

# **Summary report to the closing ceremony of the first International Biopetrological Congress**

——Professor Ya-Sheng Wu, President of the International  
Biopetrological Association, general secretary of the Organizing  
Committee

**Dear delegates,**

Thanks to the efforts of all Organizing Committee members and attendees, the first International Biopetrological Congress is now coming to an end. On behalf of the Organizing Committee and the International Biopetrological Association, I would like to make a brief summary address.

The organizing work of this conference began in January 2023. I will always remember the cold day when Dr. Hongxia Jiang and I investigated the Wuzhouximei Hotel.

In addition to the efforts of myself and Dr. Hong-Xia Jiang, the organization of the conference depends on the joint efforts of the Organizing Committee members, whose names are included in the list of the Organizing Committee members in the Circular 1 to 4. I express my sincere thanks to them.

The invitations and arrangement of the oral presentations for the plenary and 13 sessions, the preparation and release of Circulars 1 to 4, the review, editing, and prepublication of the abstracts submitted to the congress, and the construction of the website were mainly completed by the members of the Academic Committee of the International Biopetrological Association and the Organizational Committee. The application for the approval from Hebei provincial government and the service work were completed by the teachers and graduate students from Hebei GEO University. My special thanks go to Professor Wen-Sheng Wu, Lecture Hong-Xia Jiang and all the members of the conference service work team.

Special thanks to Prof. Zuo-Zhen Han, Prof. Yong-An Qi, Prof. Jian-Gong Wang, Prof. En-Pu Gong, Prof. Ke-Fu Yu, Prof. Ming-Yi Hu, Prof. Zhi-Fei Zhang, Prof. Guang-You Zhu, Prof. Ke Pang, Prof. Qun-Wei Dai, Prof. Yue-Feng Shen, Assoc. Prof. Hua-Xiao Yan and Assoc. Prof. Yong-Li Zhang for their outstanding contributions to the organization of the conference!

Special thanks to Vice President Bin Wang, Director Zhi-Liang Dong, Vice head Ying-Jie Li

and Professor Wen-Sheng Wu of Hebei University of Geosciences for their excellent work in organizing the conference!

Special thanks to Hong-xia Jiang, the leader of the conference service work team, and all members of the team including Ao-Ran Liu, Wei-Ting Zhang, Lei Liang, Hui Fang, Tian-Tian Zhang, Rong-Qin Wen, Li-Na Wang, Yue He and more than 10 graduate students!

With the efforts of all members of the Organizing Committee, more than 300 people registered for this conference, and more than 250 researchers attended the conference. 20 invited oral presentations in the plenary and 98 oral presentations in the 13 sessions were presented.

Presentations at the conference covered a wide range of topics including biomineralization, fossil bacteria and algae and important Precambrian fossils, life evolution in Precambrian and Ediacaran-Cambrian transition, important reef-building organisms, modern and ancient reefs, modern travertine and travertine-type microbial rocks, ancient microbial rocks, genesis of dolomite and microbial dolomites, biological structures in clastic rocks, paleoceanographic evolution and formation of large mineral ores, black shale and source rocks.

Special thanks to the 20 presenters including Shu-Hai Xiao, Xi-Qiu Han, Robert Riding, Giorgio Bianciardi, Li-Yuan Liang, Dominic Papineau, Hong-Mei Wang, Juan Liu, Rachel Wood, Hai-Liang Dong, Gong-Liang Yu and Hai-Long Sun for their wonderful oral plenary presentations!

Special thanks to Jia-Wei Liu, Hua-Xiao Yan, Qiong-Fang Li, Fu-Dong Wang, Rui Wang, Ming-Tao Li, Ke Pang, Li-Jing Liu, Zhong-Wu Lan, Yong-An Qi, Jian-Gong Wang, Guang-You Zhu, Hong-Wei Kuang, Jusun Woo, Zuo-Zhen Han, Chun-Fang Cai, Dai-Zhao Chen, Xiu-Qing Yang, Xian-Guo Lang (in the turn of the session venues) and other 17 invited speakers for their wonderful presentations in the 13 sessions.

Thanks to the hosts of the plenary venues and the 13 session venues for your hard work!

Special thanks to Shu-Hai Xiao and Rachel Wood, two internationally renowned scholars giving excellent speeches on life evolution, to Xi-Qiu Han who gave excellent speech on weathering of the hydrothermal deposits at the mid-ocean ridge, to Robert Riding and Dominic Papineau for excellent speeches on formation of microbial rocks, to Professor Hong-Mei Wang for excellent speech on microbial dolomites, to Professor Hai-Liang Dong for excellent presentations on coevolution of microbes and minerals, and to Professor Juan Liu for excellent speech on microbial mineralization. Their presentations not only contributed a lot to the conference, but will also give inspiration and promotion to the development of biopetrology and related disciplines!

Special thanks to the experts of the adviser Committee of the General Conference for their support to the organizational work of the General Conference! Special thanks to Academician Shu-Guang Li for his specific help in organizing the conference!

As the initiator and main organizer of the conference, I was too busy to give the planned plenary

presentation. Here I would like to express my deep apologies to all attendees! I will make up for it by a later video speech.

As Professor Robert Riding and Professor Li-Yuan Liang commented, the conference brings together top experts in different fields to exchange ideas, which is one of the biggest features of the conference and plays an important role in inspiring everyone.

Some scholars attending the conference said that the environment and food service of the conference were the best in the conferences who have participated in. These assessments indicate that the conference was a success.

The conference is a milestone event in the development of biopetrology, and we are all delighted to have witnessed this important event.

Biopetrology is a new interdisciplinary subject with an important scientific position and a bright development prospect, which will have a very important impact on the understanding of the earth's structure and composition and evolutionary history of life. Therefore, she deserves the efforts of every scholars no matter who participated or not in this conference.

Every effort will pay off!

I would like to take this opportunity to call on all of us scholars and students attending the conference to work together in the future to build a better future of Biopetrology and the related disciplines!

Finally, on behalf of the International Biopetrological Association, I warmly congratulate the success of this conference, and wish all of the attendees to achieve one and one fruitful results in the future research work, together contribute to the construction of the disciplinary building, and together paint a bright tomorrow of the new disciplines.

—September 25, 2023, 17:30-45