

## On the Jurassic boundaries

The journal *Volumina Jurassica* invites the entire Jurassic research community to contribute to a discussion on the problems of the infra Jurassic System boundaries. Looking mostly towards uniform definitions of stage boundaries and the distinction of their GSSP-s, we have neglected somewhat the other boundaries, especially those of the substages. Definitions of these are often very misleading, formulated in different ways by various authors – nearly every stage yields such an example as for instance the boundaries of the Middle or Upper Oxfordian within the Oxfordian Stage, of the Lower and Upper Kimmeridgian within the Kimmeridgian Stage, and of the Lower (and Middle) or Upper Tithonian within the Tithonian Stage – just to take the Upper Jurassic boundaries only.

The section “News and reviews” of *Volumina Jurassica* could present various opinions on these matters, as well as relevant proposals. We could also publish in the general part of the journal wider studies based on new material related to the topics in question. We hope the discussion would prepare subjects for future meetings and would be helpful in achieving a compromise on substage boundaries (even if only for the time being, if not yet formally accepted). This discussion might then lead to the implementation the general rule – “only one, widely accepted boundary between two substages (stages)”.

Discussion on the general problems of the subdivision of particular stages seems also necessary. Non-stratigraphers working normally on stratigraphically distant intervals and temporarily involved in studies on the Jurassic System, are sometimes not fully conscious of the many “stratigraphical traps” which are hidden in (or between) the uniformly sounding chronostratigraphical terms (stages, substages); these include also the role and meaning of the chronozones of the Jurassic System which are based mostly on ammonites. It is also a place for discussion on the correlation between different subdivisions... and many other topics.

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