



**Changing
palaeogeographical
and
palaeobiogeographical
patterns in the
Ordovician and
Silurian**

**University of Glasgow,
Scotland, UK
30 August – 1 September 2006**

Field Excursions 29 August & 2-4 September

**SECOND CIRCULAR:
REGISTRATION FORM & CALL FOR
PAPERS**



The Conference

This is the main meeting for 2006 of IGCP 503 'Ordovician Palaeogeography and Palaeoclimate' which aims to develop a better understanding of the environmental changes that influenced the Ordovician biodiversification, the end-Ordovician extinction and the Silurian radiation (<http://sarv.gi.ee/igcp503/>). The project encourages the application of a range of disciplines to understand the Ordovician and early Silurian Earth System and the patterns of biotic change.

Conference Location

The conference will take place at Glasgow University (<http://www.gla.ac.uk/>) in the west end of this vibrant and friendly city (<http://www.glasgowguide.co.uk/index.shtml>). The area around the University includes a great variety of places to eat and drink, the botanic gardens and the City Museum & Art Gallery and is a short journey on the Underground from the city centre with its many cultural and gastronomic delights. The city has excellent rail and motorway links to the rest of the UK. The nearby international airports are served by a wide range of carriers, including budget airlines. Glasgow Airport is 7 miles (11 km) from the University and there is an airport bus to the city centre. Prestwick Airport is 22 miles (35 km) away and has a rail connection to the city centre.



Information on how to get to Glasgow and schematic maps of the city and the campus are given at: <http://www.gla.ac.uk/general/maps/> The conference will be centred on the Gregory Building; D2 on the campus map.

Visitors to Britain from outside the EU should check with their travel agent about visa requirements for the UK.

Oral and Poster sessions

Two and half days (30 August – 1 September) of presentations are scheduled. Whilst the main emphasis of the conference is on palaeogeography and palaeobiogeography, contributions on any topic relevant to the aims of IGCP 503 will be welcome. There will be some open sessions and thematic sessions are envisaged on:

- Ordovician palaeobiogeography and plate tectonics
- Early Palaeozoic plankton
- Ocean dynamics
- Early Palaeozoic climate reconstructions

There will also be a joint session on the palaeogeography of Circum-Atlantic plates and terranes during the Early Palaeozoic with our sister project, IGCP 497 'The Rheic Ocean: its origin, evolution and correlatives' (<http://www.snsd.de/igcp497/>) for which contributions are also invited.

The language of the conference will be English. Most talks will be scheduled for 20 minutes (including discussion) but there will also be keynote presentations at the start of many of the sessions. Meetings of the Ordovician and possibly the Silurian subcommissions may also take place during the conference.

If there is sufficient interest, a selection of papers from the conference will be published as rapidly as possible in a thematic set in an international journal.

Field excursions

Please note that the number of places on these excursions will be limited, so book early to avoid disappointment.

Whilst every effort will be made by the excursion leaders to ensure the safety of the party, participants take part in the excursions entirely at their own risk and must take responsibility for their own safety.

Pre-conference – this one-day excursion (29 August) to the Southern Uplands will visit the Ordovician-Silurian boundary stratotype at Dob's Linn and the section at Hartfell Score that was one of the candidates for the base of the middle stage of the Upper Ordovician Series. The excursion will involve 6-7km of easy walking on hill tracks. A packed lunch will be provided.

Post-conference – this three day excursion (2-4 September) will visit the classic Ordovician and Silurian successions of the Girvan District and the Pentland Hills. The first two days will be spent at Girvan where the locations to be visited require only short walks on farm tracks or along the rocky foreshore. The final day, in the Pentlands, will involve walking about 7km on tracks and hillsides. The party will return to Glasgow directly from the Pentlands and should arrive in the city in the early evening of 4 September. **Delegates should ensure that if they are not leaving that evening, they should book overnight accommodation in Glasgow.**

Bed & breakfast accommodation for the night at Girvan will be in twin rooms in hotels and for the night in Edinburgh in single rooms in a recently refurbished student hall of residence. The registration for the excursion will also include packed lunches but not evening meals.

Social Events

The registration includes receptions, a whisky tasting and a mid-conference half-day coach trip to enjoy the scenery and the complex geology at an Ordovician terrane boundary at the edge of the Scottish Highlands. The last of these will involve 4km of gentle walking at the edge of Loch Lomond.

Provisional Programme

Monday 28 August 2006

Afternoon: Early registration for people attending the pre-conference excursion

Tuesday 29 August 2006

Pre-conference excursion to the Southern Uplands

Afternoon: Main registration and poster set-up

Evening: Icebreaker

Wednesday 30 August 2006

Registration, lectures & poster presentations; including joint lecture session with IGCP 497.

Evening: Reception (provisional)

Thursday 31 August 2006

Morning: Lecture & poster presentations

Afternoon: Coach trip to the southern edge of the Scottish Highlands; a complex Ordovician terrane boundary

Evening: Whisky tasting

Friday 1 September 2006

Lectures & poster presentations

Evening: Conference Dinner

Saturday 2 September 2006

Post-conference field excursion. Ordovician & Silurian of Girvan

Sunday 3 September 2006

Post-conference field excursion. Ordovician & Silurian of Girvan and travel to Edinburgh

Monday 4 September

Post-conference field excursion. Silurian of the Pentland Hills

Evening: Return to Glasgow

Meals

Buffet lunches for the three conference days in Glasgow and the conference dinner can be booked on the registration form. The west end of Glasgow provides a great variety of eating and drinking places at a wide range of prices for evening meals on the other days of the meeting. The city centre, 10 minutes away on the Underground provides an even greater choice of eateries and social attractions.

Accommodation

Delegates must book their own hotel accommodation in Glasgow. There is a wide range of hotels within walking distance of the University and several of those in the city centre are within easy reach of the University on the Underground. The University's Conference & Visitor Service Office offers a free Hotel Booking Service and their website includes a list of hotels (http://www.cvso.co.uk/accommodation/hotels/hot_intro.htm).

Climate

The average daytime temperature in Glasgow is around 12-14 °C in late August/early September although last year temperatures were several degrees warmer than this. The nights can be much cooler. Rain is always a possibility but bright sunny days are common at that time of year. Similar temperatures apply to the field excursion areas.

Insurance

All insurance is the responsibility of the participants. The conference organisers accept no liability for injury, illness, death or financial loss by anyone attending the conference or field excursions, whatever the cause. It is strongly recommended that overseas participants arrange their own travel, accident and health insurance.

Currency and Banking

As part of the UK, the currency in Scotland is GB pounds. Exchange rates vary, but at the time of preparing this circular (end February 2006), one pound (£1) is equivalent to about 1.47 euros and about 1.74 US dollars. The Scottish banks issue their own banknotes but English notes are equally valid here. There are several banks close to the University and have facilities for cashing travellers cheques and converting foreign currency into pounds; all have automatic 24 hour cash machines. The banks themselves are closed on Sundays and, in most cases, on Saturdays.

Accompanying Persons

There is no formal programme planned for accompanying persons but their registration will entitle them to attendance at the icebreaker, the whisky tasting and the proposed Wednesday reception and on the mid-conference coach trip. Lunches and the conference dinner can also be booked on the registration form.

Abstracts

Abstracts should be e-mailed to the conference organiser as MS Word or RTF files by **1 May 2006**. They should not exceed 500 words and should not include illustrations or tables. Please indicate the affiliations of all co-authors and the e-mail address of the senior author. Also indicate whether you would prefer an oral or poster presentation. Members of the Scientific Committee will decide on the balance between oral and poster presentations after the receipt of abstracts and reserve the right to accept or refuse any submission. Participants will be informed in June whether their presentation has been accepted for an oral or poster presentation. Lecture presenters will be informed of projection facilities and arrangements at that stage. Posters should be no larger than A0 (841 x 1189 mm) in either portrait or landscape format (please indicate which you require). If possible, please include a photograph of the author(s) on the poster to aid subsequent communication from its readers.

When sending your abstract, please indicate whether you are interested in submitting a contribution for consideration for publication in a thematic set of papers from the meeting. Note that in order to ensure quick publication, the submission deadline for manuscripts for such a thematic set will be in early October.

Registration

The registration form for the conference and field excursions is included with this circular. Please note that the **deadline for registration is 1 May 2006**. Late registration (at a higher rate) for the conference (**but not the field excursions**) is possible up to 7 July, but places may not be available at the conference dinner. The 1 May deadline for receipt of abstracts will be strictly adhered to.

There is a reduced registration rate for students and, as part of the normal IGCP arrangements, it is likely that limited funds will be available to IGCP 503 to assist participation by scientists from developing countries. Delegates intending to give an oral or poster presentation at the meeting who wish to apply for consideration for such support should contact Dr Thomas Servais (Thomas.Servais@univ-lille1.fr) **by 1 May**. Decisions on support will be made in May.

Payment for the Conference is by cheque in GB pounds drawn on a British bank and made payable to 'University of Glasgow'. If this presents major problems, please fax the completed registration form to the conference organiser as soon as possible (**before the 1 May deadline**) and he will arrange for an invoice to be sent to you and which should enable your bank to make an electronic transfer to the University of Glasgow. Payment by credit card is not possible.

Conference Scientific Committee: David Harper (Copenhagen, Denmark), Jun Li (Nanjing, China), Ulf Linnemann (Dresden, Germany), Axel Munnecke (Erlangen, Germany), Alan Owen (Glasgow, Scotland, UK), Rong Jiayu (Nanjing, China), Peter Sheehan (Milwaukee, USA), Thomas Servais (Lille, France) and Chen Xu (Nanjing, China)

Conference Organiser and Contact Address:

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