

International Geoscience Programme (IGCP) –
Official Closing Meeting of IGCP 653, June 2020



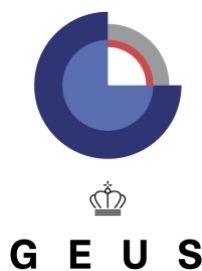
***A Baltic perspective on the role of the GOBE:
High resolution stratigraphy through early Palaeozoic ecosystems change***

June 8–12, 2020
Copenhagen, Denmark



The Middle Ordovician Täljsten interval at Degerhamn Quarry, South Öland

1st Circular





View towards the Palm House in the Botanical Garden, Copenhagen

The annual meeting of IGCP 653 in 2020 also marks the official closing of a very successful global work programme that through official meetings, field workshops and joint sessions at larger conferences, has taken us from Asia to America and from Africa to Europe and Russia. This has truly been five intriguing years that has brought together both young students, as well as experienced professional researchers from all over the world in conducting excellent research further documenting one of the greatest testaments to the history of life on Earth:

The onset of the Great Ordovician Biodiversification Event.

The official closing meeting of IGCP 653 in 2020 will be held in Copenhagen, Denmark. The main venue will be the Geological Museum, situated in the beautiful Victorian-style Botanical Gardens in the center of Copenhagen. Excursions are planned to key areas of southern Scandinavia that all represent classic successions in early Palaeozoic stratigraphy.

With the official closing of IGCP 653, the Copenhagen meeting seeks to place the GOBE in a broader context. We have now been exploring the roots of the GOBE for five years, but less focus has been on the consequences of this massive ecosystem change occurring in the Middle Ordovician. Although the main focus of this meeting will remain on the late Cambrian–Middle Ordovician, it is only natural to also look beyond this interval in the rock record so that we may begin to address possible future avenues – future IGCP projects – to explore. We hope this meeting will help facilitating this process and therefore welcome presentations from all of the early Palaeozoic, as long as they are GOBE-related.

We therefore welcome you all to **GOBE**nagen 2020!



Top: The Geocenter Complex at Øster Voldgade and the Main Building of University of Copenhagen at Frue Plads (Right)



General Information

[Copenhagen](#) is the capital of the [Kingdom of Denmark](#). Its history dates back a thousand years, ranking as capital of the country since the early 15th century. The city is a popular tourist destination as it offers [numerous](#) historical monuments, as well as countless cultural sites and events, such as the world's second-oldest amusement park, [Tivoli Gardens](#) – only second to the more than 400-year-old [Bakken](#), located just North of the city. With about 1.3 million inhabitants in the greater Copenhagen area it is by far the biggest city in a small country of less than 6 million people.

The conference will be jointly housed by the University of Copenhagen and the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland. The [University of Copenhagen](#), established in 1479, is the oldest university in Denmark and with its 40,000 students and 9,000 staff one of the largest in Scandinavia. It has fostered many great scholars through the centuries, such as [Ole Rømer](#), [H.C. Ørsted](#), [Søren Kierkegaard](#), [Inge Lehmann](#), and [Niels Bohr](#), and is currently the highest ranking university in continental EU ([Shanghai ARWU Index](#)). It is divided into six faculties, of which the faculties of Health and Science – each with more than 10,000 students and 4,000 employees – are the largest.

The Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland ([GEUS](#)) is an independent research and advisory institution within the Danish Ministry of Climate, Energy and Utilities, focusing on Earth systems processes. With a staff of ~300 employees, GEUS maintains a strong position in research and consultancy notably within geological mapping and associated compilation and data storage, but also advising government and private partners on subjects regarding monitoring, climate, energy, environment, mineral and water.

GEUS is closely affiliated with the University of Copenhagen through the [Geocenter Denmark](#) initiative.



The Geological Museum will be the main venue of the meeting

Venue

The technical sessions and social events will be located at the partner institutions of the Geocenter Denmark network, which include GEUS, [GLOBE Institute](#), [Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management](#) and the [Natural History Museum of Denmark](#). All are situated within a few hundred meters of one another on Øster Voldgade in the center of Copenhagen. Technical sessions will be organized in the main auditorium at the [Geological Museum](#), which is situated in the corner of the Botanical Gardens. Poster sessions will be held in an adjacent room to the auditorium, and there will be full access to the museum galleries for the meeting delegates. These galleries include exhibits on meteorites, classic mineral systematics, as well as a brand-new exhibition on dinosaurs opening in the Spring of 2020. The main feature of this latter exhibit is one of only two full T-rex skeletons in Europe.

Provisional programme

Sunday, June 7th – Icebreaker at the Kirkeby Rotunda, Geological Museum
Delegates returning from the pre-excursion to Öland

Monday, June 8th: Technical sessions in the main auditorium, Geological Museum

Tuesday, June 9th: Technical Sessions in the main auditorium, Geological Museum
and core workshop at GEUS

Wednesday, June 10th: Mid-conference field trip to Scania, southern Sweden

Thursday, June 11th: Technical sessions in the main auditorium, Geological Museum
and Annual Dinner in the evening

Friday, June 12th: Delegates depart for home, or the post-excursion on Bornholm

Pre-conference field excursion to Öland

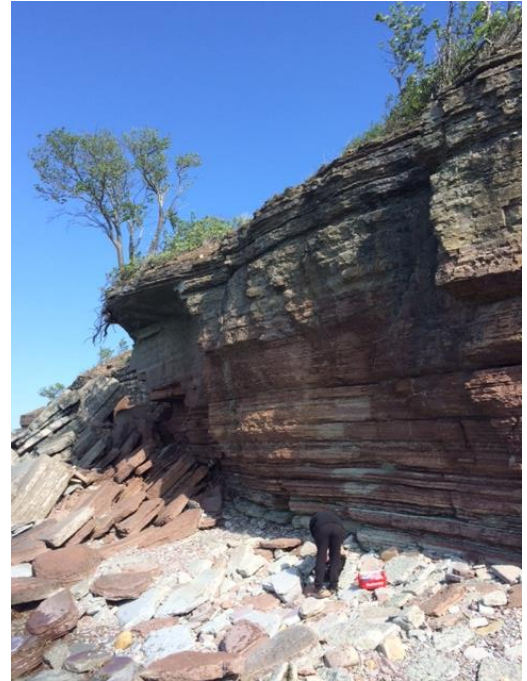
A pre-conference field trip to the Swedish island of Öland in the Baltic Sea is planned. Öland is a classic place to visit and to inspect the Cambrian–mid Ordovician platform deposits of the Baltoscandian region. This excursion will show the delegates the well-exposed Cambrian – Middle Ordovician succession on the island. The visit starts with the Cambrian siliciclastic and interbedded shale-limestone deposits (Alum Shale Formation) and continue with the Lower Ordovician strata composed of siliciclastic glauconite dominated deposits (Tremadocian). These beds represent the transition into the famous condensed platform limestone deposition (known as the Orthoceras Limestone; Floian to upper Darriwilian). The carbonates accumulated both in shallow- and deep-water setting starting with the Floian green-grey limestone and concluding in the upper Darriwilian red limestone. The deposits are among the best Ordovician representatives for cool water carbonate deposition and renowned for the high content of fossils (cephalopods and trilobites, some graptolites, among the microfossils are chitinozoans and conodonts well represented). The succession also displays the prominent changes in sealevel and palaeoclimate. The plan is to visit both the northern and southern parts of the island.

Duration: 2–3 days.

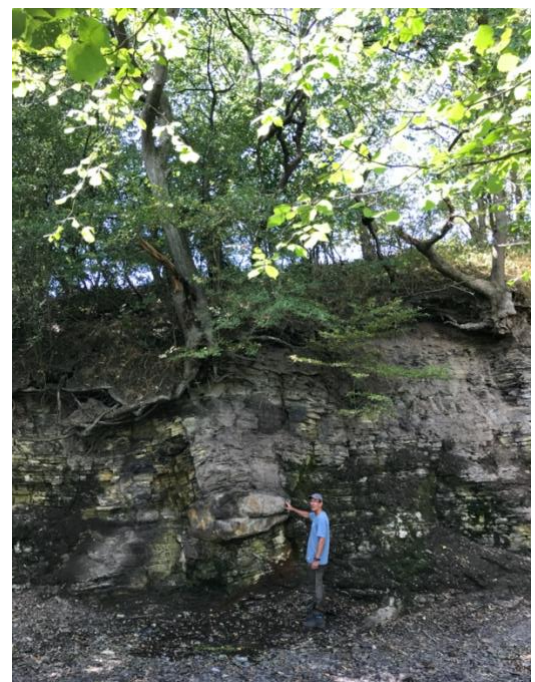
Post-conference field excursion to Bornholm

A post-excursion field trip to the Danish island of Bornholm in the Baltic Sea is planned. Focus will be on the predominantly siliciclastic lower Palaeozoic succession exposed along rivers and in quarries on the southern part of the island. The Cambrian succession reflects the globally rising sea level with transgression followed by deposition in progressively deeper shelf environments. The Ordovician is strongly condensed, partly as a result of deposition in an outer shelf setting far from the clastic source and partly as a result of local uplift in the Bornholm area. The Silurian is much expanded, being deposited in a deep foreland basin. Only the lower 170 m of the succession is preserved onshore Bornholm; the Silurian was probably some 3 km thick originally.

Duration: 2 days.



The Lower–Middle Ordovician boundary as seen just North of Horns Udde, North Öland



Late Cambrian shale deposits with anthraconitic limestone lenses, Læså, southern Bornholm

Estimated registration fees

We intend to have the costs for participating in the meeting ready for the 2nd circular, but expect a conference fee around €100–150 (not including excursions).

We note that students and young researchers are eligible to apply for funding through IGCP 653. Contact [Thomas Servais](#) (Project Chair), or [Christian Rasmussen](#) (Meeting Chair) for further information.

Conference publications

An abstracts- and excursion guide volume will be distributed upon arrival and registration in Copenhagen. This volume will be part of the series GEUS Rapport.

A proceedings volume is planned to be published in Fossils and Strata. We welcome manuscripts within palaeontology (including systematic palaeontology), sedimentology, stratigraphy and geochemistry. Deadline for this volume will probably be late Fall, 2020.

Travel and accommodations

Getting to Copenhagen is fairly straightforward. [Copenhagen Airport](#) is one of the main hubs in northern Europe, and is thus served by most airline companies. You may also reach Copenhagen via railway from Sweden and Germany with trains terminating at [Copenhagen Central Station](#). Public transport is well-integrated in Copenhagen and there is easy access from the Airport to either the Central Station, or Nørreport Station [every 5–10 minutes](#) either by [Öresundstog](#), or [Metro](#). The Botanical Gardens is located right next to the [Nørreport Station](#), which serves both IC-, regional-, metro-, and S-trains, as well as a number of bus lines.

Accommodation either in hotels or, for instance, AirBNB, is also easy. Nearby hotels include [Hotel Kong Arthur](#), [Hotel Østerport](#) and [Wake Up Hotel Borgergade](#), to name a few, but there are many others.

Important dates

November 8, 2019: 1st Circular issued

January 15, 2020: 2nd Circular issued

March 15, 2020: Abstract submission deadline

April 1, 2020: Early registration deadline

May 15, 2020: Distribution of Final Circular

June 8–12th, Conference

Fall, 2020: Deadline for manuscripts intended for publication in the Fossils and Strata conference proceedings volume.

Scientific Committee

Thomas Servais, Lille, France (PI)
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Organizing Committee

Christian Mac Ørum Rasmussen (Chair)
Tais Wittchen Dahl
Arne Thorshøj Nielsen
Svend Stouge
Nicolas Thibault

Contact information

Contact the organizers via [e-mail](#)

Detailed costs and registration information will be posted in the second circular distributed on January 15, 2020. As we would like to get a rough overview of the number of delegates potentially attending the meeting, we kindly ask you to fill in the preliminary interest form [online](#).