

Inside PAGES

During the past few months, PAGES has made some major steps towards securing funding for future activities. Discussions about the future direction of PAGES are still ongoing and the launch of PAGES Phase II, alongside IGBP Phase II (see Program News p. 6), is scheduled to take place at PAGES 2nd Open Science Meeting in Beijing, 10-12 August 2005 (www.pages2005.org).

PAGES 2nd OSM:

View the final program at www.pages2005.org/schedule.html. This meeting will be a milestone in the history of PAGES. Do not miss out on being a part of this important event!

PAGES Office:

Having served the PAGES community during the past year with reduced staff and limited resources, the IPO is looking forward to being fully operational again starting April, and to providing the base for PAGES II by the end of August.

PAGES new Director, Thorsten Kiefer, will be moving to Bern in April and taking over directorial responsibilities from Acting Director, Christoph Kull.

Christoph will then return to his duties as Science Officer, managing the newsletter, science coordination and networking activities. Leah Christen will continue to coordinate OSM planning and is afterwards looking forward to new science communication challenges arising from PAGES II activities. Selma Ghoneim will continue to be responsible for all financial aspects of PAGES and for ensuring that the IPO runs smoothly. Christian Telepski will be working on the setup and further development of PAGES IT services and a new-look PAGES website.

PAGES Newsletter:

The next issue of *PAGES News* will be devoted to the OSM in Beijing. Afterwards, our publication strategy will change somewhat and we will produce thematically open science highlight issues more often. Special issues will also contain a section for open contributions. Consequently, PAGES looks forward to receiving your submissions of

science highlights all year round. We also welcome program news, workshop reports and humorous tales from the field. To submit an item, follow the guidelines at www.pages-igbp.org/products/newsletters/instructions.html and contact Christoph if you have any questions (kull@pages.unibe.ch).

National PAGES:

We are pleased to report that our list of National PAGES is growing rapidly, with over 15 countries online. Already successful in the past, this tool will gain importance in the future as we link more and more national networks to the international PAGES community. Go to www.pages-igbp.org/national/national.html for more information on how to link your national activities to PAGES. If your country is not on the list and you would like to help set up national contacts and related web-information, please contact Christoph for further information (kull@pages.unibe.ch).



New on the PAGES Bookshelf:

Past Climate Variability through Europe and Africa

Richard W. Battarbee, Françoise Gasse and Catherine E. Stickley, eds.,
Developments in Paleoenvironmental Research Series, Vol. 6, 2004
 Springer, 638 pp., Hardcover, ISBN: 1-4020-2120-8, US\$ 159.00 / Euro 120

This book provides a major synthesis of evidence for past climate variability at the regional and continental scale across Europe and Africa. It focuses on two complementary time-scales, the Holocene (approx. the last 11,500 years) and the last glacial-interglacial cycle (approx. the last 130,000 years). An overview of the climate system of the past has never been attempted before on this scale and, as such, the volume represents a benchmark for future research.

It is written by an expert group of climate-change scientists and presents an insight into past climate variability that challenges climatologists who seek to explain climate dynamics of the past, and provides climate modelers with a work of reference for data-model comparison. The book is an advanced but very readable text, essential for all students and scientists interested in global environmental change.

This book represents the PAGES PEP III Synthesis.

