani, Cross River State, Nigeria

Luiz Ricardo SIMONE (Museu de Zoologia da Universidade de Sao Paulo, Brazil): Malacological studies in a mega-diverse and poor country as Brazil

John SLAPCINSKY (University of Florida and Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville, USA): Terrestrial snails in Papua New Guinea: Have we only scratched the surface?

Presented 30 July 2007 by
Jackie Van Goethem,
Executive Secretary, King Leopold III Fund

More student prizes

Conchological Society of Great Britain and Ireland

Award for the best student poster in conservation of biodiversity:

Joaquim Reis, Centro de Biologia Ambiental, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal
Unio tumidiformis Castro, 1885: A highly endangered endemic species (Bivalvia: Unionidae) from the south-western Iberian Peninsula

Malacological Society of London

C.M. Yonge Award (travel grant for bivalve students) – Andre Sartori, University of Cambridge, UK
Are morphological and molecular perspectives of anomalodesmatan phylogeny reconcilable?

Best talk – Nicolas Puillandre, Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris, France
New insights on the phylogeny of the Conoidea (Neogastropoda) using molecular data

Best poster – Ben Rowson, National Museum of Wales, UK
Streptaxomorph shells: an evaluation and possible explanation

American Malacological Society

Constance Boone Student Award for best presentation:

Kenneth Hayes, University of Hawaii Manoa, USA
Molecular systematics and evolutionary patterns of diversification in New World Ampullariidae

Congratulations to all!!

WCM 2007 Scientific Symposia

The scientific content of the Antwerp WCM was divided into twelve symposia of varying length, in addition to general sessions of contributed papers. Below we present summaries of the accomplishments of these sessions. For more information not covered here in detail, please contact the respective organiser.

Abstracts for all talks appear in the abstract volume distributed at the WCM 2007 and edited by K. Jordaens et. al., now available online:

www.ucd.ie/cobid/unitas/congress.html

Sexual selection in molluscs

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Traits that evolve through selection during the process of mating are said to be sexually selected. Famously, Darwin claimed that sexual selection could not occur in molluscs, because of their hermaphroditism and imperfect senses. The symposium on Sexual Selection in Molluscs confirmed that he was mistaken. As evidenced by 19 oral and 5 poster presentations, sexual selection plays a prominent role in molluscs.

Dr. Nico Michiels (Tübingen) gave the invited lecture on “Sexual conflict and conflict resolution in hermaphroditic gastropods”. He presented a compelling case for the maladaptation of the hermaphroditic lifestyle in the internally fertilizing gastropods (i.e. pulmonates and opisthobranchs), explaining that its persistence might be due to phylogenetic constraints. The influences of body size (Dillen, Yusa), shell shape (Jordaens), and shell coiling (Heiler, Schilthuizen) on mating preferences were discussed. Several authors addressed how selection has affected the structures and processes responsible for sperm transfer (Dillen, Iwata), sperm survival (Huffard), and sperm storage (Beese, Garefalaki, Koene). Also, the potential impact of parasites (Schüpbach) and the effects of reproductive history on sexual motivation (Hoffer) and offspring number and fitness (Reise, Sprenger, Visser) were



considered. Another common theme was the sometimes bizarre adaptations, often harmful to the mate, that seem to have evolved as the result of sperm competition, namely dart shooting (Chase), penial hooks (Rowson), extreme penis lengths (up to 92.5 cm in *Limax* – Falkner), hypodermic impregnation (Anthes), and spermatophore ornamentations (De Winter). It was argued that such morphological traits as well as the associated behaviours can evolve rapidly (Leonard).

With this symposium we aimed at an overview of research on sexual selection in molluscs, with the purpose of stimulating and guiding further research on the topic. This overview clearly confirms the importance of sexual selection as a driving force in the evolution of molluscs. In terms of future research directions, it would be especially fruitful to look at the functions and underlying mechanisms for the diverse adaptations found in these animals.

Inventorying the molluscan fauna of the world: frontiers and perspectives

Dr. Philippe Bouchet & Dr. Somsak Panha
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On average, every year, 200 different authors describe and name 580 new species of land, freshwater and marine molluscs. Species-level taxonomy, and its appreciation in the academic and conservation arenas, is making a comeback. How are new explorations changing our perception of the magnitude of regional or global faunas? Where are the frontiers? How is the molecular revolution impacting on alpha taxonomy? What are the bottlenecks? What is the place of malacological journals in this endeavour? These are the questions that 25 speakers invited or volunteering to speak in the symposium devoted to “Inventorying the molluscan fauna of the world: frontiers and perspectives” were asked to address.

Undersampled regions or habitats, understudied families, as well as old faunas being revisited with new characters, all contribute new species to the global inventory. With so many researchers - both professional and amateurs - pushing the frontiers of the unknown, it was

impossible for the symposium to cover every major taxonomic group or analyse the rate of discovery in every major province. However, all in all, the symposium had a fair balance between land, marine and freshwater; between “well known” regions and taxa and recognized frontiers of discovery; between time-honoured and more unconventional approaches to taxonomy.

Klaus Groh, of *ConchBooks*, has declared his interest to publish a book on the symposium theme. This will not be a volume of “Proceedings” of the congress talks, but more a suite of chapters based on the talks that will carry the sense of excitement, urgency and inspiration that transpired throughout the symposium. Some invited speakers that could not be present in Antwerp have indicated their interest in being part of the book, so that the published volume will compensate some of the geographical or taxonomic imbalances of the congress talks.

Micromolluscs: methodological challenges, exciting results

Dr. Daniel L. Geiger
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Micromolluscs comprise the majority of molluscan biodiversity, but due to perceived difficulties working on them they are under-represented in the malacological world. The symposium aimed at rectifying this inequity, both by explaining the various methods used to work with micromolluscs, and by highlighting some of the exciting results emanating from these efforts. Although the symposium was proposed less than a year before the congress, it was enthusiastically embraced by a wide variety of workers. Participants from Argentina, Australia, France, Germany, Great Britain, India, Ireland, Japan, Norway, Singapore, Spain, and the USA presented work including fossil, Recent, marine, land, and freshwater taxa, systematics, morphological and molecular phylogenetics, sampling techniques, preparation methods (*Niku-Nuku*, histology, DNA extraction), visualization techniques (SEM, TEM, light and confocal microscopy, x-ray tomography, 3D reconstruction), and distribution and conservation.

The variety of approaches and unexpected

solutions to various problems were eye opening, ranging from the latest high-tech to the kitchen sink. It is difficult to highlight any particular contributions as all offered fascinating perspectives. Bernhard Ruthensteiner set the stage for 3D reconstruction with a highly informative presentation on histology and the Amira software package. Rosemary Golding applied x-ray tomography for the first time to molluscan anatomical investigations. Hiroshi Fukuda et al. introduced the non-Japanese malacologists to the *Niku-Nuki* technique for removal of soft parts from shells. Several first-time presenters demonstrated their talent. Over coffee and lunch questions such as “How do you do this again?”, “That really works??”, and “Where do you get those taxa/supplies?” were frequently heard. A symposium volume in *Zoosymposia*, sister publication to *Zootaxa*, is in preparation, with the ambitious goal of an early 2008 publication date. It should provide some answers to common issues, but still leaving much to be discovered in the exiting world of micromolluscs.

Molluscs as models in evolutionary biology: from local speciation to global radiation

Dr. Matthias Glaubrecht & Dr. Thomas von Rintelen
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Molluscs, with their many features and facets, are highly suitable for providing some fundamental insights into the mechanisms of the genesis of biodiversity, its pattern in historical biogeography and the underlying processes of speciation and radiation. This symposium aimed to bring together experts and their expertise based on molluscs to provide some of those fundamental studies and data that are of relevance for evolutionary biology with aspects as outlined above, in order to facilitate the influence of malacology within evolutionary biology.

This was the largest symposium at WCM 2007, including 43 talks over more than two full days of sessions. A selection of the presentations have been invited to form a special issue of the *American Malacological Bulletin*, to be published in 2008.

Molluscs in ecotoxicological research

Dr. Kurt Jordaens & Dr. Rita Triebkorn
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stz.oekotox@gmx.de

Reinhard Dallinger kicked off the symposium with a very nice summary of how molluscs can be used to compile information on the ecotoxicological effects of contaminants. He then focused on the study of metallothioneins (MT) in terrestrial gastropods and explained how MTs are induced in the terrestrial snail *Cornu aspersum* after exposure to cadmium in his second presentation. In between these two talks, Heidi Van den Broeck explained her results of heavy metal pollution on MT induction and condition in the periwinkle *Littorina littorea*. Besides MTs, there is a wealth of other biomarkers available to study the effects of stressors on molluscs, and the potential of these biomarkers was summarized by Rita Triebkorn after the coffee break. The following talks dealt with other (classes of) biomarkers such as cytogenetic, cell and tissue damage (presented by Janina Baršienė and Ionan Marigómez), reproductive biomarkers (presented by Rosemary Egonmwan and Edita Mazurova), and biomarkers to assess the effects of endocrine disruptors (presented by Claudia Schmitt and Thomas Knigge). The final five talks focused on the interactions between contaminants and growth/shell metabolism in a variety of molluscan groups covering land snails (in a talk by Alan Beeby), freshwater bivalves (talks by Manuel Lopes-Lima and Luís Silva) and marine bivalves (talks by José Riascos and Julie Letendre). Eleven posters were displayed during the poster session. The symposium contributions showed that studying the effects of contaminants on the metabolism of molluscs is not straightforward. However, the presentations support our belief that molluscs are fantastic candidates for fundamental and applied research in ecotoxicology. A warm thank you to all that gave a talk, presented a poster or simply attended the presentations, for making it such a wonderful symposium!



Molluscs and pest control

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The symposium “Molluscs and pest control” covered several aspects of pest control including chemical, biological and management strategies, and global dispersion of distinct pest species, as well as new studies in the determination of taxonomic groups by DNA analyses.

The symposium was opened by Gordon Port’s exciting contribution which followed the footsteps of Donald Rumsfeld in presenting “known unknowns” in the field of pest control and drew attention to the different requirements of farmers, growers and gardeners with respect to plant protection from snails and slugs.

The two following talks given by Angela Lush and Adel El Titi focused on management strategies useful to reduce negative impacts of both snails and slugs in, e.g., vineyards or oil seed rape fields. David Robinson focused in the next presentation on the distribution of *Achatina fulica* on distinct Caribbean islands and possibilities to control them. After coffee, David Aldridge explained the advantage of microencapsulated BioBullets as carriers of molluscicides against pest bivalves, and the three final talks presented by Norman Barr, Sabine Engelke and Tomasz Kaluski all focused on molecular techniques which are well established as tools to reorganize taxonomic groups, e.g. the *Arion lusitanicus*, *A. ater*, *A. vulgaris* complex.

Molluscan models: advancing our understanding of the eye

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The eye symposium featured 11 presentations, covering the enormous diversity of molluscan eyes from polyplacophorans to cephalopods. Researchers applied a wide range of methods to study the eye including comparative and subcellular anatomy (A. Averbuj, D.J. Eernisse, S. Kelly, B. Morton, L.J. Robles, L. v. Salvini-Plawen, M. Zieger), physiology (L.A. Wilkens), behavior (D.I. Speiser), and genetics of eye

formation (J.M. Serb, J. Piatigorsky) to better understand eye function and how this affects the ecology of the organism.

Specific objectives met by the symposium included:

- 1) Bringing eye researchers and malacologists together to exchange research, ideas and perspectives;
- 2) Focusing attention on the rich morphological diversity of molluscan eyes;
- 3) Inspiring future researchers to incorporate molluscan models in eye research; and
- 4) Providing a forum for new ideas and approaches.

Support for the eye symposium was provided by the U.S. National Science Foundation, the American Malacological Society, and Iowa State University. The eye symposium funded travel awards for three graduate students who presented their research at the symposium: Mr. Andres Averbuj (Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina), Ms. Shannon Kelly (California State University, Dominguez Hills, USA) and Mr. Daniel Speiser (Duke University, USA). The proceedings of the symposium will be published in a 2008 issue of the *American Malacological Bulletin*.

Zoogeography of the non-marine molluscs of the eastern Mediterranean

Dr. Aydin Örstan
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The symposium Zoogeography of the Non-Marine Molluscs of the Eastern Mediterranean had seven presentations. Two of the talks were about freshwater snails, while the rest was about land snails. The authors were from Greece, Turkey, Great Britain and Israel. The lack of participation from other eastern Mediterranean countries was disappointing. The rich non-marine mollusc biodiversity of the region was the focus of most talks. One unplanned result of the symposium was the rapport it created between the Greek and Turkish malacologists.

Biodiversity at crossroads: freshwater bivalves from mass extinction to global invasion

Dr. Cristian R. Altaba
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Bivalves have experienced several evolutionary radiations in freshwaters, often becoming keystone ecological elements. The purpose of this symposium was to bring together what we know (and don't) about any and all freshwater bivalves: their diversity, adaptations, evolution, ecology, and management. This symposium included nine talks, which attempted to cover all major areas of research, as well as all biogeographic regions and taxonomic groups involved. The goal was to provide a coherent, strong case for action in research and conservation of these unique faunas worldwide.

Neogastropod origins, phylogeny, evolutionary pathways and mechanisms

Dr. M.G. Harasewych & Dr. Ellen E. Strong
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The neogastropod symposium featured 21 speakers from 10 countries, including 8 student presenters. Presentations covered topics ranging from morphological and molecular evolution to fossils, ecology, natural products chemistry and reproductive biology. Presentations by M.G. Harasewych on the molecular evidence and by R.E. Golding (proboscis), Y.I. Kantor (foregut) and E.E. Strong (kidney) on patterns of morphological differentiation highlighted the lack of consensus of the various data sets in resolving evolutionary relationships at broad taxonomic levels, and indicated that much remains to be gained by detailed molecular and morphological studies.

Talks by S. Hayashi (molecular/Buccinidae), R.A. Kosyan (morphology/Buccinidae), A. Richter (morphology, molecular/Coralliophilinae), L.R.L. Simone (morphology/Muricidae), M.V. Modica (morphology, molecular/Cancellariidae) and Z.G. Baoanan (morphology/Conus) explored similar themes at the family level or below. G.S. Herbert (behaviour) presented new discoveries relating to associations between some muricids and

their prey – or perhaps more appropriately their host – and used several techniques to show that these associations may last for many months. K. Bandel (Cretaceous) and S.N. Nielsen (Neogene) provided the crucial palaeontological perspective on the early evolution of neogastropods, highlighting the taxic diversity evident in some assemblages and the utility of protoconch characters for exploring relationships among early neogastropods; J.E. Vendetti continued this theme by discussing an innovative way of documenting protoconch morphology using techniques borrowed from vertebrate palaeontology.

P.W. Laffy and C. Westley (natural products chemistry) provided a novel insight into the production of Tyrian purple not only in the hypobranchial gland, but also the presence of Tyrian purple precursors in the gonoduct and egg masses and its possible role as a protective agent. G. Pastorino (sexual dimorphism) intrigued us with the possible functional significance of the columellar groove of *Olivella plata* and hopefully received useful suggestions to test new hypotheses. P.E. Penchaszadeh (reproductive biology) arguably gave the most visually appealing presentation, featuring reproductive strategies and the impressive egg cases of volutid species from the southwestern Atlantic. H. Fortunato provided the ecological perspective, and explored just how picky neogastropods can be when choosing between mud and rock as their home.

The highlight of the symposium was the two final presentations by N. Puillandre and C.P. Meyer, who provided two highly congruent views on conoidean phylogeny with largely non-overlapping molecular data sets; N. Puillandre was named the winner of the best student oral presentation by the Malacological Society of London *and* was also recognised for his presentation by *Unitas Malacologica* . . . congratulations Nicolas!

Heart and circulation in molluscs

Dr. Robert B. Hill
bob@uri.edu

Janice Voltzow succeeded admirably in presenting a synthesis of complementary



opposing flows through entire molluscan bodies, externally in the mantle cavity as well as internally in the circulatory system and interstitial spaces. Lloyd Trueblood presented the latest results from studies of large squid, which have a higher metabolic rate “than any reported organism of comparable size”. Leon Collis established molluscan priority for the “Law of the Heart” and characterised length-dependent activation and deactivation of force. Leah Devlin established receptor subtypes for excitation and inhibition of molluscan cardiac muscle.

Quaternary malacology

Dr. Tom Meijer
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This symposium was organised as a meeting of EQMal (European Quaternary Malacologists) with support from Naturalis (National Museum of Natural History) in Leiden (The Netherlands). There were twelve talks covering a variety of topics. The aim was to include contributions from both the marine and non-marine realms and to cover a broad geographical area encompassing the North Atlantic and the whole of the Palaearctic region.

IUCN SSC Mollusc Specialist Group:

Open workshop

Dr. Mary Seddon
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The open meeting was focussed on the progress towards a Global Molluscan Species Assessment (MSG) with presentations on the IUCN Categories and Criteria.

During the morning we ran a training session introducing the IUCN Categories and Criteria to increase an understanding of the methodology for assessing species for the Red List. Over 35 people attended this workshop on Saturday and over 45 people requested the CD with documentation, training information and the database (SIS data entry module) for Red Listing. Following this session, we demonstrated examples of species proposed for listing as a basis for discussion on what data was necessary to evaluate the status

of faunas. The main debate lay around Data Deficiency: when do we consider that we have enough knowledge to evaluate a species, and what is the consequence if a species gets Red Listed?

Later sessions described ongoing progress on MSG activities. A report on the North African Freshwater Assessment was presented by Dirk van Damme & Mohammed Ghamizi, emphasising the number of range restricted species in Morocco, which were under threat. Arthur Bogan (NCSM, USA) provided an update on the North American Freshwater molluscs, where both the taxonomic lists and their threat status were being evaluated for USA, Canada and Mexico. Then a brief outline was given on planned activities for the next year as Freshwater Mollusc assessment programmes will be started for Central African, North-east African and the Mediterranean regions; future work on the Mekong is also planned but awaiting finance.

Philippe Bouchet (MNHN France) provided an overview on the latest study in Paris, where Claire Regnier has reviewed all 320 taxa in the IUCN and CREO lists, and found that 277 taxa were still considered to be both Valid and Extinct. Some species were removed from the list due to either taxonomic issues, rediscovery or changes in extinction criteria since 1994. All species previously considered as Extinct? were moved to Critically Endangered, when the new categories and criteria were introduced in 1996. Philippe also demonstrated that a review of literature showed that the list was incomplete, with current extinctions nearing 600 taxa. Any information or publications on extinct taxa would be very welcome, as this data will be prepared for publication for the end of the year.

Finally, the SSC Mollusc Specialist Group hopes that specialists will be interested in participating in the World Conservation Congress in Barcelona in October 2007. There are likely to be sessions on invertebrate conservation and a focus on Mediterranean environments.

The next issue of *Tentacle* will be published in January 2008, and all are invited to submit small articles on matters of conservation interest to Robert Cowie <cowie@hawaii.edu>, preferably as early as possible.

Treasurer's Report

Report of the Treasurer to the General Assembly of Unitas Malacologica, presented in Antwerp, 20 July 2007 (Reporting Period: 1 January 2004 - 31 December 2006)

Mr President, Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to give you a report on the financial situation of the UNITAS MALACOLOGICA since the last congress in Perth in 2004.

Once again, our financial situation evolved positively, mainly thanks to an important profit received from Fred WELLS, our former President and organiser of the World Malacological Congress in Perth. I'll come back to this when presenting the accounts in detail.

Before I do so I have to announce an exceptional news. You may remember that three years ago in Perth I have shared with the General Assembly two concerns:

- the decreasing membership
- the slow payment of membership fees.

And I feel a bit sad since I cannot report on significant progress regarding the second concern. On the other hand membership has evolved in a spectacular way. No less than 37 new members during 2005 and 2006 and seventy new members in the first semester of this year. Among them many PhD students. I sincerely hope they will find later on a fascinating job and stay a faithful Unitas member for many years.

Unitas Malacologica Current Accounts

Income from membership dues was again lower than expected. In fact the amount represents only 263 of our members having paid for a three years period. Almost 20 % of our members not reacting on one, two and three reminders for membership payment, is really a problem.

The interest rates were going down, but are in Belgium since the beginning of 2007 increasing a little bit.

Small donations for the Trust Fund were

received from many members. Some members pay regularly 50 to 100 euros in addition to their membership fees.

The benefit from the Perth Congress was received in two steps totalling 10,200 euros, while a sum of 4,400 euros coming from the Trust Fund as budgetised, was not needed by Fred and therefore went back to the Trust Fund. This means that Fred WELLS offered to Unitas the amount of 14,600 euros, which is an absolute record.

The expenditures: four Newsletters were issued by our new editor Julia SIGWART. Julia and my secretary, Claudine CLAES, collected as much as possible the e-mail addresses of our members. Julia started to distribute e-mail versions of our Newsletters versus only a limited number of printed copies, a task that still is done by Edi GITTENBERGER.

Robert COWIE continued editing, printing and mailing of Tentacle, one issue per year. As from nr 14 onward all members of the Mollusc Specialist Group (under IUCN) are web connected, which means no more costs for Unitas.

Council meetings are not at all expensive. In fact over the last three years no Council member received financial support to cover travel or accommodation costs. In 2004 two Council meetings were held in Perth, the costs of which were covered by Fred.

The benefit received from Perth, minus bank charges, were transferred to the Trust Fund together with the 4,400 euros not asked by Fred, and an additional 5,600 euros as an excess of income by Unitas, which makes a total of 20,186.80 EUR.

Regarding credit card payments, costs were raising in the past and they continue to raise. At present the system involves a minimum monthly cost of 11 euros, on top of a 2.25 % charge on every amount. I thus strongly suggest members to use for their payments the international giro system with IBAN account numbers and BIC or SWIFT bank codes.

The available assets of Unitas Malacologica as at 31 december 2006 were 10,564.28 EUR of which 8,000.00 EUR was transferred a couple of weeks later to the Trust Fund.



The Trust Fund

Over the period 2004-2006, income came from interests, from transfer from the Unitas current accounts and from donations. In particular I like to mention the 1,000 euros gift from Guido POPPE and the net benefit from the Perth Congress on which is to be added as I said the 4,400 euros which were budgetised for Perth but not used by Fred.

Expenditure over that same period:

- travel grants for 25 participants to the Perth Congress in 2004 (most received a grant of 800 euros, for Australians the grant was limited to 400 euros),
- student prizes for best oral and poster communication (2 x 300 and 2 x 200 euros),
- ten research awards of 1,000 euros,
- taxes due to a new governmental law installing a 15 % tax on the interests gained on the saving accounts from non profit organisations, really a bright innovative decision (!) by the Belgian government (that at the start solemn promised not to raise taxes).

The excess of income is - 4,020.72 EUR and the balance gives a total of 45,978.98 EUR. Keeping in mind that mid January 2007 a sum of 8,000 EUR was transferred from our current accounts to the Trust Fund, we can consider the capital of the Trust Fund at the very beginning of 2007 being in the order of 54,000.

Over the past 18 years the total assets of Unitas Malacologica were (I present rounded up amounts):

to pre T.F., 1989	10,300 EUR
to 31 Dec. 1994	29,000 EUR
to 31 Dec. 1997	33,500 EUR
to 31 Dec. 2000	42,000 EUR
to 31 Dec. 2003	55,800 EUR
to 31 Dec. 2006	56,500 EUR

The beginning of 2004 was a crucial situation, with let us say a lot of money available. Hence the UM Council decided to spend the money in a strategic way to further malacology. Council decided to budgetise around 20,000 EUR for travel grants to enable UM members and members of affiliated societies to join the

Antwerp congress, to offer 1,000 EUR for student prizes in Antwerp and to consider a higher number of research awards granted every year.

Since membership fees are the most significant income for our Society, I again take this opportunity to ask you dear members to pay regularly. A yearly fee of 16 euros is really not much for membership of a scientific society in comparison with the fee asked by national malacological and biological associations.

The capital build up every three years in our Trust Fund allows increasing expenditures for congress travel grants, congress prizes and research awards. This is part of the Unitas Malacologica strategy to promote malacology worldwide.

Budget 2007-2009

My final point is the proposed use of the UNITAS money for the period 2007-2009.

Membership: I am in your hands! And I do hope that some 50 members having not paid membership since 2003 and before will react positively on a last reminder which I am planning to send after the congress, highlighting the tremendous added value of our three annual congresses to enhance malacology and to promote synergies.

Congress travel grants have been handed over and the prizes will be offered this evening. Our Newsletter editor, Julia SIGWART, will further promote e-mailing, so a budget of 1,000 EUR will probably cover a limited printing and postal mailing of the next four issues to non web connected members.

Acknowledgements

I most sincerely thank all these who have been so helpful in influencing our present financial situation so favourably: members paying always spontaneously –allow me to cite just one name, Dolf VAN BRUGGEN who is the longest standing UM member present at the Antwerp Congress (1967 - ...), and of course members paying a lot in advance. My favourites in this are Heike WÄGELE (she paid up to 2014) and Rosemary EGONMWAN and Vollrath WIESE

(who paid up to 2011).

I thank many members who paid an additional amount for the Trust Fund especially those who paid 50 or even 100 Euro (for the record, I am now thinking at David LINDBERG, Jon-Arne SNELI, Ruud BANK, Georges CRAWFORD, Henk DIJKSTRA, Georges DUSSART and Johannes KUIPER). I thank in particular Guido POPPE for his donation of 1,000 EUR.

A very special thank to Fred WELLS for the exceptional high benefit resulting from the Perth Congress which was returned to Unitas. Your dedication and generosity dear colleagues are very much appreciated.

Many thanks also to Julia SIGWART for her careful financial planning of four Newsletters and to Edi GITTENBERGER, who continues to assure the needed limited printing and mailing of our Newsletter.

I thank all Council members for constructive discussions on financial matters, and in particular Dai HERBERT, the new Secretary, with whom it was a real pleasure to work. Paula MIKKELSEN and Marco OLIVERIO are leaving the Council. Thank you very much for your careful considerations on finances during the past six years.

And finally, allow me to address my sincere appreciation to Thierry for the excellent preparation and careful budgetising of this World Congress of Malacology in Antwerp, the first one in Belgium since our 45 years of existence. It was and still is a real pleasure Thierry working with you.

I am now looking forward for a new term with a partially new team.

I thank all of you for your confidence and your attention.

Jackie Van Goethem
Treasurer



UNITAS MALACOLOGICA - Accounts for the period: 01.01.2004 - 31.12.2006

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Membership		Newsletters	
2004	4,551.82 EUR	nr 20 print	310.85 EUR
2005	2,320.79 EUR	nr 21 print & mail	939.23 EUR
2006	6,149.72 EUR (don. incl.)	nr 22, 23 print & mail limited	<u>292.99 EUR</u> 1,543.07 EUR
	-----	Distribution of voting papers in 2004	201.25 EUR
	13,022.33 EUR	Tentacle	
Interests		nr 12 print & mail	137.93 EUR
2004	329.59 EUR	nr 13 print & mail	<u>133.15 EUR</u> 271.08 EUR
2005	295.39 EUR	Council Meetings	
2006	122.36 EUR	2003 Brussels (partim)	23.40 EUR
	-----	2005 Antwerp	420.70 EUR
	747.34 EUR	2006 Brussels	<u>179.40 EUR</u> 623.50 EUR
Donations for the Trust Fund		Transfer of donations to Trust Fund	
2004	232.00 EUR	2003	223.00 EUR
2005	49.00 EUR	2004	232.00 EUR
[2006 transf. '07	412.00 EUR]	2005	<u>49.00 EUR</u> 504.00 EUR
	-----	Transfer to Trust Fund	
	281.00 EUR	2004-05 (net benefit Perth)	10,186.80 EUR
Received from the Trust Fund		2005 (from UM)	<u>10,000.00 EUR</u> 20,186.80 EUR
2004 (but not used for Perth)	4,400.00 EUR	Mailing costs treasurer	150.00 EUR
Other income		Government tax on the interests of a saving account	
2004-05 benefit WCM Perth	10,199.60 EUR	2005: 43.72 & 2006: 17.76	61.48 EUR
	-----	Credit card payment charges	
TOTAL INCOME:	28,650.27 EUR	2004: 37.50; 2005: 25.50; 2006: 82.96	145.96 EUR
Balance as at 31.12.2006:		Bank charges (for international operations)	
- Balance as at 31.12.2003	5,844.48 EUR	2004: 106.56; 2005: 58.72; 2006: 65.39	230.67 EUR
- Excess of income at 31.12.2006	4,719.80 EUR	Differences due to conversion	12.66 EUR
	-----		-----
	10,564.28 EUR	TOTAL EXPENDITURE:	- 23,930.47 EUR
Assets:		TOTAL INCOME:	+ <u>28,650.27 EUR</u>
- Belgian Post Bank 000-1539068-66	428.95 EUR	EXCESS OF INCOME:	4,719.80 EUR
- Argenta giro 979-3778126-78	470.63 EUR		
- Argenta maxi 979-5732668-70	9,664.70 EUR		

	10,564.28 EUR		

Respectfully submitted
Antwerp, 20 July 2007

Jackie L. VAN GOETHEM,
Treasurer of Unitas Malacologica

UNITAS MALACOLOGICA TRUST FUND - Accounts for the period: 01.01.2004 - 31.12.2006

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
- Interests			
2004	1,811.04 EUR	Travel grants 25 participants to the Perth Congress (2004)	18,400.00 EUR
2005	1,053.36 EUR		
2006	1,154.93 EUR	Best student prizes Perth Congress	1,000.00 EUR

	4,019.33 EUR	4 th & 5 th research awards (2004)	2,000.00 EUR
- Transfer from U.M.	10,000.00 EUR	6 th to 9 th research awards (2005)	4,000.00 EUR
- Donations from members		10 th to 13 th research awards (2006)	4,000.00 EUR
2003	223.00 EUR		
2004	232.00 EUR	Government tax on interests (NEW ! since 2005)	
2005	49.00 EUR	2005	157.91 EUR
	-----	2006	172.94 EUR
	504.00 EUR		-----
- Donation by Guido POPPE	1,000.00 EUR		330.85 EUR
- Donation by Fred WELLS (benefit from Perth Congress)	10,186.80 EUR	TOTAL EXPENDITURE:	29,730.85 EUR
	-----	TOTAL INCOME:	25,710.13 EUR
TOTAL INCOME:	25,710.13 EUR		-----
		EXCESS OF INCOME:	- 4,020.72 EUR

Balance as at 31.12.2006:

- Balance as at 31.12.2003	49,999.70 EUR	
- Excess of income 2004-2006	- 4,020.72 EUR	

	45,978.98 EUR	

Respectfully submitted
Antwerp, 20 July 2007

Jackie L. VAN GOETHEM,
Treasurer of Unitas Malacologica

Assets:

- Argenta giro 979-1302046-20	515.20 EUR
- Argenta maxi 979-9359408-77	45,463.78 EUR

	45,978.98 EUR