News From IUGS and Affiliates ...

● Commission on Stratigraphy

The April 1982 newsletter of the Working Group on the Palaeogene/Neogene Boundary reports that 19 members from seven different countries gathered at a meeting at Malaga University, Spain, April 14-15, 1982. The meeting and field excursions in the Granada area, organized by **Prof. Dr. J.M. Gonzalez, Dr. D. Lineares, Prof. Dr. E. Molina and Dr. F. Serrano**, gave an introduction to the lithostratigraphy and biostratigraphy of two sections (Navazuelo and Barranco Blanco) chosen and proposed by Spanish geologists as potential Palaeogene/Neogene boundary stratotype sections. This proposal suggests that the first appearance datum-event of *Globigerinoides primordius* be taken as a boundary level.

The Navazuelo Section is about 250 m thick and made up of calcareous white to yellow marls with intercalated calcarenites. Intraformational tectonics and the partial bad out-

cropping complicate the situation and the section would need extensive cleaning and thorough geologic-tectonic and lithologic study.

The 200-m-thick Barranco Blanco Section is well exposed and easily accessible. It starts with a transgressive sandy sequence followed by reddish marls with intercalated sands (Granada Formation) and terminated by a transgressive slumping-tectonic event marking the start of the greyish marls of the Espejos Formation. Heavy intraformational tectonics complicate the section. This section would also need an intensive geologic-structural and lithologic study.

The next meeting, scheduled for Milan, Italy, December 16-17, 1982, will focus on the various boundary stratotype sections in the Mediterranean area.

● ad hoc Committee on Sedimentology

The Committee reports that during 1981 **Dr. K.A.W. Crook** (Australia) became Chairman replacing **Prof. K.J. Hsü** (Switzerland) who had been chairman since the Committee was created in 1980.

The Committee, in consultation with IAS, has proposed two days of jointly sponsored scientific sessions to be held during the 1984 International Geological Congress, to be held in Moscow. The Chairman has initiated moves to expand the membership of the Committee to include more representatives from Third World countries. The problem of high membership costs in IAS for scientists in Third World countries will be discussed at the Committee's next meeting in August, 1982, in Hamilton, Canada.

Dr. Al-Hashimi (Iraq) has advised that the Arab Geologists Association is proposing a Congress on Recent Sediments of the Arabian Gulf region. Arrangements are being made to obtain a formal endorsement of this meeting by the Committee, which would be held in late 1983.

Preliminary steps have also been taken to develop a structure of working groups associated with the Committee. **Dr. J. Leggett** (U.K.) has agreed to convene a group on "Sedimentology of Convergent Plate Margins" and **Dr. P.R. Davis** (Australia) will convene a working group on "Modern and Ancient Reef Sedimentology".

● COGEODATA

Dr. H.A.F. Chaves, South America representative of the Commission on Storage, Automatic Processing, and Retrieval of Geological Data, has reported that the COGEODATA South America Committee consists of **Dr. V.R. Zorzin** (Argentina); **Dr. A.G. da Vinha** (Brazil); and **Dr. H.C. Diaz** (Chile).

Dr. Chaves reported that the second COGEODATA meeting for South America will be held late in 1983 in Buenos Aires. During this meeting the organization is planning to distribute two publications: Directory of South America Scientists Engaged in Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Applications in Geology and South American Bibliography of Geological Information.

● IPA

The 4th edition of the World Directory of Palaeontologists is to be published by the International Palaeontological Association late in 1982. Palaeontologists who would like to be included in this edition should contact **Dr. V. Berg-Madsen**, Department of Palaeobiology, Box 564, S-751 22 Uppsala, Sweden, for copies of the questionnaire needed for the entries.

● SGA

Dr. F. Saupé, Secretary, Society for Geology Applied to Mineral Deposits (SGA), informs us that the SGA has elected the following members for the period of April 1, 1982-March 31, 1983:

Honorary President: **P. Ramdohr** (F.R.G.);
Acting President: **G. Friedrich** (F.R.G.);
President: **S. Jankovic** (Yugoslavia);
President Elect: **P. Evrard** (Belgium);
Vice-President Elect: **A. Arribas** (Spain);
Secretary: **F. Saupé** (France);
Treasurer: **R. Holl** (F.R.G.);
Chief Editors: **H.J. Schneider** (F.R.G.) and **D.D. Klemm** (F.R.G.).

Five regional Vice Presidents include:
North America: **P.L. Monney** (Canada);
South America: **M.K. de Brodtkorb** (Argentina);
Asia: **E. Horikoshi** (Japan); and
Australia: **R.L. Stanton** (Australia).

In addition, 10 councillors were appointed for March 31, 1983 to March 31, 1985.