



## The 21<sup>st</sup> International Diatom Symposium

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The 21<sup>st</sup> International Diatom Symposium (IDS) convened from 29 August to 03 September 2010 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in downtown St. Paul, Minnesota, USA. Over 135 delegates representing 23 countries attended the symposium and enjoyed keynote addresses by Drs John Smol and Ellinor Michel. Delegates participated in special sessions on Genetic Barcoding, Life Cycles and Resting Stages, Marine Biostratigraphy and Paleoceanography, Diatoms and Inferring Water Quality, Ecology and Distribution of *Cyclotella sensu lato*, and a Diatoms of North America workshop. Sixty-eight papers were presented in oral sessions and over 60 papers given in two poster sessions. A mid-week excursion gave delegates the opportunity to canoe on the Mississippi River or attend the Minnesota State Fair. Other symposia events included the first IDS Auction to raise money for students attending the symposium, an evening gala at the Science Museum of Minnesota, and a closing banquet dinner and dance overlooking the Mississippi River valley. At the 2010 biennial general meeting of the International Society for Diatom Research in St. Paul, a motion was passed for the 22<sup>nd</sup> International Diatom Symposium to be held in Ghent, Belgium in August 2012.

This volume represents the "*Proceedings of the 21<sup>st</sup> International Diatom Symposium*" and includes 15 papers that were presented at the 21<sup>st</sup> International Diatom Symposium. The editors wish to thank the St. Cloud State University and the Science Museum of Minnesota for their support and assistance at the meeting. We also recognize the important contribution of reviewers of the *Proceedings*: Norman Andresen, Kalina Manoylov, Sarah Hamsher, Michael Sullivan, Eduardo Morales, James Wee, Rebecca Bixby, Bart Van de Vijver, Michaela Enache, Loren Bahls, David Jewson, Nickolai Davidovich, Luca De Stefano, Diane Winter, Sarah Spaulding, Paul Hamilton, Tatsuya Hayashi, Vaclav Houk, Shigeki Mayama, E.F. Stoermer, Edward Theriot, Yoshihiro Tanimura, Megumi Saito-Kato, and David Williams.



FIGURE 1. Delegates at the closing banquet of the 21<sup>st</sup> International Diatom Symposium.