

The Nordic Sedimentary Research Group Newsletter

No. IV - December 2021

NEW THIS ISSUE

NSRG AGM 2022 | New Geo Profiles: Sedimentologika & Manon van Goethem | Workshops

Dear members of the Nordic Sedimentary Research Group,

As 2021 draws to close, the committee is busy planning the upcoming General Assembly Meeting in Stavanger on the 9th and 10th of March, 2022. We are currently planning for a physical meeting - fingers crossed - and hope to see many of you there. Additionally, several interesting interviews with sedimentologists affiliated to the Nordic countries are freshly published on our website and more are yet to come in the near future. Other small updates are listed below.



Hope you all are hanging in there. Enjoy a well-deserved Christmas break and hope to see many of you in the new year with recharged batteries.

On behalf of the NSRG committee,

Anna van Yperen, Secretary

The NSRG is sponsored by:





NSRG AGM 2022

“Source to Sink - the flux and fate of sediment”

General Assembly Meeting 9-10th March 2022

Traditionally, the AGM of the NSRG is held in the vicinity of the Norsk Geologisk Forening (NGF) Winter Meeting. However this year, the Nordic Geological Winter Meeting is held in Iceland and includes multi-day field excursions. Therefore, we have decided – as an exception – to run the AGM as a separate event. This idea is supported by our wish to host an event (and dinner!) that creates ample time to network and mingle after such a long period dominated by digital meetings. Participation – including lunches and dinner – is **free of charge for NSRG members**. Registration is required before the 1st of March. Sign up by clicking the link below.

On Wednesday 9th, we will have an interesting program with several **keynote speakers** from both inside and outside the Nordic countries. The common theme “*Source to Sink – the flux and fate of sediment*” accommodates a broad variety of topics aiming to have something of interest to everyone. In the afternoon, we will have the **AGM**. This will include an update on the financial situation, vote on any issues raised by members or the committee and a discussion regarding the NSRG’s direction for the future. We will finish the day with a luxurious dinner.

On Thursday 10th, the program consists of an **alternative and interactive core viewing** session. Rather than the common ‘show and tell’, the set up will instead encourage different interpretations and discussion amongst participants. The particularities of the selected Blasto core are expected to be a feast for our sedimentological eyes and trigger our knowledge about sedimentary processes and depositional environments. In a parallel session, we invite you to join us on a virtual fieldtrip to see extraordinary 3D outcrops!

Start: Wednesday 9th, 11 AM, NPD Stavanger, Tor room. Keynote Speakers – AGM – dinner

End: Thursday 10th, 11 AM – 3PM: Core Viewing and Virtual Field Trip

A detailed program will be published on the NSRG website in February.

Note: In case COVID-restrictions force us to cancel this in-person meeting, we will run a one-day online event on Wednesday 9th March with presentations by the keynote speakers followed by the AGM. The NSRG will closely follow government guidelines and will align the format of the AGM to the regulations that apply at the time and communicate this with our members.

[**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE NSRG AGM 2021!**](#)





New Geo Profiles: Valentin Zuchuat introduces *Sedimentologica* and Manon van Goethem tells us about life as a groundwater explorationist

With a (relatively) new section on our website, we intend to celebrate the individual geoscientist working on sedimentology in the Nordic region or other initiatives the NSRG supports. We provide a sneak-peak of the brand new interviews here in the newsletter. Meet Valentin Zuchuat, involved in launching the new diamond open access journal *Sedimentologica*, and following this, Manon van Goethem, a sedimentologist who found a job in Oslo, outside academia and the petroleum industry.

Valentin Zuchuat – A new Diamond Open Access journal *Sedimentologica*

Have you ever wondered if it is possible to avoid paying a high price to publish your own research in journals for which the readers also have to pay to read your work? Valentin Zuchuat, lecturer and researcher at RWTH Aachen, Germany, is part of the steering committee of *Sedimentologica*, a Diamond Open Access (DOA) scientific journal about sedimentology, in which people can publish their research and access scientific studies on all types of sedimentary processes, deposits or environments, across all spatial and temporal scales FOR FREE.

The NSRG truly supports this initiative and is very grateful to all members of the *Sedimentologica* steering committee for their efforts and persuasiveness. **Read the full interview with Valentin – who speaks on behalf of the *Sedimentologica* committee – [on our website](#).**

Tell us, why is there a need for yet another journal?

If you receive and read this newsletter, you are aware of how expensive it is to a) publish in, and b) to access research owned by for-profit publishers. It is basically like going to the restaurant with your own food that you have prepared, and this restaurant charges you and your friends a ridiculous amount of money to eat it. As a consequence, a lot of scientists around the world might not have the money to publish their research in journals with global reach, and therefore do not benefit from the same visibility as scientists who can afford it. This is discriminatory. But the worst of all, in my opinion, is that paywalls prevent the public and policymakers from accessing the raw and processed data necessary for them to make important decisions based on the available science, despite the fact that they are providing money for this research to be conducted in the first place.

What else should everyone know about *Sedimentologica*?

Sedimentologica, like *Volcanica*, *Tektonika*, *Seismica*, and *Geomorphology DOA*, is driven by the community for the community. We are always looking for motivated people keen on giving a little bit of their time to make *Sedimentologica* a viable and recognised peer-reviewed scientific journal. Running such a journal will also require some funds (website maintenance, typesetting, formatting, etc.), so we are also welcoming private individuals or societies and public institutions willing to sponsor this initiative. If anyone is keen on helping us out, please get in touch with me or on twitter.

 [@sedimentologica](#)
Sedimentologica



Geo profile: Manon van Goethem - life as a sedimentologist outside academia and the petroleum industry

Manon studied geology in the Netherlands, specializing on Carbonate Sedimentology. After almost 6 years working as an Exploration Geologist for Maersk Oil in Denmark, she moved to Norway and found a job at Ruden AS, a company active in the exploration for deep groundwater.

Tell us, what kind of company is Ruden AS and what are their main activities?

“Ruden AS is a company that uses its competences in hydrogeology and geophysics to apply in well-based geo-energy systems and the exploration for deep groundwater, based on data from the oil and gas industry. Besides this we deliver geological and geophysical services as borehole logging and refraction and reflection seismic on land to different customers in Norway.”

How does a typical workweek look like for you?

“We are a small company, currently with 13 fulltime employees, but with large ambitions. Currently my focus is on a project we do in Somalia, where we map the whole country for potential of deep, freshwater aquifers. For this, we utilize all information that is already available, as data acquisition is challenging in a country like Somalia. But the unique part of our method is the integration of information from the petroleum industry, as seismic data and well data. Even though it was never a target, hydrocarbon exploration wells hold a lot of valuable information to identify freshwater aquifers at depths of more than 400 m, a depth that is.”

What do you enjoy the most in this job?

“I really enjoy the meaningfulness of the job. Being able to apply my skills on a **project that potentially discovers freshwater reserves that can supply thousands to maybe millions of people with fresh water is very motivating.** I am happy that I managed to make the change and left the petroleum industry to apply my skills in a more sustainable way. “

Check out our [website](#) to read more about Manon’s typical work week, why Manon decided to work for Ruden AS, challenges in her job and her advice to other (young) sedimentologists that are interested in working outside academia and/or the petroleum industry.



Manon (left) and her colleagues in a mine in Odda (Norway) performing well logging to define the hydraulic conductivity of the formation to define the potential of waste storage in the mine.





NSRG WORKSHOPS

Microplastics Workshop 2022

In 2022 the NSRG will hold a Microplastics workshop: Follow our social media channels to stay updated. The workshop will be free to attend.

Previous workshop 'Python for geologists'

Post Doc Euan Soutter from the University of Manchester held a beginners level workshop covering the application of Python programming for geologists, in March 2021. The workshop was fully booked within a day and due to its success and thanks to Euan, we held it again in May 2021. The whole workshop is now available online as well as the Jupyter Notebook material. Check it out [here](#)

PRESENT YOUR PAPER

DID YOU MISS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT YOUR RESEARCH AT A CONFERENCE? OR DO YOU HAVE A VIDEO PRESENTATION OF A PUBLICATION?

We invite you to make a video (length of your choice) or a self-explanatory PDF-presentation, send it to us at the contact@nordicsrg.com email address, and the video will be uploaded on the NSRG website. We hope that this approach will facilitate people to watch these presentations on their own schedule. If you desire to organise a webinar, NSRG will gladly help scheduling it with our SedsOnline partners.

If your project requires outreach, or simply because you have an incredible story to tell, do not hesitate to write a blog-like text, with beautiful photos, which will then be published on the website.

Finally, the NSRG also has an Instagram page ([@nordicsrg](https://www.instagram.com/nordicsrg)) where we would love to share visuals of your sedimentological adventures. Please send us an email to contact@nordicsrg.com if you would like to share such content and we will forward you an easy template to fill in.

