

reversed-polarity magnetic zone within the uppermost Sinemurian».

I take this opportunity to warmly thank all the members of the Pliensbachian Working Group whose contributions were essential to the completion of this GSSP project.

The next step will be the formal definition of the Lower and Upper Substages and their Standard Chronozones. To solve the problems of correlation between the different Regional Zonations will also be a challenge.

Some recent publications on Sinemurian - Pliensbachian ammonites and brachiopods:

- DOMMERMUES, J.-L., MEISTER, C. & JAILLARD E. (2004) - Ammonites de la formation Santiago de la zone subandine du S-E de l'Equateur (Jurassique inférieur, Sinémurien). *Revue de Paléobiologie*, 23(1): 355-371.
- DOMMERMUES, J.-L., MEISTER, C. & NEIGE P. (2004) - *Fucinieras capilliolusitanicum* nov. sp., une nouvelle espèce d'ammonite du Domérien lusitanien (Pliensbachien, Portugal). *Revue de Paléobiologie*, 23(1): 373-386.
- DOMMERMUES, J.-L., MEISTER, C., NEIGE P. & R.B. ROCHA (2004) - Endemic Sinemurian (Early Jurassic) ammonites from the Lusitanian Basin (Portugal). *Revue de Paléobiologie*, 23(2): 529-549.
- DOMMERMUES, J.-L., MEISTER, C., SOUISSIF & H. ABDALLAH (2004) - *Paratropidoceras* nov. gen. *numidianum* nov. sp. et *Tunisiceras* nov. gen. *insolitus* nov. sp., deux nouveaux genres et deux nouvelles espèces d'ammonites du Carixien de la Téthys méditerranéenne (Pliensbachien, Tunisie). *Revue de Paléobiologie*, 23(2): 463-475.
- FERRETTI A. (2004) – Dimorphism in some Domerian Hildoceratidae. *Revue de Paléobiologie*, 23(2): 463-475.
- MEISTER, C. & J.G. FRIEBE (2003) - Austroalpine Liassic ammonites from Vorarlberg (Austria, Northern Calcareous Alps). *Beiträge zur Paläontologie*, Wien 28: 9-99.
- RUBAN D.A. (2004) – Diversity dynamics of Early-Middle Jurassic brachiopods of Caucasus, and the Pliensbachian-Toarcian mass extinction. *Acta Palaeontol. Pol.* 49(2): 275-282.
- SATO T., HACHIYA K. & Y. MIZUNO (2003) – Discovery of a Lower Jurassic (Upper Pliensbachian) ammonite *Canavaria* from the Mino Belt at Neo, Gifu Prefecture. *Bulletin of the Mizunami Fossil Museum* 30: 147-149.
- VENTURI F., NANNARONE C. & M. BILOTTA (2004) – Eoderoceratidae (Mollusca, Ammonoidea) from the «Corniola» of the Central Apennines, related to the Sinemurian-Pliensbachian boundary in the Mediterranean area. *Bollettino della Società Paleontologica Italiana*, 43(3): 361-382.

[P.S. from ISJS Chairman: Named Substages, such as Carixian and Domerian are not recognised by ICS, hence use of Lower and Upper.]

AALENIAN WORKING GROUP

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Stefano Cresta has retired from the ISJS, after a period of valuable activities on the Aalenian. Under his coordination and collaboration, relevant advances on Aalenian research have been achieved, in particular the establishment of the Aalenian GSSP (in Fuentelsaz, Spain, 2001) and the revision of Gemmelaró's Jurassic ammonite collection (2002). Both successes result from a huge effort of coordination by Stefano Cresta.

As a specialist on Aalenian stratigraphy and convenor of the AWG, Stefano was particularly skilled in involving different specialists from distant parts of the world. Replacing him will be a hard task, so after the invitation that Nicol Morton addressed to me to be the next convenor of the AWG, I would like to state that the work to be done in the near future will depend very much on the effective communication between all the members, and on the cooperative work we will be able to do.

So, in coming years, AWG members should address the following goals:

- 1. to build a directory of AWG members for global communication, using CIT, to be available next Jurassic Congress in Poland (2006);
- 2. to establish internationally agreed subdivisions of the Stage;
- 3. to establish formal standard (Chrono-) Zones for the Aalenian Stage;
- 4. to keep AWG members informed on advances in Aalenian research, through the submission of regular reports to ISJS Newsletter.

Tasks two and three must follow Task one. Task four will be an ongoing one, but it will depend on the information that members can send to me. Aalenian researchers are kindly requested to contact me to work on the directory, as well as for any suggestions, information and comments.

As a first contribution to Task 4, an important work on brachiopod paleontology from the Lower-Middle Jurassic boundary of the Lusitanian Basin has recently (November, 2004) been successfully completed at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid (Spain), by Jose Benito Andrade González - "Los braquiópodos del Tránsito Jurásico inferior-Jurásico medio de la Cuenca Lusitánica (Portugal)", Unpublished PhD thesis, 252 P.

BATHONIAN WORKING GROUP

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The presentation of the French section of Bas Auran (data from both the Ravin du Bès and the Ravin d'Auran outcrops), in the Geological Reserve of Haute-Provence (France), is still under study and in preparation. New studies include additional collecting of ammonites in the Cabo Mondego outcrop (Portugal) are progressing. The new results should be

available for the next Congress on the Jurassic System planned for 2006 in Poland. A formal proposal of the GSSP is expected by the end of 2006.

References to new literature relevant to the Bathonian Working Group are listed below:

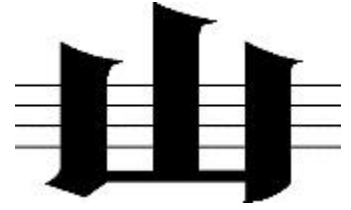
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CALLOVIAN WORKING GROUP

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There is not much new to report since last year. Writing up the formal proposal is still in progress, and for those many of you who find that they cannot meanwhile get on with anything else pending the final ratification of the PSSP (Primary Stratotype Section and Point) by the ICS, the good news is that the proposals have not been changed since they were set out in the volume of proceedings of the meeting in Vancouver in 1998 (Callomon & Dietl, 2000). Nothing stratigraphical has happened since to give cause to modify the proposals in any way - at least, nothing that has come to my notice. The Bathonian-



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NEW Website for the ISJS at <http://www.es.ucl.ac.uk/people/bown/ISJSwebsite.htm>

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