In order to encourage and promote greater understanding and education with regard to the scientific and professional aspects of Palaeontology, the “Paläontologische Gesellschaft” (PG) and the “Palaeontological Society of China” (PSC) initiated a *memorandum of understanding* on holding a joint scientific conference in Göttingen of Germany in 2013. This is the first time that PSC and PG, the two palaeontological societies hold their joint academic conference on palaeontology. The theme of the conference is “Palaeobiology & Geobiology of Fossil Lagerstätten through Earth History”.

A series of scientific sessions, symposia, workshops, public lectures, the Sino-German fossil exhibition, as well as pre- and post-conference field trips will be organized in Germany.

The University of Göttingen, Germany, will host this first joint conference of the PG and PSC from September 23-27, 2013.

**ORGANISERS**

Paläontologische Gesellschaft Deutschland (PG)
Palaeontological Society of China (PSC)
Georg-August University Göttingen, Geoscience Centre (GZG)
Nanjing Institute of Geology and Palaeontology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (NIGPAS)
Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Palaeoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (IVPP)

**SPONSORS**

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
Niedersächsisches Ministerium für Wissenschaft und Kultur (MWK)
Georg-August University Göttingen
China Association for Science and Technology (CAST)
Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS)
The National Science Foundation of China (NSFC)

**ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

**Chairs:**
Prof. Dr Joachim Reitner (PG)
Prof. Dr Qun Yang (PSC, NIGPAS)

**Co-Chairs:**
PD Dr Michael Gudo (PG)
Dr Mike Reich (PG)
Prof. Dr Zhonghe Zhou (PSC, IVPP)
Prof. Dr Yongdong Wang (PSC, NIGPAS)

**Members:**
Prof. Dr Qiang Ji (PSC, CAGS)
Preparatory Organizing Committee:
Prof. Dr Ge Sun (PSC, Shenyang Normal Univ., Jilin Univ.)
Prof. Dr Jinnan Tong (PSC, China Univ. Geosci., Wuhan)
Prof. Dr Xiangdong Wang (PSC, NIGPAS)
Dr. Yaoming Jia (China National Expert Committee of Palaeontology)
Ms. Huachun Shan (CFPF)

Local Organising Committee:
Prof. Dr Joachim Reitner – Chair
Dr Mike Reich – Vice-Chair
Gabriele Schmidt – Secretary
Ines Ringel – Secretary
Dr Thomas Bode – logistics, computer technology
Cornelia Hundertmark – logistics, advertising
Gerhard Hundertmark – logistics, photography
Birgit Röhring – logistics
Dorothea Hause-Reitner – logistics
Tanja R. Stegemann – logistics, field trips

Scientific Committee
The scientific committee members include chairs and organizers of scientific sessions and workshops. This list will be completed in June 2013.

PD Dr Gernot Arp (GZG)
Dr Martin Blumenberg (GZG)
Prof. Dr Tao Deng (IVPP)
Prof. Dr Olaf Elicki (Freiberg University)
Prof. Dr Hongzhen Feng (Nanjing University)
Prof. Dr Eberhard Gischler (Frankfurt University)
Prof. Dr Qiang Ji (CAGS)
Prof. Dr Hans Kerp (Münster University)
Prof. Dr Jürgen Kriwet (Wien University)
Dr Cornelia Kurz (Kassel Museum)
Prof. Dr Guoxiang Li (NIGPAS)
Prof. Dr Hui Luo (NIGPAS)
Prof. Volker Mosbrugger (Senckenburg Museum)
Prof. Dr Thomas Martin (Bonn University)
Prof. Dr Doris Nagel (Wien University)
PD Dr Alexander Nützel (München University)
Dr Gudrun Radtke (Hesse State Office)
Dr Mike Reich (GZG)
Prof. Dr Joachim Reitner (GZG)
Dr Irina Ruf (University of Bonn)
PD Dr Alexander Schmidt (GZG)
Prof. Dr Jörg Schneider (Freiberg University)
Dr Günter Schweigert (Stuttgart State Museum)
Prof. Dr Shuzhong Shen (NIGPAS)
Prof. Dr Ge Sun (SNU/JLU)
Prof. Dr Volker Thiel (GZG)
Prof. Dr Jinnan Tong (CUG)
Prof. Dr Jun Wang (NIGPAS)
Prof. Dr Weiming Wang (NIGPAS)
Prof. Dr Xiangdong Wang (NIGPAS)
Prof. Dr Xiaqiao Wan (CUG)
Prof. Dr Yongdong Wang (NIGPAS)
Prof. Dr Yuan Wang (IVPP)
Prof. Dr Yuanqing Wang (IVPP)
PD Dr Frank Wiese (GZG)
Prof. Dr Gert Wörheide (München University)
Prof. Dr Shucheng Xie (CUG)
Prof. Dr Xing Xu (IVPP)
Prof. Dr Qun Yang (NIGPAS)
Prof. Dr Xunlai Yuan (NIGPAS)
Prof. Dr Renbin Zhan (NIGPAS)
Prof. Dr Zhonghe Zhou (IVPP)
Prof. Dr Maoyan Zhu (NIGPAS)

Preliminary Scientific Programme
The proposed symposia are listed below. The complete list of keynote lectures, convenors, and invited speakers will be supplemented in June 2013. For all symposia 1-2 keynote lectures as well as 2 (one from China + one from Germany) convenors. There will be also two special public lectures (one in German and one in English)

Proposed symposia (in parallel sessions):
1. Astrobiology & Archaean and Proterozoic World
2. Biogeochemistry & unconventional preservations
3. Molecular palaeobiology
4. Tempo and Mode of the Cambrian Explosion
5. Ordovician/Silurian boundary and Mid-Palaeozoic biodiversity
6. Carboniferous biota
7. Palaeozoic palaeobotany and palynology
8. Permian/Triassic boundary and mass extinctions
9. Triassic/Jurassic transition biodiversity and palaeoenvironment
10. The Jurassic/Cretaceous terrestrial ecosystems
11. Mesozoic biota and ecosystem evolution of Xinjiang, NW China
12. Mesozoic and Cenozoic palaeobotany and palynology
13. Cenozoic stratigraphy and vertebrate palaeontology
14. Amber, chert, diatomite, and other exceptional windows into terrestrial palaeoecosystems
15. Fossil reefs – is the past a key to the future?
16. New methods of virtually and digital palaeontology
17. Future perspectives in palaeontology
18. Palaeontological museums and collections
19. Frontiers in geobiology

LANGUAGE

The official language of the joint meeting is English

CONFERENCE VENUE

The joint conference venue will be in Göttingen city, an old famous university town right in the centre of Germany. (Please visit: http://www.goettingen-tourismus.de). The conference sessions and symposia will take place in the lecture halls of the Göttingen University Geoscience Centre (GZG). More information can be found: http://www.uni-goettingen.de; http://www.gzg.uni-goettingen.de; http://www.geomuseum.uni-goettingen.de; Göttingen University and the Geoscience Centre (GZG)

PRELIMINARY CONGRESS AGENDA

September 21-23: Pre-conference field trips
September 23: Arrival and registration; Opening of the joint special exhibitions
Meeting of the executive committee “Paläontologische Gesellschaft” (afternoon)
Welcome reception & Icebreaker party (evening)
September 24: Registration, opening ceremony (morning)
Tilly-Edinger symposium (morning), oral presentations
poster session (afternoon); Group photograph (noon)
Public evening talk in German & reception
September 25: Oral presentations (morning); Mid-social programme (afternoon)
Congress dinner (evening, 7.30 p.m.)
September 26: Oral presentations (morning & afternoon)
Business meeting “Paläontologische Gesellschaft” (afternoon)
Business meeting “Palaeontological Society of China” (afternoon)
Poster session (early evening)
September 27: Special session “Future of Chinese and German Palaeontology” (morning);
closing ceremony; poster awards (noon); workshop A+B (afternoon);
departure (afternoon)
September 28-29: Post-conference field trips
ABSTRACTS
- As a presenting author you can register for a maximum of three presentations (one oral and two poster presentations)
- Abstracts for normal presentations (talks & poster): max. ~ 1000 characters text
- Abstracts for keynote or plenary presentations: max. ~ 2000 characters text
- Deadline for submission: July 15, 2013
- Can be uploaded after registration via conference website

PROCEEDINGS
- Will be published as special issues of the scientific journals “Paläontologische Zeitschrift” and “Palaeoworld”
- Deadline for online submission: December 31, 2013

PROPOSED FIELD TRIPS (dependent on interest)
All final prices depending on interest and accommodation (single or double room). After July 15, 2013, you will receive an Email with the final prices.

Pre-conference field trips:
1) “Jurassic Fossil Lagerstätten of Southern Germany” (Solnhofen, Mörnheim, Holzmaden, Dotternhausen etc.; marine ecosystem, invertebrates, vertebrates, plants) – 3 days (September 21-23, 2013). 320 – 460 €
2) “Devonian Fossil Lagerstätten of the Rhenish Slate Mountains” (Bundenbach etc.; marine ecosystem, invertebrates, vertebrates) – 2 days (September 21-22, 2013). 320 – 460 €
3) “Middle Palaeozoic fossils of the Harz Mountains” (marine ecosystems, invertebrates) – 1 day (presumably September 21, 2013). 70 €
4) “Early Cretaceous ‘Wealden’ fossils of Lower Saxony” (Münchehagen, Obernkirchen, Bückeburg; brackish/limnic ecosystem, vertebrates, tracks) – 1 day (presumably September 23, 2013). 70 €
5) “Late Palaeozoic plant fossils of Lower Saxony” (Piesberg etc.; plants) – 1 day (presumably September 22, 2013). 70 €
6) “Middle Triassic fossils of Lower Saxony” (marine ecosystems) – 1 day (presumably September 23, 2013). 60 €

Post-conference field trips:
7) “Tertiary plant Fossil Lagerstätten of Saxonia” (terrestrial/limnic ecosystems, plants) – 3 days (September 27-29, 2013). 320 – 460 €
8) “Eocene and Oligocene limnic Fossil Lagerstätten of Hesse and Rhineland-Palatinate” (Messel, Enspel, vertebrates, plants, invertebrates) – 2 days (September 28-29, 2013). 210 – 300 €
9) “Late Cretaceous marine fossils of Lower Saxony” (Höver, Misburg; marine ecosystems, invertebrates, vertebrates) – 1 day (presumably September 28, 2013). 60 €
10) “Permian reefs of Lower Saxony and Thuringia” (marine ecosystems; invertebrates) – 1 day (presumably September 28, 2013). 60 €

SOCIAL PROGRAMME (September 25, 2013 – depending on interest):
1) “Guided city tour” – Göttingen (~1.5 h; min. 15, max. 25 participants). 10 €
2) “Guided visit of Saline Luisenhall” – Göttingen (~1.5 h; max. 20 participants). 15 €
3) “Guided city underground tour” – Göttingen (~1.5 h; min. 10, max. 15 participants). 15 €
4) “Visit of a beer brewery (incl. tasting and transport)” – Einbeck (afternoon; min. 20 participants). 35 €
5) “Visit of a schnapps distillery (incl. tasting and transport)” – Hardenberg (afternoon; min. 10 participants). 35 €
6) “Visit and guided city tour” – Goslar, a UNESCO World Heritage Site (afternoon; for guided city tour min. 10 participants, max. 20 participants). 30 €

AWARDS
- Poster awards
- Tilly-Edinger award of the “Paläontologische Gesellschaft"
- “Young Scientist award” (for BSc-, MSc- and PhD-students) of the presidents of the "Paläontologische Gesellschaft" and the "Palaeontological Society of China" for two young scientist (Germany and P.R. China)
- 20 travel grants for German (10) and Chinese (10) (active) students (granting based on abstract of oral/poster presentation; attendees have to be first author)

TRAVEL

Göttingen is linked to Frankfurt International Airport by InterCityExpress (ICE) and InterRegio (IR) trains (DB Bahn; www.bahn.de). Trains run twice every hour to and from Frankfurt International Airport, located about 250 km southwest of Göttingen. Transfer time is about 2 to 2:40 h from Frankfurt Airport. Alternatively you may fly to Hannover International Airport, located 100 km north of Göttingen. This airport is connected by S-Bahn to Hannover central station ("Hannover Hauptbahnhof"), from where the fast trains take 0:35 h twice an hour / regional trains take 1:15 h every hour to Göttingen.

For international participants the transfer between Frankfurt Airport and Göttingen will be arranged by the organisers. Please book this with your registration.

ACCOMMODATION

Hotel reservations are the responsibility of the attendees. Following is a list of all accommodations (hotels/hostels) in Göttingen in distance to congress center as well as bus lines to take to the congress center; room prices are for single rooms per night, including breakfast.

The hotel location information can be either found from each hotel website or visit the city map of Göttingen via Google map search (see attached 1 for city map).

(1) Best Western, Hotel am Papenberg: distance to congress center ~700 m; 5 minute walk to congress center; room prices from 80 € to 90 €; www.papenberg.bestwestern.de

(2) Weender Hof: distance to congress center ~2 km; by bus: from station „Hennebergstraße“ with line number 12 to station „Goldschmidtstraße“; room price 49€; www.weenderhof.de

(3) InterCity Hotel: distance to congress center ~4 km; by bus: from station „Bahnhof“ with line number 5 or number 51 to station „Tammannstraße“ or line number 10 to station „Krankenhaus Weende“; room prices from 68 € to 95 €; www.intercityhotel.de

(4) Hotel Eden: distance to congress center ~5 km; by bus: from station „Neues Rathaus“ with line number 1 or number 2 to station „Weender Straße Ost“ there change for line number 5 to station „Tammannstraße“ or for line number 10 to station „Krankenhaus Weende“; room prices from 79 € to 169 €; www.eden-hotel.de

(5) Leine-Hotel: distance to congress center ~5 km; by bus: from station „Otto-Frey-Brücke“ with line number 5 to station „Tammannstraße“; room prices from 63 € to 73 €; www.leinehotel-goe.de

(6) Parkhotel Ropeter (Best Western): distance to congress center ~6 km; by bus: from station „Zollstock“ with line number 5 to station „Tammannstraße“; room prices from 91 € to 116 €; http://www.bestwestern.de/hotels/Goettingen/best-western-Parkhotel-Ropeter

(7) Novostar Hotel: distance to congress center ~6.5 km; by bus: from station „Zollstock“ or „Gotteslager“ with line number 5 to station „Tammannstraße“; room prices from 65 € to 80€; www.novostar.de

(8) Hotel Stadt Hannover: distance to congress center ~3.5 km; by bus: from station „Bahnhof“ with line number 5 or number 51 to station „Tammannstraße“ or line number 10 to station „Krankenhaus Weende“; room prices from 82 € to 102 €; www.hotelstadthannover.de
(9) **Hotel Beckmann:** distance to congress center ~4 km; by bus: from station „Ulrideshuser Straße“ with line number 5 to station „Tammanstraβe“; room prices from 38 € to 54 €; www.hotel-beckmann.de

(10) **Hotel Astoria:** distance to congress center ~2 km; by bus: from station „Lutteranger“ with line number 12 to station „Goldschmidtstraße“; room prices from 50 € to 110 €; www.astoria-goettingen.de

(11) **Hotel Garni Gräfin von Holtzendorff:** distance to congress center ~5 km; by bus: from station „Rudolf-Winkel-Straße“ or „Florenz-Sartorius-Straße“ with line number 13 to station „Bahnhof“ there change for line number 12 to station „Goldschmidtstraße“or for line number 10 to station „Krankenhaus Weende“; room prices from 35 € to 45 €; www.graefinhotelgarni.de

(12) **Hotel Rennschuh:** distance to congress center ~7 km; by bus: from station „Siekhöhe/Kauf Park“ with line number 5 to station „Tammanstraβe“; room prices from 49 € to 55 €; www.rennschuβ.de

(13) **Hotel Schiffer:** distance to congress center ~5 km; by bus: from station „Otto-Frey-Brücke“ with line number 5 to station „Tammanstraβe“; room prices from 65 € to 75 €; www.schiffer-hotel.com

(14) **Hotel Freizeit Inn:** distance to congress center ~9.5 km; by bus: from station „Dransfelder Straße“ with line number 5 to station „Tammanstraβe“; room prices from 103 € to 364 €; www.freizeit-in.de

(15) **Adesso Hotel Schweizer Hof:** distance to congress center ~7 km; by bus: from station „Siekhöhe/Kauf Park“ with line number 5 to station „Tammanstraβe“; room prices from 50 € to 155 €; www.adessohotel.de

(16) **Romantik Hotel Gebhards:** distance to congress center ~3.5 km; by bus: from station „Bahnhof“ with line number 5 or number 51 to station „Tammanstraβe“ or line number 10 to station „Krankenhaus Weende“; room prices from 119.70 € to 126 €; www.gebhardshotel.de

(17) **Hotel Central:** distance to congress center ~4 km; by bus: from station „Jüdenstraβe“ with line number 5 to station „Tammanstraβe“ or line number 10 to station „Krankenhaus Weende“; room prices from 69 € to 150 €; www.hotel-central.com

(18) **Onkel Tom’s Hütte:** distance to congress center ~7 km; by bus: from station „Treuengagen“ with line number 1 to station „Weender Straβe Ost“ there change for line number 5 to station „Tammanstraβe“ or for line number 10 to station „Krankenhaus Weende“; room prices 53€; http://onkel-toms-huette.homepage.t-online.de/

(19) **Hotel zum Stresemann:** distance to congress center ~5 km; by bus: from station „Rudolf-Winkel-Straße“ with line number 13 to station „Bahnhof“ there change for line number 12 to station „Goldschmidtstraße“or for line number 10 to station „Krankenhaus Weende“; room prices from 60 € to 120 €; www.hotel-stresemann.de

(20) **Hostel 37:** distance to congress center ~6 km; by bus: from station „Bahnhof“ with line number 5 or number 51 to station „Tammanstraβe“ or line number 10 to station „Krankenhaus Weende“; room price 32 €; www.hostel37.de

(21) **Youth Hostel Göttingen:** distance to congress center ~3.5 km; by bus: from station „Jugendherberge“ with line number 9 to station „Auditorium“ there change for line number 5 to station „Tammanstraβe“ or for line number 10 to station „Krankenhaus Weende“; room prices from 24.60 € to 30.60 €; http://goettingen.jugendherberge.de/Portraet

**INVITATION AND VISA**

For Chinese participants an official invitation letter for visa application to Germany is available. Please contact with PSC secretariat (psc@nigpas.ac.cn) for arranging this letter, and providing the name of participant, affiliation, title of your presentation(s) and duration of your stay in Germany for this conference and field trips. The organizing committee will then arrange this invitation and send it via PSC secretariat (psc@nigpas.ac.cn).
REGISTRATION FEES

For Chinese participants, the registration fees include lunch (canteen card), conference package, welcome reception, city bus card and conference dinner (drinks while conference dinner not included).

(1) Members of the “Palaeontological Society of China”: 160 €
(2) Non-members of the society: 200 €
(3) Student members of the "Palaeontological Society of China": 120€
(4) Non-student members of the society: 140€
(5) Accompanying person (including name badge, lunch and city bus card): 60€

Note: The registration will be soon opened online after June 1st, 2013 on the website of the Paläontologische Gesellschaft (http://www.palges.de/en/tagungen/joint-meeting-2013.html).

The Chinese participants are also encouraged to fill in the registration form in the end of this circular and send it to PSC secretariat (psc@nigpas.ac.cn) for confirmation of the PSC membership status.

OPTIONAL FEES

- Airport transfer (Frankfurt – Göttingen; Sept. 20, 2013 or September 23, 2013): 80 €
- Airport transfer (Göttingen – Frankfurt; Sept. 27, 2013 or September 30, 2013): 80 €

DEADLINES & IMPORTANT DATES

- Second circular distribution: June 1, 2013
- Third circular distribution: July 15, 2013
- Abstract submission: July 15, 2013
- Last deadline registration and payment: September 01, 2013
- Fourth and final circular distribution: September 15, 2013

CONTACT INFORMATION

Conference Office
Ms Gabriele Schmidt
Dept. Geobiology, Geoscience Center, University of Göttingen
Goldschmidtstr. 3, 37077 Göttingen, Germany
Phone: +49-(0)551-39 7951; Fax: +49-(0)551-39 7918
Email: sekretariat.geobiologie@geo.uni-goettingen.de

Paläontologische Gesellschaft
Ms Tina Schlüter
Weismüllerstr. 45; 60314 Frankfurt am Main; Germany
Phone: +49-(0)69-400 3019 71; Fax: +49-(0) 69-400 3019 74
Email: geschaeftsstelle@palges.de

Palaeontological Society of China
Mr TANG Yugang (唐玉刚); Dr. Wang Bo (王博)
No. 39 East Beijing Road; Nanjing Institute of Geology & Palaeontology, CAS
Nanjing, 210008, CHINA
Phone: +86 (0)25-8335 7026
Email: psc@nigpas.ac.cn

Note: The Chinese participants are encouraged to contact directly with PSC secretariat (psc@nigpas.ac.cn) so as to confirm the PSC membership status.

注：中方参会者，请首先与中国古生物学会秘书处联系（包括填写附录的注册回执表）(psc@nigpas.ac.cn)，以便尽快确认您的学会会员资格等信息。
Attachment 1. City map of Göttingen showing conference venue at Geoscience Canter (Museum für Geologie) and the location of some hotels (for more details, please search via Google map)
Attachment 2. Pre-registration and reply form for Chinese participants (中方参会者注册表回执表)

Joint conference of the “Palaeontological Society of China” and the “Paläontologische Gesellschaft” on “Palaeobiology & Geobiology of Fossil Lagerstätten through Earth History”

September 23-27, 2013, Göttingen, Germany

PRE-REGISTRATION & REPLY FORM FOR CHINESE PARTICIPANTS

中文姓名: _____________________
英文姓名: FAMILY NAME (last name):________________________ FIRST NAME (s):____
TITLE OR POSITION:________________________________________ NATIONALITY:________
MALE (  ) FEMALE (  ) (please mark with √)
INSTITUTION:________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
ADDRESS: ____________________________________________________________________
City:________________________ Post Cord:________________________ Country:____________
E-mail: ______________________ Tel:________________________ Fax:____________________

■ I plan to register as(Please select and mark with √):
(1) Formal Participant with PSC membership 160 € (  );
(1) Formal Participant without membership  200 € (  )
(3) A student participant with PSC membership 120 € (  )
(4) A student participant without membership 140 € (  )

■ I am interested in giving a:
□ Oral presentation with full title, session number preferred:
________________________________________________________

□ Poster presentation with full title, session preferred:
________________________________________________________

■ I am interested in participating fieldtrip(s), number (    or/and    ).
________________________________________________________

■ I am interested in the social programme (number):
________________________________________________________

Other suggestion(s): _________________________________________________________

Date and Signature

PLEASES send this form by email attachment to:
Mr TANG Yugang (唐玉刚) or Dr. Wang Bo (王博)
Palaeontological Society of China
Nanjing Institute of Geology & Palaeontology, CAS
No. 39 East Beijing Road, Nanjing, 210008, CHINA
Phone: 025-8328 2138; Fax: 025-8335 7026
Email: psc@nigpas.ac.cn