

RADIOCARBON UPDATES

Retirement

Jürgen Freundlich operated the Köln Radiocarbon Laboratory continuously from 1963 until his retirement in 1992, producing *ca.* 4500 ^{14}C dates, almost entirely (99%) on archaeological and paleobotanical samples, mainly from Europe and Africa. His work includes 300 dates on wood samples, which were of much help in constructing the North German oak chronology. The dating systems he built include two 0.5-liter proportional counters filled to 3 atm with purified CO_2 . With counter backgrounds of 0.7 and 1.4 cpm (modern standards 10.5 and 10.2 cpm), the system has an accuracy *ca.* $\pm 3\%$ and is well calibrated (oxalic value unchanged since 1973, offset max ± 10 BP in comparison with Belfast and Seattle). The counters can measure finite ^{14}C ages up to 44,000 BP. Jürgen is still active in ^{14}C research, giving regular support to his successor in the laboratory, Bernhard Weninger.

Relocations and New Laboratories

Walter Kutschera has left the Argonne National Laboratory in Illinois for the University of Vienna, where he is helping to develop a new AMS facility based on a 3 MV pelletron tandem, scheduled to begin operation in 1995/1996; it will be called the Vienna Environmental Research Accelerator (VERA). His new address is:

Prof. Walter Kutschera
Institut für Radiumforschung und Kernphysik
der Universität Wien
Boltzmannngasse 3
A-1090 Vienna
Austria

Tel: 43-1-31367-3500
Fax: 43-1-31367-3502
E-mail: walterku@pap.univie.ac.at

Laboratory Services

A vanadium-alumina-silica catalyst ($\text{V}_2\text{O}_5 \cdot \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 \cdot \text{SiO}_2$) is available for benzene synthesis in liquid scintillation laboratories. 100 g of the catalyst can produce up to 65 g benzene with a yield of 98%. It has been widely used for over 20 years by many ^{14}C laboratories. For detailed information, contact: Dr. Kh. A. Arslanov, Institute of Geography, St. Petersburg State University, Sredniy Prospect 41, St. Petersburg 199004 Russia.

Meetings

The **7th International Conference on Accelerator Mass Spectrometry**, co-sponsored by The University of Arizona and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, will be held in Tucson, Arizona, on 20–24 May 1996. This conference will focus especially on global change research, new AMS applications and new techniques; pre-conference workshops are planned on global change research and geological applications of AMS. For conference information, please contact:

AMS-7 Conference
NSF-Arizona AMS Facility
Physics Building
The University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona 85721-0081 USA

Tel: 602-621-6810
Fax: 602-621-9619
Telex: 187167 AZU TUC
E-mail: AMS@ccit.arizona.edu

The next biennial conference of the **International Committee for Radionuclide Metrology (ICRM)** will be held in Paris, France, from 15 to 19 May 1995. The conference aims to facilitate international cooperation and exchange of information on techniques and applications of radionuclide metrology. Principal areas of interest will include: alpha-particle spectrometry, beta-particle and gamma-ray spectrometry, life sciences, low-level measurements, radionuclide metrology techniques and nuclear decay data. Among the specific topics considered will be source preparation techniques, reference materials and calibration standards, detector development, liquid scintillation counting, internal gas counting and surface contamination monitoring. Deadline for abstracts is 1 November 1994. The Proceedings will be published in *Nuclear Instruments and Methods in Physics Research*. Abstract submission and registration forms can be obtained from the organizing committee:

Secretariat ICRM '95
LPRI
BP 52
F-91193 Gif sur Yvette Cedex
France

Fax: (33) 1 69 08 95 29

The **13th Congress of the International Union of Prehistoric and Protohistoric Sciences** will be held in Forlì, Italy, on 8–14 September 1996. Major conference sections will include a wide range of topics in theory and methodology, archaeometry, paleoecology, the Paleolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic in Europe and the Near East, and the prehistory of Africa, Asia, Oceania and the Americas. Archaeological excursions will be conducted to a variety of sites in Italy. Paper, colloquium and poster proposals with abstracts are due by 31 December 1994. For further information, contact:

Secretary of the 13th IUPPS Congress
Casa Saffi
Via S. Marchesi 12
I-47100 Forlì, Italy

Tel: 39-543-35725
Fax: 39-543-35805

Internet Resources

A new Listserv mailing list, C14-L, has been established as a vehicle for communication among researchers, students and anyone involved in work with radioisotopes and scientific dating issues. E-mail sent to the list address is forwarded to all list members, and messages from the list are archived and available for later searching and retrieval. To subscribe, send an e-mail message with any "Subject" heading to: listserv@listserv.arizona.edu. In the first line of the message (not the Subject), enter the following:

SUBSCRIBE C14-L My Name

replacing "My Name" with your full name, e.g., "Pierre DuPont". You will automatically be added to the list and receive an introductory message explaining how to send mail and set Listserv options.

RADIOCARBON's Gopher and World-Wide-Web servers are up and running. Both contain *RADIOCARBON* publication information on our journal, conference proceedings, special issues and books, along with links to other ¹⁴C-related resources on the Internet (software, searchable and full-text databases, etc.). Relevant addresses:

Gopher: [packrat.aml.arizona.edu](gopher://packrat.aml.arizona.edu) [port 70]
WWW: <http://packrat.aml.arizona.edu/>

If you have or know about other relevant Internet-based sources of information, we encourage you to let us know about them so that we can expand our links.