



2006 Meeting Report Form Re: UNESCO-IUGS Contract and IUGS Supplementary Contribution

Project Number and Title: IGCP493, The Rise and Fall of the Vendian Biota

MEETING: The Elusive Ediacarans. Where Did They Come From and Where Did They Go?

Date: 28-31 January 2006

Place: Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan

Itinerary: Seto Marine Laboratory (south of Osaka) and Kyoto University Museum, Kyoto University, Japan

SCOPE AND RESULTS OF MEETING:

Scope of Meeting (program or outline of geological study)

To interface researchers in several disciplines to present ideas on the morphology, functional morphology, systematics of and investigate the environments in which the Ediacaran biota developed, prospered and disappeared.

Achievements of Meeting

Researchers (23+) representing a broad range of disciplines attended: invertebrate palaeontology, embryology, geochronology, isotope geochemistry, stratigraphy as well as modern biology. They were able to interact, debate and compare data. Ten presentations were made and a two day field trip to the Seto Marine laboratories was carried out to allow examination of living invertebrates. Countries represented included: Australia, Sweden, Japan, the USA, and Taiwan.

Outcome of Meeting

Full papers or extended abstracts from this meeting will be published either as part of or on line associated with the Geological Society of London's Special Paper (in press): Vickers-Rich, P. and P. Komarow, eds.. *The Rise and Fall of the Vendian (Ediacaran) Biota*. Accompanying this scientific meeting was a public symposium dealing with the origin of metazoans with keynote addresses presented by Prof. James Valentine (University of California, Berkeley, USA) and Prof. Patricia Vickers-Rich (Monash University, Melbourne, Australia).

Signature of Project Leader and Date Patricia Vickers-Rich, 25 December 2006