

## **Report of the activities of Lic. Roberto R. Pujana (2006)**

**Visited places:** British Antarctic Survey (one week, 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> october) and University of Leeds (Three weeks, 9<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> october)

### **Achievements**

#### *British Antarctic Survey*

The visit to the BAS on Cambridge allowed comparing my own collection of fossil woods from Seymour (Marambio) Island, Antarctica, which I brought with me (slides and acetate peels), with specimens from the BAS collection. There I was attended and helped by Hillary Blagbrough, Stephe Hunt and Alistair Crame. The collection of the BAS is probably the biggest collection of Antarctic fossil woods and includes several holotypes and paratypes that were essential to compare with the material I have collected in sediments from La Meseta Formation, and many specimens was assigned to those same species. They mainly include species of Nothofagaceae, Araucariaceae and Podocarpaceae.

#### *University of Leeds*

On the three weeks spent at the University, progress on the growth ring analysis of Antarctic fossil woods was made. Many photographs were taken with image analyzer software that permitted to measure growth rings with exactitude and rapidness. The measures and growth ring characters are used to interpret the paleoenvironment of the ancient forests of that age (Eocene). Prof. Francis and their collaborators that are working in similar subjects were consulted and helped me in many related topics and exchange of information was made. The familiarization with paleodendrochronologic techniques, resulted in the writing of a paper concerning growth ring analysis that was began with data collected there and is still on work, and will be sent to the Antarctic Science Journal.

### *Other achievements*

The large library of University of Leeds was consulted many times, and many old papers, unavailable in my country were photocopied, as well as PhD thesis of researchers of the University. Also many other books were consulted and this resulted in new bibliography unknown before.

### *Conclusions*

The project was very useful for the development of my PhD thesis, which I am writing and expect to finish by the end of this year, and for opening new topics of research.

Finally, I would like to thank the BAS for the funds and for the attention of all the researchers I met during the project that will surely result in several collaborations.

### **Expended budget**

£ 700 Round-trip Buenos Aires to Madrid

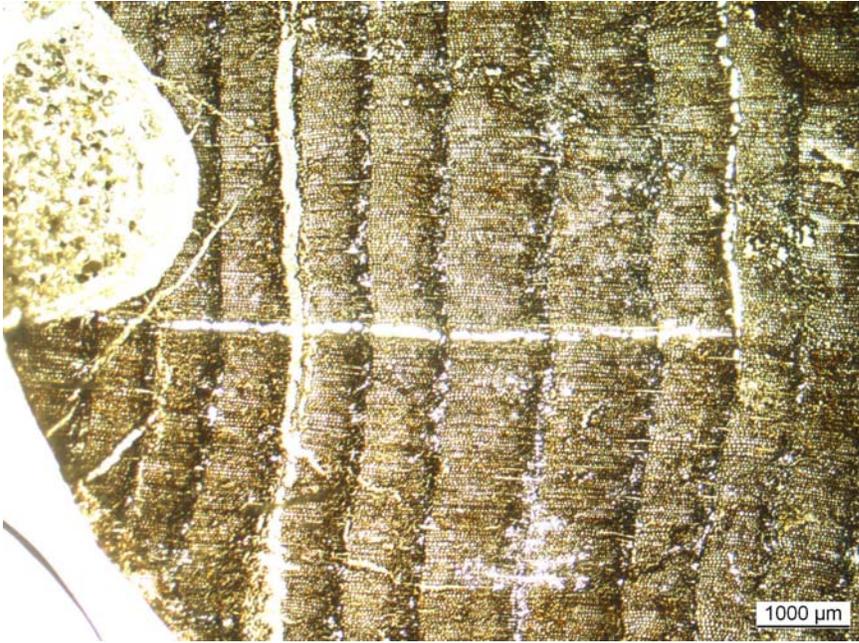
£ 100 Round-trip Madrid to London

£ 120 Round-trip train tickets from London to Leeds and Cambridge

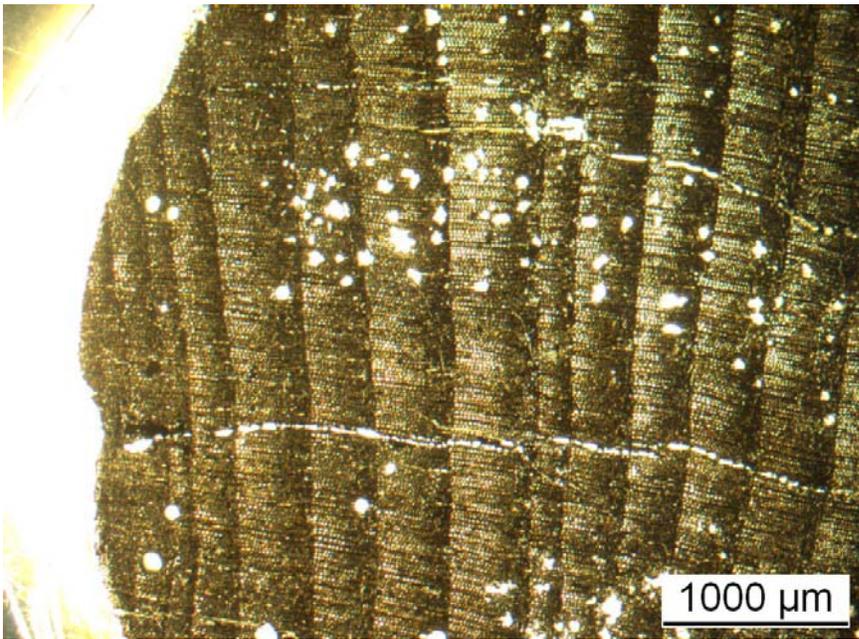
£ 1000 (£ 35 per day for accommodation, food, travelcards, etc. for all the month)

£ 150 office support and taxes for the check exchange

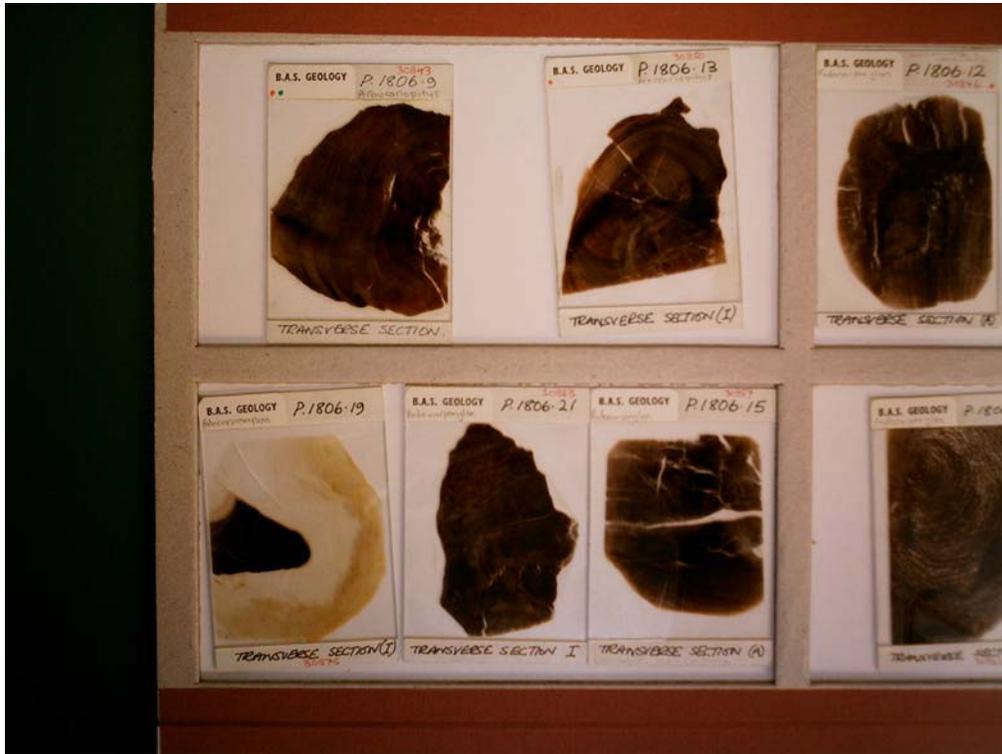
Total: £ 2070



Photograph of growth rings



Photograph of growth rings



Some specimens consulted in the BAS

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