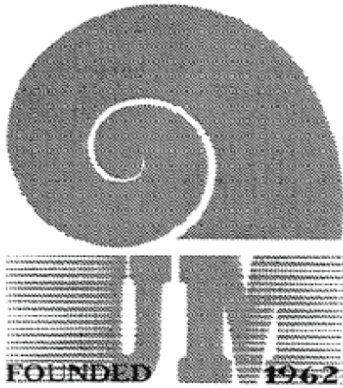


UNITAS MALACOLOGICA



Newsletter

Number 29
May 2010

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Dear Members,

This edition of your newsletter includes updates on the World Congress of Malacology this July, in Phuket, Thailand. As you are probably aware, the political situation in Thailand is rather changeable this year, but we have words of encouragement from our President that the congress will go ahead as planned without being affected by anxiety in Bangkok. Please also check the Congress website for more updates in the coming weeks, under 'what's new':

www.wcm2010.com/new.asp

As we prepare for the next Congress, one important item of business is the election of new council members, including a new President (who will host the WCM in 2013) and a new Secretary. Your humble editor is also on the ballot as a candidate this year, so I will not say any more about the spectacular quality of your fellow members who are standing for election. Although, as often happens, our candidates are running uncontested, it is very important that you return your vote to the Secretary (Dai Herbert). Without votes there cannot be an election.

The membership is also involved

in other publications and conferences, some of which are briefly detailed within. I would particularly like to thank University of Chicago Press for provided a sneak preview of Jerry Harasewych's new shell book, co-authored with colleague Fabio Moretzsohn.

Here in the northern hemisphere the summer has arrived, and many of us have moved outdoors to tend our gardens. Looking through my own garden reminds me that we are expecting a very interesting presentation in Phuket about European landsnails. Robert Cameron will be reporting on some initial results from a large scale 'Citizen Science' project run with the UK Open University, examining the distribution of colour forms of *Cepea*. Although they are in the throes of data analysis, I encourage you all to upload records from your own gardens and field work www.evolutionmegalab.org

Colleagues from outside Europe can perhaps promote an expansion of the analysis to include invasive *Cepea* and noting the colours of successful invaders.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Phuket.

JDS

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

Affiliated Organisations

American Malacological Society | Belgische Vereniging voor Conchyliologie | Conchology, Inc. | Deutsche Malakozoologische Gesellschaft | Friedrich Held Gesellschaft | Hungarian Malacological Society | 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 | Société française de Malacologie | The Western Society of Malacologists

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Message from the President

Dear Members,

In the international news most days, the unstable and sometimes volatile political movement centered in Bangkok may be of concern to delegates and tourists in that it may have encouraged some to change their mind about travelling to Thailand as opposed to other countries. However, the information so far has suggested this is not the case. In contrast, the number of overseas tourists has increased, especially at the Andaman Seacoast (Tourism Authority of Thailand). It thus seems likely that people understand about the political development in Thailand. Phuket and Krabi are in the top five tourist areas, and the venue of the Phuket congress is quite far from the current political protests, and indeed the island and surrounding area is rather apolitical and so unlikely to be involved. Of course we appreciate many delegates would have two main concerns, namely travelling to Bangkok en route to Phuket, and ability to enter or leave the country given the closure of Thailand's international airports only a few years ago. To the former, the current political demonstrations are centered around one area of central Bangkok, away from the airports such that most Bangkok residents let alone tourists will carry on with their daily lives unaware of the protests except for the daily news (indeed I write this now less than 1 km from the protest site and pass it by twice every day). Outside of Bangkok only minor demonstrations at city halls are likely, if that. Thus, delegates flying into Bangkok and changing to another plane or bus to travel on to Phuket would never be close to the protest sites, whilst delegates wishing to stay in Bangkok may likewise travel and enjoy all the tourist sites without even being aware of the protests. The second concern, namely that of potential airport closure, is likewise unlikely to be of any significant risk. The airports are no longer a target of any faction in the political dispute, and in any case remain under military and police protection.

The Phuket Congress (WCM 2010) seems to be one of the most attractive congresses with, so far until 4 p.m. of April 28, 2010, there are 293 from 46 countries registered participants. These can be classified as numbers of delegates from each continent as follows: 17 countries 124



names from
Europe
4 and 48 from
America; 3 and 17 from
Australia; 6 and 16 from Africa and 17 and 88
from Asia.

The 13 symposia and one open session have been tentatively arranged, and some are now being posted on the website (Indeed, we remind delegates to keep a regular check on the website), and there will likely be over 150 oral presentations in this event.

The first good news is that The Thai International Airlines have agreed to be the official airline for this congress and provide discount fares to Phuket during the congress. So for anyone who has not yet reserved their flights please visit our website and look at the "What's new?" section where you can get all information on the special conference flight deals from Royal Thai Airways.

The second good news is about our congress T-shirt which has now been designed. I can't wait until July so I would like to show you all in this issue of the newsletter. One important point is that the original application from did not ask registrants what size of T-shirt they would prefer. We ask those delegates that are already registered to inform secretariate about the size by the end of May 2010. Thank you for your co-operation.

Finally I would like to inform you to not miss this most memorable and meaningful congress ever. Good luck to you all. I hope to see many of you at Phuket in July 2010.

Somsak Panha
President, *Unitas Malacologica*

WCM 2010

DEADLINES

End of regular registration rate **15th May 2010**

End of abstract submission **31st May 2010**

Conference begins **18th July 2010**

The regular registration rate for **members** is €200. Student members can avail of the discount rate at €120. After the deadline of 15th May, you will be charged a late registration fee of €250 or €150 for student members.

TRAVEL - CONFERENCE AIRLINE AND BEST NET FARE DEAL

Special Airfare Rates for International Delegates

We are pleased to announce that Royal THAI Airways International have agreed to be the official airline of the World Malacology Congress, 2010, and to offer their Best Net Fare deal for all delegates travelling on THAI Airways flights to attend the event in Phuket, Thailand.

Delegates who want to take advantage of this offer of special air fares should contact their local Thai Airways International office (please visit <http://www.thaiairways.com/> for details of your nearest such office) as soon as possible and state:-

1. The event name - The World Congress of Malacology, 2010
2. The event code- TG1007014
3. Provide (if booking flights) a confirmation letter of registration, or registration form, for the conference.

Please note that bookings under this special offer Best Net Fare deal for the congress can only be done through Thai Airways International offices (see <http://www.thaiairways.com> for the location and contact details of your nearest office).

THE SCHEDULE

Sunday, July 18th 2010 - Evening Icebreaker

Monday, Tuesday - parallel sessions

Tuesday evening - poster session (including a reception with wine and beer, and traditional Thai herb beverages and sweets)

Wednesday - optional activities and excursions. Details will be available later and an extra charge will apply (around € 25 per person, delegates or non-delegates; meals and consumptions NOT included, unless indicated otherwise). There will be four options: Mountain Site, Sea Coast Site, Island Site, or Phuket Culture.

Thursday, Friday - parallel sessions

Friday evening - farewell dinner (at a venue on the Andaman coast)

All scientific sessions will be held in the conference rooms in the Royal Phuket City Hotel.

THE SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

At the meeting in Phuket there will be thematic symposia, open contributed sessions and a poster session with posters on display for the duration of the congress. Note: there will be a maximum of 1 oral and 1 poster per presenting author.

The symposia organised are as follows:

Ecology, Evolution and Biology of Freshwater Bivalves

Organisers - Arthur Bogan and Randy Hoeh

The Biology and Evolution of Limpets

Organiser - Alan Hodgson

Evolution of the Bivalvia

Organisers - Rüdiger Bieler, Gonzalo Giribet and Paula Mikkelsen

Community Ecology of Tropical Forest Land Snails

Organisers - Dinarzarde Raheem and Peter Tattersfield

The Last 50 Years of Malacology: Specialization, Methodological Transformation and Globalization

Organisers - Robert Hershler and David Lindberg

Studies on Opisthobranchs Molluscs

Organisers - Manuel Malaquias, Juan Lucas

Cervera and Terry Gosliner

Emerging Molluscan Models: Biological Questions in the 21st Century

Organisers - Mónica Medina Sam Loker and Sandie Degnan

Evolutionary Ecology and Genetics of Molluscan Populations

Organiser - Takahiro Asami

The Systematics of Asian Land Snails

Organisers - Fred Naggs, Min Wu and Somsak Panha

Mollusc Aquaculture

Organisers - Zulfigar Yasin, Aileen Tan Shau-Hwai and Somchai Bussarawit

Countdown 2010: Towards a Global Freshwater Assessment of Threatened Species

Organisers - Mary Seddon and Will Darwall

Reproduction and Mating Systems in Hermaphroditic Molluscs

Organisers - Kurt Jordaens and Joris Koene

Speciation: Insights from Insular Isolation to Global Patterns

Organisers - Matthias Glaubrecht and Thomas von Rintelen

For more details and descriptions of the symposia, please see:

www.wcm2010.com/symposium.asp

OTHER DETAILS

Information is regularly updated on the Congress website

<http://www.wcm2010.com>

In particular please check under 'what's new?' www.wcm2010.com/new.asp

The organisers and the UM Council are looking forward to welcoming you to Thailand in July!



Secretary's Column

The beginning of 2010 brought home again how close we are to the Phuket WCM and a major item for the UM Council to consider lately has been the Travel Awards. This year, at the judicious but generous recommendation of our Treasurer, Council allocated the sum of €25 000 for this purpose – an increase of €5000 compared to the Antwerp WCM. This stems largely from profits made in Antwerp (thank you Thierry) and is I believe a record. In total we made 35 awards to applicants from 25 countries (31 awards from 18 countries in 2007). Unfortunately, since we had many more applications than we could fund, we were not able to help everyone – but then again, competition is healthy and a sign that our WCM meetings are viewed as important events. The great majority of awards were made to postgraduate students, in line with Council's belief in the importance of student participation at our meetings.

Now that the travel awards have been made, the next job on my agenda as UM Secretary is to get the ball rolling for the election of new office bearers so -

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND VENUE FOR WCM 2013

In an earlier newsletter (No 27), UM Council called for nominations for the positions on Council due to fall vacant in 2010 (President, Secretary, Treasurer and one Council member). Since we have not been flooded with nominations, Council has itself given the matter serious consideration and we are pleased to put forward the following nominations for each of these positions:

- President: Prof. António Frias Martins, University of the Azores.
- Secretary: Prof. Jesús Souza Troncoso, Vigo University, Spain.

- Treasurer: Council is delighted that Dr Jackie Van Goethem has agreed to stay on in his post for another term.

- Council members:

- Prof. Mark Davies, University of Sunderland.

- Dr Julia Sigwart, Queen's University, Belfast.

The nomination of **António Frias Martins** as President will mean that, if he is elected, then the **WCM 2013 will be held in the Azores**. António is a well-known and highly respected malacologist and long-time member of UM. He has considerable experience in organising conferences and will no doubt maintain the high standards set by his UM predecessors when he hosts the WCM in the Azores.

I draw your attention to the fact that since only one Council member's term of office comes to an end in 2010 (Guido Pastorino), we need technically elect only one new member. This situation stems from the fact that prior to the last General Assembly, we had to elect three new Council members because two, as normal, had come to the end of their term, but in addition Somsak Panha moved from Council member to President, creating a third vacant councillor position. This has created an unbalanced rotation of councillors (3:1 instead of 2:2) which is not in accordance with our constitution and has a rather disruptive effect on Council. So that we get back to a more balanced situation (and in line with our constitution), Council has proposed that we now elect two councillors instead of one, and two again in 2013. This will have the effect of giving us five councillors instead of four for the next three years, but normality will return thereafter. We hope that our members will be in agreement with this course of action. For these positions we nominate two individuals who we believe will make a valuable contribution to UM – **Mark Davies** because he will strengthen ties with the Malacological Society of London, and **Julia Sigwart** because she already plays an important role as our newsletter editor and webpage manager, and contributes significantly in terms of Council matters.

Please complete the ballot sheet on the last page of this newsletter and post, fax or e-mail it back to me. If you post it, you need not put your name on the ballot sheet itself, but please do so on the back of the envelope. Together

with the ballot sheet, I give also a brief résumé provided by each of the new candidates. Jackie van Goethem, as our longstanding and diligent Treasurer, needs no introduction.

On that note it is time for me to bid you farewell as UM Secretary, my term comes to an end in July and although there are still things for me to do, this is my last 'Secretary's Column'. It has been a most interesting and worthwhile job, and rewarding to have been able to contribute something toward UM's broader goals and the future of Malacology. Also stepping down from Council will be Thierry Backeljau (Past President) and Guido Pastorino (Councillor) and I thank them both for their contribution to Council and to UM in general.

Dai Herbert
Secretary

The ballot sheet is included on page 11. Please return to

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Treasurer's Column

Dear members,

The year of a Unitas Malacologica congress is always very busy for many people and as the UM treasurer there is no exception for me.

You could assist me very much in reacting promptly on my reminders for payment of membership and preferably even in paying your dues spontaneously. You may use the form 'payment of membership' which figures on <http://www.unitasmalacologica.org/membership.html>.

Donations to the Trust Fund are very much appreciated. They are key to set up activities to the benefit of PhD students and young researchers, in particular the 1,000 euros research awards, the congress travel grants and the congress presentation prizes. Over the three years period 2008-2010 these activities total more than 34,000 euros!

Finally I again have the pleasure to mention several individual donations to the Trust Fund received in the period August 2009 - April 2010: three generous donations by Rolanda Albuquerque de Matos, Georges B.J. Dussart and David R. Lindberg, smaller ones by Takuma Haga, Bishoi Kamel Hanna, Maria-Yolanda Manga Gonzalez, Jaruwat Nabhitabhata and Janice Voltzow, and round-ups by Vitalij V. Anistratenko and Jürgen Jungbluth.

Thank you all very much.

Jackie VAN GOETHEM
Treasurer

Books and Publications

THE BOOK OF SHELLS: A Life-Size Guide to Identifying and Classifying Six Hundred Seashells

M. G. Harasewych and Fabio Moretzsohn

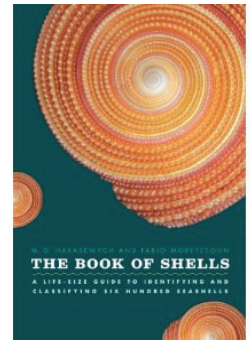
656 pp., 2400 color plates, hardcover cloth-bound 270 x 180 mm, published by The University of Chicago Press (USA, June 2010) and A&C Black (UK, July 2010)

Price USD \$55.00 or GBP £35.00; pre-order available from the publishers.

This new publication will set a new standard for shell books, artfully combining the styles of a field guide with the size and artistic presentation of a coffee-table book. The scope of the species included is world-wide, intended to give a flavour of the diversity and variety of molluscan shells. It is very much a book for shell collectors and general enthusiasts. Serious hobbyists and professionals will be impressed by the book but may find it of limited practical utility since there is no comparative aspect. The selection presents one of everything, usually selecting the most dramatic member of each family, so its intended purpose is not to aid identification of species.

The book is laid out with one species per page, literally showing a life-size image of the shell concerned. The pages also have very clear and elegant general distribution maps, a detail image of shell sculpture, and thorough and informative text about the species. In shell books, the text is always the feature that makes malacologists most wary, but many minds will be put at ease given the reputation of the authors. Happily the 200 words herein tell a little story about each species, often focussing on preferred diet and habitat of the mollusc in question.

Coverage of marine molluscan diversity is thorough; all classes excluding aplacophorans are given their due. There are frequent nods to the flexibilities of taxonomy: 'The Naticidae is a huge group covering the whole globe. subfamilies are divided according to the nature of the operculum, and there is a chaotic profusion of genera and subgenera, mirroring the attempts of malacologists to bring classified



order to over 200 species in the family.' And the species selection is globally distributed and not entirely tropical or Indo-Pacific. The Naticidae illustrates not only *Tectonatica violacea*, but *Euspira lewisii* and 11 other species. Although this is a shell book, the range of taxa includes not only the large, dramatic, collectors' favourites, but also includes a liberal scattering of micromolluscs illustrated with SEM images, such as another naticid, *Tectonatic pusilla*, from the Caribbean.

This book is aesthetic and accessible, and holds a wealth of information in 200-word morsels. It should be a valuable addition to any molluscan library and should inspire the curiosity of many new young malacologists.

MATTHEUS MARINUS SCHEPMAN (1847-1919) and his contributions to malacology - A malacological biography and bibliography

A.N. van der Bijl, R.G. Moolenbeek and J. Goud

200pp., 300 colour figures, hardcover 245 x 320 mm, Dutch summary (main text in English), published by the Netherlands Malacological Society

Price € 45.00 plus postage; purchased from Backhuys - euronet.nl/users/backhuys or Conchbooks www.conchbooks.de/

This publication contains about everything you might want to know about Schepman: his life, collection, library, national and international contacts, publications and also the taxa introduced by him and eponyms. Schepman is best known for his research on the shelled gastropods, which were collected during the Siboga Expedition (1899-1900). All taxa are illustrated, either by a picture or by a reproduction of the original figure. All plates from the Siboga Monographs are reproduced in their original size.

TREATISE ON INVERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGY - Now online!

The Paleontological Institute is pleased to announce that, for the first time in the more than 50 years since its inception, the whole of the Treatise on Invertebrate Paleontology is available in digital form (as searchable pdf

files) through the Paleontological Institute web site: www.paleo.ku.edu/treatise

[Please note that the website seems to be frequently unavailable -JDS]

For enquiries please contact Paul Seldon, Director of the Paleontological Institute, University of Kansas, Lindley Hall, 1475 Jayhawk Boulevard, Lawrence, KS 66045, USA. Email: [<seldon@ku.edu>](mailto:seldon@ku.edu)

As well as in hard-copy books, the Treatise is available digitally in a variety of forms:

1) downloadable pdf chapters of current volumes. These do not necessarily correspond to original Treatise chapters, but to coherent parts. The cost is \$30 per chapter for current volumes or \$20 for older volumes. Table of Contents, References, and Index are freely available for most volumes.

2) single CD of each volume. Available for current and out of print volumes. The cost is the same as for the printed book (but superseded volumes are available for \$30 per CD).

3) the entire Treatise series on a single DVD. All 50 volumes ever produced, including out of print and superseded parts. Own the entire Treatise in digital form for \$1,670. This is a saving of 30% on the printed book collection and also includes unavailable volumes.

4) the entire Treatise series on a collection of 39 CDs decorated with fossil images from each volume. All 50 volumes ever produced, including out of print and superseded parts: \$1,720.

Identifying Land Snails and Slugs in Canada: Introduced Species and Native Genera

F. Wayne Grimm,, Robert G. Forsyth, Frederick W. Schueler, & Aleta Karstad

168 pp., published by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency in English and French.

Identifying Land Snails and Slugs in Canada is targeted to academics, master gardeners, hobby collectors and CFIA and Canada Border Services Agency inspectors.

With the expertise of Robert Forsyth, the completed book is a comprehensive visual identification guide to land snails and slugs based on the life's work of Wayne Grimm, with Fred Schueler as editorial co-author and Aleta Karstad as illustrator.

For more information contact Fred Schueler bckcdb@istar.ca

Other Conferences

American Malacological Society & Western Society of Malacologists

San Diego, California, USA, 26-30 June 2010

The annual meeting of the AMS will be held in San Diego, California.

There are four themed sessions in addition to general talks, on: Biogeography of the Pacific; invasive species; Molluscan Paleontology 2010; and a student workshop on Genomic Tools for Molluscan Ecology and Evolution.

Pre-registration deadline for speakers: 12 May

Abstract deadline: 1 June 2010

It's not too late!

www.malacological.org/ams_wsm_2010/

2nd International Sclerochronology Conference

Mainz, Germany, 24-28 July 2010

Sclerochronology is the study of physical and chemical variations in the accretionary hard tissues of organisms, and the temporal context in which they formed.

Anyone working on or interested in the formation and interpretation of growth patterns in accretionary hard parts of **invertebrate** and vertebrate organisms as well as coralline red algae, their geochemistry and crystal fabrics or the underlying processes of biomineralization, should attend this conference. We also highly welcome contributions from people working with tree rings, speleothems and related bio- and geoarchives. Come to Mainz, share your thoughts and help to bring this fast-developing field forward!

The official language of ISC2010 is English.

Abstract submissions are closed but for late registration contact ISC2010@uni-mainz.de

www.paleontology.uni-mainz.de/ISC2010

Cephalopods - Present and Past (8th International Symposium)

Dijon, France, 30 August - 3 September 2010

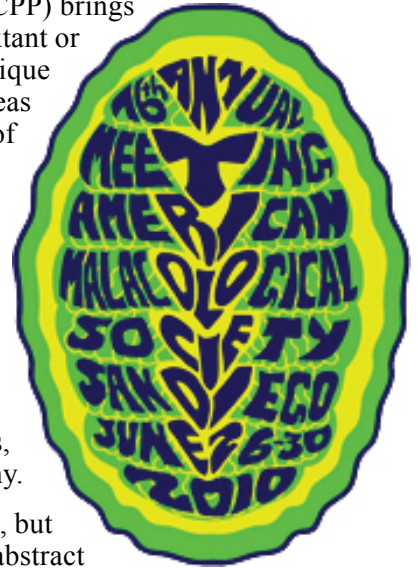
The "International Symposium,

Cephalopods Present and Past" (ISCPP) brings together all scientists working on extant or extinct cephalopods. It will be a unique opportunity for sharing research ideas and recent findings on all aspects of cephalopod biology and evolution. We strongly encourage young scientists to attend this symposium. Studies using cutting-edge techniques and original approaches are particularly welcome.

Dijon is the lively capital city of the Burgundy region, an area that is famous worldwide for its fine wines, gastronomy, and historical patrimony.

The abstract deadline has passed, but for late registration and possible abstract extension see

www.u-bourgogne.fr/cephalopods



Third International Workshop on Opisthobranchs (3IWO)

Vigo, Spain, 1-4 September 2010

The Third International Workshop on Opisthobranchs (3IWO) will be held at Vigo next year 2010, between 1-4 September. We are following on the steps of the previous workshop, held at Bonn and so successfully organised by Heike Waegle, Annette Klussmann-Kolb and Michael Schrodler; we hope that the new workshop is, at least, as successful as the previous one.

The organization board wishes that this workshop is a meeting point for students, researchers, and Opisthobranchia lovers. We would like to turn it into a forum where scientists present their newest results and findings, and also to facilitate students the access to knowledge, training and future working perspectives.

We look forward to your presence on September 2010 in Vigo, and enjoy the 3rd IWO.

Organising committee chair:
Jesús S. Troncoso (UVIGO)

Contact: 3iwo10@uvigo.es

For more: webs.uvigo.es/3iwo10/

Council Elections

The ballot is on the next page; please detach that page and return it to the Secretary, Dai Herbert. Below we include brief biographical sketches of the new candidates; most of the text was provided by the candidates themselves:

António M. de Frias Martins – standing for election as President

António was born in Azores and obtained his PhD at the University of Rhode Island (USA). Since 1995, he has been full professor at the University of the Azores and has specialized in the systematics of the Ellobiidae and the evolution of Azorian terrestrial Gastropoda. He is also interested in biodiversity and conservation in the Azores and is coordinator of the research group CIBIO-Açores. He has organized three international malacological workshops, as well as various congresses dealing with science and Azorian natural legacy conservation. He is President of Sociedade Afonso Chaves (scientific and cultural society) and editor of its bulletin 'Açoreana'. Has published over 60 papers on malacology, as well as books and television documentaries.

<http://tinyurl.com/UM-Antonio>

Jesús Souza Troncoso – standing for election as Secretary

Jesús obtained his PhD in 1990 at Santiago de Compostela University. His research examined the distribution and ecology of benthic molluscs along the coast of Galicia, and he continued to work at this university as Assistant Professor until 1994. He then moved to Vigo University as Titular Professor and is now Dean of the Marine Science Faculty. He has published more than 100 scientific papers about marine life, as well as books, book chapters and sections of natural history encyclopaedias – most of them on molluscs, and he has also served as editor of several malacological publications. He is a member of several malacological societies and served on the Council of the Sociedad Española de Malacología from 1996 to 2005. He has been a member of UM since 1991. Currently he works on benthic fauna, the biology and ecology of *Sepiolo atlantica*, systematics of Opisthobranchia, as well as the systematics and ecology of benthic molluscs from Antarctica.

<http://tinyurl.com/UM-Jesus>

Mark Davies – standing for election as Council member

Mark is Professor of Bioscience at the University of Sunderland UK and is the current President of The Malacological Society of London. He is a long-standing member of Unitas and has presented at every meeting since Tübingen, 1989. Mark trained as a marine biologist and almost all of his work with molluscs has been on marine gastropods, focusing on the production and functions of mucus, ecotoxicology and behaviour. He is keen to maintain and strengthen links between UM and the Malac. Soc.

<http://tinyurl.com/UM-Mark>

Julia Sigwart – standing for election as Council member

Julia is a lecturer in marine biology in Queen's University Belfast and the laboratory director of the Queen's University Marine Laboratory in Portaferry, Northern Ireland. She began her professional malacological career as a collections manager at the American Museum of Natural History (New York), and later completed her PhD while working as research coordinator in the National Museum of Ireland, Natural History (Dublin). Her research interests focus on the early evolution of molluscs, particularly Polyplacophora, and she regularly returns to British Columbia (Canada) and Washington state for field work. Since 2004, Julia has been the UM newsletter editor and also manages the UM website. Consequently she often speaks 'on behalf of' Unitas in answering enquiries, although up until now only as an unelected affiliate. Council believes that given her role as newsletter editor and website manager, it would be beneficial for Julia to have a more official position as an elected member of Council.

<http://tinyurl.com/UM-Julia>