A group of 15 coastal scientists gathered on the German North Sea island of Sylt for a Symposium prior to the Second International Conference on Geomorphology in Frankfurt. Their aim was to examine zonality of coastal geomorphology and ecology in relation to climatic environments. One of the convenors, Dieter Kelletat (University of Essen, German Federal Republic), opened the Symposium with a world-wide review of the problems of zonality in terms of rocky shores, including the contrasting effects of biotic processes in different climatic zones. Norbert Psuty (Rutgers University, U.S.A.) then dealt with zonal variations in the morphology of coastal dunes in relation to environmental parameters, and Ludwig Ellenberg (Technical University, Berlin) discussed variations in coastal processes around the Caribbean, stressing the effects of contrasts in the length of the humid season. David Hopley (James Cook University, Australia) then examined the concepts of zonality, zonation and gradation in terms of the global distribution of coral reefs, emphasizing the relevance of local factors such as the influence of terrestrial runoff and sediment yield, the nutrient status of shelf waters, wave energy, water temperature, and relative sea level histories, as modified by hydroisostatic warping. André Guilcher (University of Western Brittany, France) examined mangroves as indicators of coastal zonality, noting the anomaly of their southward protrusion into Australia and New Zealand, and stressing the influence of human activities on their detailed distribution. Roland Paskoff (Lumiére University, Lyon, France: also Chairman of the I.G.U. Commission on the Coastal Environment) discussed geomorphological zones along the coast of Chile, which has a marked transition from sub-tropical to sub-antarctic environments, and Olavi Granó (University of Turku, Finland) dealt with variations in coastal features in his seasonally cold archipelagic country, noting the effects of continuing isostatic uplift on vertical shore zonations. Jean-Claude Dionne (University of Laval, Canada) explained how frost and ice action have affected tidal marshlands, particularly in the St. Lawrence estuary, and Jim Hanson (University of Sheffield, U.K.) presented a paper compiled jointly with Bob Kirk (University of Canterbury, New Zealand) on the geomorphological role of ice in the inter-tidal zone of Antarctic coasts. Oguz Erol (University of Laval, Canada) explained how frost and ice action have affected tidal marshlands, particularly in the St. Lawrence estuary, and Jim Hanson (University of Sheffield, U.K.) presented a paper compiled jointly with Bob Kirk (University of Canterbury, New Zealand) on the geomorphological role of ice in the inter-tidal zone of Antarctic coasts. Oguz Erol (University of Istanbul, Turkey) and his colleague Ilhan Kayan (Ege University, Izmir, Turkey) then analysed coastal processes on the Black Sea and Mediterranean shores of Turkey, demonstrating contrasts related to local climatic variations. Finally, co-convenor Eric Bird (University of Melbourne, Australia) explored the distinctiveness of coastal landforms and asso-
associated ecological features in the various sectors across the world that have a humid tropical environment.

There followed a general discussion, in the course of which it was agreed that Dieter Kelletat should become convenor of a new project to develop an Atlas of Coastal Zonality. It was recommended that this project should be incorporated into the programme of the I.G.U. Commission on the Coastal Environment. People wishing to take part in the project, or requiring further information, are asked to write to Dieter Kelletat (address below).

The Proceedings of the Symposium are to be published in volume 18 of the *Essener Geographische Arbeiten* later this year. Copies may be obtained (expected cost about 60 DM) from Verlag Ferdinand Schöningh, Paderborn, Germany F.R.G.

Dieter Kelletat
Institut für Geographie
Universität GHS Essen
Universitätstrasse, 5
4300 Essen 1,
Germany F.R.G.

Eric Bird
Department of Geography
University of Melbourne
Parkville, Victoria 3052,
Australia

IGCP-274 International Meetings

Photo 1. Inaugural meeting of IGCP Project 274, "Coastal Evolution in the Quaternary," Amsterdam, The Netherlands, September 1988. (63 participants from 23 countries).
Photo 2. 2nd annual meeting of IGCP Project 274, “Coastal Evolution in the Quaternary,” Ipoh, Malaysia, September 1989. (67 participants from 21 countries).

COASTAL CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 1990

5-9  • Brachiopods, 2nd international congress, Dunedin, New Zealand. (Contact: J.D. Campbell, Geology Department, University of Otago, P.O. Box 56, Dunedin, New Zealand).

12-16  • Ocean Sciences, meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana. (Contact: American