



# The 27th Midcontinent Paleobotanical Colloquium (MPC)

May 28-30, 2010

@ Frostburg State University



Frostburg State University  
101 Braddock Road,  
Frostburg, MD 21532-2303

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## Welcome

**New:** [Click here for a report after meeting.](#)

The **Midcontinent Paleobotany Colloquium (MPC)** is held in the spring, and is hosted by a different institution each year. This meeting emphasizes student participation in a relaxed and relatively informal setting. Although the format varies somewhat from year-to-year, there generally are social receptions, oral and poster presentations, banquets, field trips, and lots of personal interactions. Participants are mostly from the United States and Canada, but sometimes some individuals are from South America, Europe, and even from Asia.

**Previous Meetings:** 1st - 1983, Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, and then U. of Kansas, U. of Michigan, U. of Illinois, U. of Pennsylvania, Indiana U., The Ohio State U., Columbus, Michigan State U., George Washington U., etc. See the [list of the previous meetings](#) for details.

The 27<sup>th</sup> **MPC** will be hosted by Hongqi Li at Frostburg State University (FSU), Frostburg, western Maryland, USA, during the weekend May 28-30, 2010. Registration begins on Friday afternoon, paper presentations on Saturday, and a field trip on Sunday. See more details at <http://www.frostburg.edu/27thMPC/>

[Frostburg Weather Forecast, MD \(21532\)](#)

[See campus from the webcam on the top of Compton Hall](#)

More details on weather of Frostburg are available at  
<http://faculty.frostburg.edu/phys/latta/weather/>

Contact Hongqi Li at [hli@frostburg.edu](mailto:hli@frostburg.edu)



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**Program** (Click here for a pdf file of the complete program with abstracts).

**All activities will be on Third Floor in Compton Science Center in Compton Hall (CH)**

Date	Time	Location	Activities
Fri. 5/28	300-500 pm	Lobby	Registration
	500-630 pm	Lobby	Reception - Welcome Remark by Dean Dr. Joe Hoffman
	630 -		Participant may like to walk to Frostburg for food, movie, or visit some historical site, e.g., art store, the train station depot, etc.
	Lodging	Cambridge Hall.	
Sat. 5/29	730-830 am	CH 358	Country-Style Breakfast
	830-100 am	CH 327	Presentations: 1. Jud & Thomas – <b>Revisiting <i>Lepidodendron</i></b> 2. Gensel – <b>Something Devonian</b> 3. Wheeler et al. - <b>Is it Altingiaceae, or ...?</b> 4. Locklear & Mickle - <b><i>Taxodium</i> seeds of Pleistocene</b>
	1000-1030 am	CH358	Posters and Break
	1030-1200 pm	CH 327	Presentations: 5. David Nelson - <b><math>\delta^{13}\text{C}</math> analysis of single grass-pollen</b> 6. Simpson & Wing - <b>Testing Tiffney &amp; Mazer</b> 7. Phillip Allen - <b>EcoCount</b>
	1200-130 pm	CH358	Lunch
	130-245 pm	CH328	Fossil display and Presentations: 8. Elliot Weidow - <b>Is it an <i>Ephedra</i> species?</b> 9. Hongqi Li – <b>Enigmatic early angiosperms and gigantopterids</b>
	245-300 pm	CH358	Break
	300-530 pm	CH129	Demonstration of Low VA mode of SEM
			Or visit Discovery Center (1 <sup>st</sup> Floor), department & campus tour.
	530-730 pm	CH <b>237</b>	Banquet in Dean's Conference Room with a guest talk, " <b>Contrasting the trees of life and death in the resolution of embryophyte phylogeny</b> " by Dr. Gar W. Rothwell.
	Lodging	Cambridge Hall.	
Sun. 5/30	800 am		Meet at FSU Police Department for Field Trip, and return in about 2-3 hours. A lunch box will be provided for your brunch.



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## Registration

	<b>Before 4/16/2010</b>	On site
Professional	US\$80	US\$90
Students	US\$50	US\$60
Field trip	US\$10	US\$10

This fee covers registration, reception on Friday evening; breakfast, lunch, refreshments in the morning and afternoon, and banquet on Saturday. Field trip fee covers the breakfast on Sunday morning.

Please pay your registration fee and **lodging fee** (if you live on campus) together, using a check or money order.

Please download the registration form in [PDF](#) or [MS Word .doc](#) format, fill it up and send it with your payment (check or money order) to:

**Dr. Hongqi Li**  
**Department of Biology**  
**Frostburg State University**  
**Frostburg, MD 21532**

You can contact Hongqi Li by telephone 301/687-6168, Fax 301/687-3034, or email [hli@frostburg.edu](mailto:hli@frostburg.edu)



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## Dormitory Lodging

Lodging for the conference is available in the Cambridge Hall of Frostburg State University. All rooms have linen delivered to the room and they are air-conditioned. Since Frostburg will still pretty cool in the end of May, so you do not really need air condition and save some money.

Lodging Rates	Single	Double (1/2 room)
Conditioned Halls	US\$40 / night	US\$25 /Night
Non-Air-Conditioned Halls	US\$33 / night	US\$20 / nigh

Washers and dryers are available in each residence hall for laundering clothes. Smoking is not permitted in the rooms. Each suit has four rooms and one large lobby area that can hold dozen people for chatting after evening activities (see the right photo).

**Meals** will be served at Chesapeake Dining Hall. Normally food served include Pizza and pasta, salads and desserts, burgers and "the old familiar stand-bys", cereals, specialty bars and beverages are constant offerings. Vegetarian meals are always available.

There are also restaurants and bars on Main Street, within walking distance. Some of them (e.g., Eastern Express 301/689-5370) deliver food till 1-2 am.



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## Field Trip

A local field trip within walking distance will be arranged on Sunday morning to a newly strip-mined coalmine site annex to FSU campus. The area is excavated to about 30 feet or deeper with a lot of talus piled around. So it is very easy to collect freshly exposed fossil plants (e.g., *Asterophyllites*, *Sphenophyllum*, *Annularia*, *Lobotannularia*, *Lepidodendron*, *Calamites*, etc.) that belong to Conemaugh Formation of the upper Pennsylvanian. The fossil plants are mostly preserved in compression type, but if you are lucky you could find some petrified wood specimens (a two feet long log was found there a couple of years ago).

Click here to see photos of [some exemplified local fossil plants](#).

**New:** [Click here for photos of some fossil plants collected on April 4, 2010 from a local mining site](#).

For **geological information**, please visit <http://www.mgs.md.gov/esic/geo/allw.html>.

[View Larger Map](#)

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## Travel & Transportation

Frostburg is located near the highest ridge of The Appalachian Mountains in western Maryland. If you fly, we recommend you use IAD - Washington Dulles International Airport since FSU may provide transportation (if it is really needed) between the airport and FSU with tips to drivers (\$20 for one way, about 140 miles). If you need the service please contact us at least ten days before the meeting.

If you drive, it takes about two hours to drive from Washington DC, Baltimore, or Pittsburgh, or one hour from Morgantown, WV, and FSU is conveniently located approximately one mile off highway I-68. Take off I68 at Exit 33 to Midlothian Road to north that will change to Braddock Road. FSU is just about 1 mile on north, at 101 Braddock Road, Frostburg, 21532, MD.

You could also come from Washington DC and Pittsburgh by taking Amtrak to arrive at Cumberland, MD, that is about 10 miles from Frostburg. However, you may need to come earlier since it may be delayed beyond the scheduled time.

Frostburg has great mountain views and is very pleasant and beautiful in late May with normal high temperatures in the middle 70s. A local group of "paleo-guys" ([Hongqi Li](#), [Phillip Allen](#), and [David Nelson](#)) and other people are preparing for this conference and waiting for your arrival.

[View Larger Map](#)

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