



Jena, April 6, 2023

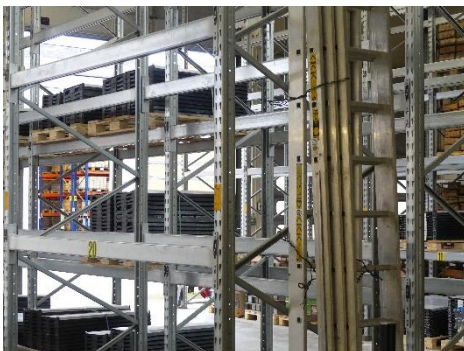
### ***The BASE Newsletter, vol. IV, issue 5***



The Science Advisory Group (SAG) of ICDP met near Barberton March 5 - 8 at the same place where we had had the BASE workshop in 2017 (full circle !) to evaluate this years' proposals. After three days of hard work, we (SL and CH) led the group on a two-day field trip on the geology of the drill sites and of the BGB. The high-resolution, 1:1-scale core photographs were very useful. Participants were impressed by what they saw - but 5 of the 16 had to recover afterward at home from COVID which they contracted during the meeting.



SAG was astonished to see that a BASE legacy consisted of an addition to the Barberton regional museum in the form of a Geology Room. This room is not fully furnished yet because Nic's untimely passing left us without its key mover and his budgetary acumen. Phumi Mashele and Chris Rippon in Barberton, advised by me and Astrid, are making plans, develop funding options and write concepts.



The BASE working core is currently in storage in the racks because scientists from GRIND are currently working on their core. But Ulli Raschke at the BGR core storage facility will gladly make core accessible for inspection and non-destructive sampling for BASE Science Team members when time and space permits. One such visit, by the cyclostratigraphers, is currently ongoing. In the meantime, the teams of Stefan (in Brest) and Paul (in Utrecht) are busy constructing the geochemical reference data set.



I will be in the Barberton area again with a group of students and co-workers from at least two universities for about three weeks from late July on. We will investigate more Moodies wonders, correlate cross sections from core and tunnels with surface geology, and explore new topics in Eswatini. If you want to send a student along or come yourself, please contact me.

***Save the date: BASE Core Workshop Sept. 12 and 13, 2023, in Berlin-Spandau – see Newsletter IV/3.***

Frohes Forschen ! Happy Easter !

Christoph Heubeck and the SMB

*Science Team members, don't forget to log in frequently for updates:*

<https://www.icdp-online.org/projects/by-continent/africa/base-south-africa>