

THE KEELE MEETINGS ON ALUMINIUM 1995, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005

FIRST AND ONLY CALL FOR PAPERS, POSTERS
AND EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

*Birchall Centre for Inorganic Chemistry and Materials Science, Keele University and
Centro de Investigación Científica de Yucatán*

Seventh Keele Meeting on Aluminium

Life and Living in the Aluminium Age

Saturday 24th to Wednesday 28th February 2007

Venue: Hotel Misión Uxmal, Yucatán, México

<http://www.keele.ac.uk/depts/ch/groups/aluminium/index.html>

ORGANISATION

The Seventh Keele Meeting on Aluminium will be held at Uxmal in the Yucatán, México.

The choice of this venue reflects the significant support of previous Keele Meetings by individuals from all over the Americas in combination with an excellent proposal by the local host. If you might be interested in hosting the **Eighth Keele Meeting on Aluminium in 2009** then you should contact Dr Chris Exley (c.exley@chem.keele.ac.uk).

The local host is the laboratory of Professor Teresa Hernández-Sotomayor (*Unidad de Bioquímica y Biología Molecular de Plantas, Centro de Investigación Científica de Yucatán, Mérida, Yucatán, México*).

The local host is responsible for the organisation of the **Conference Venue** and all aspects associated with **Conference Registration**. All enquiries on these matters should be directed towards Professor Hernández-Sotomayor in the first instance.

Local Host Contact Details

Teresa Hernández-Sotomayor

ths@cicy.mx

Armando Muñoz-Sánchez

arms@cicy.mx

Fausto Quintal

fausto@cicy.mx

Centro de Investigación Científica de Yucatán, Calle 43 · 130
Col. Chuburna de Hidalgo, Mérida Yucatán México

The **Scientific Programme** (see later) will be coordinated through Keele (c.exley@chem.keele.ac.uk) as per usual.

AIMS OF THE MEETING

There are more moles of aluminium in the Earth's crust than there are for all of the other metals of the lithosphere combined! The ubiquity of aluminium combined with its complete non-essentiality in biota defines a paradox and it is this paradox that underlies our research into the natural history of aluminium. The non-essential nature of aluminium should not be interpreted in the terms of a lack of biological availability or biochemical reactivity. Aluminium accumulates in every compartment and cell of every living thing on the earth and this burgeoning burden of aluminium is capable, at least, of myriad biochemical reactions. Biota are either coping or compensating for the biological availability of aluminium or they are giving up to aluminium toxicity as is the case in large areas of the Earth's surfaces which are acidifying due to human activities. We need to understand each and every one of the processes which are involved with the cycling of aluminium in the lithosphere, its subsequent transfer to the biosphere and the further cycling of aluminium in the biosphere. These are the aims of the Keele Meeting. They were the aims of the first meeting and, when the time comes, they are likely to be the aims of the final meeting.

Submissions of **new research** are invited in all areas of aluminium (and silicon) research including;

Aluminium geochemistry; including soil chemistry
Interactions of aluminium with micro-organisms
Interactions of aluminium in algae and plants
Interactions of aluminium with invertebrates and vertebrates
Human exposure to aluminium and disease
Analytical aluminium chemistry
Inorganic aluminium chemistry
Bioinorganic aluminium chemistry
Clinical aluminium chemistry
Aluminium biochemistry
Aluminium in biotechnology
Aluminium in food, cosmetics, drugs, vaccines, prosthetics etc.
Silicon in plants, animals and humans in health and disease

These are only suggestions. One of the key features of **Keele Meetings** is that there are no invited speakers and the **Scientific Programme** is entirely determined by the quality and breadth of the submitted abstracts for **Platform** and **Poster** presentations. The **Keele Meetings** have earned a reputation for the dissemination and discussion of high quality research. They are also highly informal and friendly events which help to foster new collaborations and new friendships within the disparate global aluminium research community.

We are all '**Living with Aluminium**'. Why not come to the **Seventh Keele Meeting on Aluminium** and tell us all about your experience with our infamous metal, aluminium!

Chris Exley

CALL FOR PAPERS

The **Keele Meetings on Aluminium** are organised to provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of **new and previously unpublished research**. Papers are invited in any area of aluminium research. The content of the **Scientific Programme** will as is usual for **Keele Meetings** be organised according to the nature of the contributed papers. The agenda will be set by the most timely research in the field. Submissions are sought for both **Platform and Poster** presentations. Both of these involve some degree of oral presentation. **Platform** presentations are allocated **30** minutes. Only **20** minutes should be used to present research. Each Platform presentation will be followed by a **10** minute discussion period. This emphasis on discussion is a key element of the Keele Meetings and **Session Chairs** will enforce these times with the utmost rigour! Participants presenting Posters will be allocated a **5** minute oral slot within an appropriate Platform Session to 'advertise' their Poster.

Prizes are available for the ‘**Best Postgraduate Presentation**’ (Platform or Poster) and ‘**Best Poster**’. All presentations, Platform and Poster, will be eligible for submission for publication in the **Journal of Inorganic Biochemistry**. The **Keele Meeting Issue of JIB** will be a regular issue of the journal (see for example, JIB 99, Number 9) and all submissions will be subject to peer review.

If you are interested in presenting your research at the **Seventh Keele Meeting on Aluminium** please send a **150 word abstract** of your presentation to Dr C Exley, Birchall Centre for Inorganic Chemistry and Materials Science, Lennard-Jones Laboratories, Keele University, Staffordshire, ST5 5BG, UK. Abstract submission by email (c.exley@chem.keele.ac.uk) attachment using WORD is preferred.

Deadline for submission of abstracts is 31st October 2006.
Please be prompt.

JD Birchall Memorial Lecture

In 2007 the JD Birchall Memorial Lecture will be given by;

Professor Tom B Kinraide of the US Department of Agriculture
at Beaver, West Virginia. The title of his talk is;

Personal experiences analyzing the interactive toxic and ameliorative effects of aluminum species and other ions

PRELIMINARY TIMETABLE

Saturday 24th February 2007

17.00 Registration and Poster Assembly

20.00 Welcome to Meeting / Welcome Buffet

Sunday 25th February 2007

09.00 Conference

13.00 Lunch

14.30 Conference

18.30 End of First Day

20.00 Dinner
Poster Session and Tequila!

Monday 26th February 2007

09.00 Conference

14.00 Lunch

FREE AFTERNOON

20.00 Dinner
Light and Sound Experience of Uxmal!

Tuesday 27th February 2007

09.00 Conference

13.00 Lunch

14.30 Conference

17.00 JD Birchall Memorial Lecture

18.30 Closing Remarks

20.00 Conference Dinner

The Scientific Programme will be finalised during December 2006 and will be posted on the Meeting website with all other relevant information.

www.keele.ac.uk/depts/ch/groups/aluminium/aluminium.htm

REGISTRATION

The **Conference** is run at cost. This means that the **Conference Fees** pay for the major costs of the **Conference**. All participants will pay the **Conference Fee** of **\$720** (seven hundred and twenty US dollars), **per person** for single room occupancy or **\$650** (six hundred and fifty US dollars) **per person** for double room occupancy.

Accompanying guests will be charged the double occupancy rate of **\$650** and will be treated as delegates.

Incredibly these are the same rates as were offered for the Sixth Keele Meeting in Portugal in 2005! No increase in Conference Fee since 2005!!

The Conference Fee includes **everything!**; **Registration; Accomodation (24th, 25th, 26th & 27th); All meals (Welcome Buffet on 24th of February to Breakfast on the 28th February) including the Tequila Tasting and the Conference Dinner; The use of all of the Hotel Facilities.**

Delegates requiring other combinations of accomodation and attendance etc. are asked to contact by email the local conference organiser Professor Teresa Hernández-Sotomayor (ths@cicy.mx) for an estimate.

Method of Payment

All payments must be made in US dollars (\$US) by Bank Transfer to; Scotiabank Inverlat, S.A., Account Number: 044910170013201490; Swift Code: MBCOMXMM (Bank Address is; Calle 54 No. 499 X 59 Centro C.P. 97000 Mérida, Yucatán, México) and in favour of Centro de Investigación Científica de Yucatán A. C. at Calle 43 No. 130 Col. Chuburná de Hidalgo C. P. 97200 Mérida, Yucatán, México. Please state your full name and address on the transfer and do ensure that any transfer charges are not deducted from the Conference Fee.

When the transfer is ready please send a copy by email (mayra@cicy.mx) or fax (52 99 99 81 39 00) to Mayra Alcocer Franco.

If you have any questions about payment then please direct these to Professor Teresa Hernández Sotomayor (ths@cicy.mx) immediately.

A small number of **postgraduate bursaries** may be available for students making presentations (Platform or Poster) at the **Conference**. These bursaries will cover the **Conference Fee** for shared room occupancy (**\$650**). Please indicate that you would like to be considered for a bursary when you submit your abstract. Please include a note from your MSc/PhD Supervisor confirming your status as a Postgraduate Student.

The number of places available at the **Seventh Keele Meeting** will be restricted to maintain the informal and friendly atmosphere that is characteristic of Keele Meetings. Please inform either Chris Exley (c.exley@chem.keele.ac.uk) or Tere Hernández (ths@cicy.mx) of your intention to attend the **Conference** as soon as is possible.

Please note that confirmation of your place at the meeting can only be made upon receipt of the Conference Fee and the Registration/Accommodation Form .

**The Conference Fee and the Registration/Accommodation
Form must be received by 10th December 2006.**

If participation is cancelled before December 31, 2006 in writing, the registration fee will be refunded with a reduction of 30% to cover administrative costs.

(Later bookings will only be possible at the discretion of the local hosts.)

VENUE

In 2007 the **Seventh Keele Meeting on Aluminium** will be held at **Hotel Misión Uxmal**, Yucatán, México.

(www.hotelesmision.com.mx)

This exceptional hotel is situated overlooking the spectacular ruins of the ancient Mayan city of Uxmal. It is approximately 78 km from the city of Mérida along the highway to Campeche.

Mérida, The White City, was founded by Francisco de Montejo in 1542 over the ruins of T-hó, an ancient Mayan settlement. During the colonial period, stones taken from the Mayan temples were used to build several churches and convents that can be seen in Mérida today. The weather in both Merida and Uxmal in February is very pleasant with the temperature ranging between 20 and 30 °C.

Other useful websites for the area include;

www.isourec.com/maya/cites/uxmal

www.yucatanoday.com

www.merida.gob.mx

TRAVEL

Arrival in Mérida and Uxmal: Merida is located in the northwestern region of the Yucatan Península. It has an international airport (named Manuel Crescencio Rejón) with daily departures and arrivals from Houston, Miami, Mexico City and Cancún. From the airport at Mérida the hotel at Uxmal is about

45 minutes by road. Please provide Tere Hernández (ths@cicy.mx) with the details of your arrival at the airport as buses will be provided for transportation to Uxmal.

Anyone wishing to stay in Mérida either before or after the meeting can take advantage of an exclusive offer for accommodation at Hotel Misión Mérida. Please contact Tere Hernández (ths@cicy.mx) for further details.

CONTACTS

General enquiries should be made to either Chris Exley or Tere Hernández.

Abstracts should be sent to Chris Exley.

Enquiries concerning The Conference Fee, Accommodation, Travel, The Venue should be made directly to Tere Hernández.

Chris Exley
Birchall Centre for Inorganic Chemistry and Materials Science
Lennard-Jones Laboratories
Keele University

Staffordshire ST5 5BG
UK

Tel: 44 1782 584080 Fax: 44 1782 712378

Email: c.exley@chem.keele.ac.uk

Tere Hernández

Centro de Investigación Científica de Yucatán, Calle 43 · 130
Col. Chuburna de Hidalgo, Mérida, Yucatán, México

Tel: 52 9999 813966 ext 227

Fax: 52 9999 813900

Email: ths@cicy.mx

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Get Ready for México!!!