



# Paleo Footnotes

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## President's Note

Erich Rose  
PSoA President

Did any of you attend the Oklahoma field trip? Since I was not able to do so, I am looking forward to hearing about and maybe seeing some of the fossils collected up there.

The May trip is yet to be determined, but we will hear from Ed Elliott on whether we'll be able to access the Midlothian quarry or some other fossiliferous site.

Our speaker this month is making a return visit. Last year he was all set to present, and then we showed up at the AGMS club house to find the power was out for the entire neighborhood. He has kindly agreed to return.

The auction was fun, and we will get a full financial report from Mike Smith as well. I understand, although it wasn't a record year, we did OK. It was a beautiful day and good fun.

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## Next Field Trip

Location: To be announced Tuesday at the meeting and e-mailed to Club members.  
Saturday, May 20

## Upcoming Meeting Speaker

Paul Hammerschmidt  
PSoA Programs Chair

This Tuesday, we have the good fortune of hearing from Dr. William Foster. He will discuss new benthic faunas and changes in the taxonomic and functional composition during the recovery following the late Permian mass extinction event.

Dr. Foster received his PhD from Plymouth University, UK, and an integrated Masters from the University of Hull, UK. Now working as a distinguished postdoctoral fellow at The University of Texas at Austin until November 2017. William is a paleoecologist primarily interested in the recovery of marine invertebrates following the late Permian mass extinction event. His research focuses on how subsequent environmental change following the late Permian mass extinction led to shifts in the recovery of the benthos and if wave-aerated settings provided a "habitable zone" allowing diverse benthic life to survive and recover following major climate warming.

The late Permian mass extinction event represents the most catastrophic extinction for the Phanerozoic associated with climate-induced environmental change. An estimated 62 to 74 percent of marine genera were affected by the crises, and global recovery was not recorded to have taken place until the end of the Early Triassic (Foster and Twitchett, 2014), a stage interval estimated at ~4.5 million years. Advanced recovery faunas have been documented from the Induan and there is evidence that these advanced recovery faunas disappeared due to environmental change.

See you Tuesday!

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## Next Meeting

Tuesday, May 16 – 7 p.m.  
Austin Gem and Mineral Society Building  
6719 Burnet Lane  
Austin, Texas

The purpose of the **Paleontological Society of Austin**, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is the scientific education of the public, the study and preservation of fossils and the fossil record, and assistance to individual, groups and institutions interested in various aspects of paleontology. Meetings of the **Paleontological Society of Austin** are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Austin Gem and Mineral Society building located at 6719 Burnet Ln. in Austin, Texas. The public is welcome to attend. Visit [austinpaleo.org](http://austinpaleo.org) for more information.

Annual Dues: \$18/individual, \$24/family and \$12/associate (non-voting, receiving newsletter) Send to: Treasurer, Paleontological Society of Austin, P.O. Box 90791, Austin, TX 78749-0791.

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