



Jena, January 7, 2026

[Our website](#)

The BASE Newsletter, vol. VI, issue 1

Dear Moodies Enthusiasts,

I honestly intended to send around a short Moodies Newsletter prior to the Christmas and New Years's Break but had to move this item to my New Year's Resolutions 😞. 2025 thus passed without a single Moodies Newsletter – but here it is!

A lot has happened, as scientists are busy with their samples. Others are busy as well: We had a break-in at the [BGB exhibition room](#) (funded by ICDP BASE) in the Barberton Museum in late 2024. Despite the presence of security staff, the perpetrators silently climbed on top of the room (which is itself housed in the BIAS Hall), punched a hole into the plasterboard ceiling and shone their flashlight in. Not seeing anything to their liking, they left.



Our third sampling party took place in October 2025 at BGR's core facility in Berlin-Spandau where ICDP stores the working half of the BASE core. This event was attended by 30 participants, 19 of them new to the project. 22 presentations of about 10 minutes each were held on the first day (easily making it the largest Moodies symposium ever), followed by two days of intensive sampling (and socializing !). Fair weather again allowed us to lay out much core outside. It would have been impossible to attain a similar turnout at any international conference. Only the combination with the core sampling opportunity and the travel stipends from remaining (final) BASE funds allowed us to have this useful event. One drawback, of course, was that we (as yet) presented only to ourselves. We thus thought about organizing an Archean conference in Berlin in 2027.

I took a lot of notes but I have neither authority nor is this the place to report on scientific progress here. I

propose, however, to create a social space (on WhatsApp, Facebook or some other app ?) where we could inform each other on results, interests and plans, to network and to ask questions. Who would want to administer such a group ?

I currently still maintain a one-page-per-project compilation of BASE projects (let me know if you are interested in a copy). There are, to the best of my knowledge, about 36. Some have had their first publications (Abu, working with Eva !); others are graduating (congratulations, Amandine !); others again, just having heard of us, sampled for the first time. Thus, it is impossible to report evenly on all the ongoing science here. I know of at least four, nearly-ready-for-submission manuscripts relying on BASE cores.

The two-year moratorium on BASE data expired in October 2025. Cindy unlocked the [data set](#), comprising all logs, sections, full-tray and close-up photographs, and other data. Any interested

scientist may now sample and access the data. Please encourage others to do so, as there is a lot of core left! Sampling would be best coordinated with others, though, in order to share the facility fees.

3rd BASE sampling and research workshop - Schedule				
<i>October 13-15, 2025, Berlin-Spandau</i>				
Sunday	18:30			<i>evening social at Brauhaus Spandau</i>
Monday, October 13				
	Talk Nr.	Presenter		Title or topic
08:20 - 09:00				arrival
09:00 - 09:15	-	Christoph Heubeck		Facilities, logistics, schedule
09:15 - 09:30	1	Michiel de Kock		Paleomagnetism (2 minutes)
09:30 - 09:45	2	Marcello Gugliotta		Is it possible to quantify Earth-Moon orbital parameters from Archean-tidal records?
09:45 - 10:00	3	Christian Hattmann		Pyrolysis on Moodies OM
10:00 - 10:15	4	Max Hellers		Method development: In-situ dating of fsp (5 minutes)
10:15 - 10:30				<i>coffee break</i>
10:30 - 10:45	5	Christoph Heubeck		(1) BASE-1, (2) Lomati Water tunnel, (3) Md conglomerates, (4) BGB-wide T map
10:45 - 11:00	6	Brooke Johnson		Micropaleontology: New insights
11:00 - 11:15	7	Takeshi Kakegawa		Impact event recorded in Md BIF
11:15 - 11:30	8	Oscar Laurent		Scratching the surface - what the Barberton sedimentary record has to tell about deep geodynamics
11:30 - 11:45				<i>break</i>
11:45 - 12:00	9	Desiree Roerdink		Results on the sulfate nodules
12:00 - 12:15	10	Ndabenhle Mazibuko		U-Pb (LA-MC-ICP-MS) ages from tuffaceous sandstones, BASE-5A and -B
12:15 - 12:30	11	Amandine Migeon		Geochemical insights from the BASE Reference Dataset
12:30 - 12:45	12	Sanway Mukhopadhyay		Depositional environments and vertical stacking patterns in BASE-5B
12:45 - 13:30				<i>lunch</i>
13:30 - 13:45	13	Zahra Masoumipour		Results from CT scanning and S-isotopes
13:45 - 14:00	14	Yoko Ohtomo		Occurrence of different Fe minerals in the same ferruginous section
14:00 - 14:15	15	Dennis Schreiber		Sedimentology and stratigraphy of the LDC (BASE-4A, -B, C)
14:15 - 14:30				<i>break</i>
14:30 - 14:45	16	Cindy Kunkel		Sample- and data mgmt: Where to find data, how to cite IGSN
14:45 - 15:00	17	Russell Shapiro		Oxidizing Oases
15:00 - 15:15	18	Eva Stueken		Phosphorus availability
15:15 - 15:30				<i>break</i>
15:30 - 15:45	19	Clarisa Vorster		U-Pb (LA-MC-ICP-MS) ages from tuffaceous sandstones, BASE-5A and -B
15:45 - 16:00	20	Hervé Wabo		Rock-magnetic data from Md BIFs
16:00 - 16:15	21	Kenji Watanabe		Origin of Md mudstones
16:15 - 16:30				<i>break</i>
16:30 - 16:45	22	Nina Wiechern		Cyclostratigraphic interpretation of BASE Site 5A
16:45 - 17:00	22	Michael Wiedenbeck		Research Options with the Potsdam Ion Microprobe (5 minutes)
17:00 - 17:15	23	Christoph Heubeck		overlaps and gaps; future
				<i>evening social</i>
Tuesday, October 14				
09:00		Sampling rules Cindy Kunkel		
		Rest of the day: core sampling		evening social at La Cena, Wilhelmsstraße
Wednesday, October 15				
all day		core sampling		... and departure

Frohes Forschen !

Christoph and the BASE Management Team