



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 Year'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						
October 13-15, 2025, Berlin-Spandau						
Sunday	18:30		evening social at Brauhaus Spandau			
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	Hallmann	Pyrolysis on Moodies OM
10:00	-	10:15	4	Max	Hellers	Method development: In-situ dating of fsp (5 minutes)
10:15	-	10:30	coffee break			
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	break			
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	lunch			
13:30	-	13:45	13	Zahra	Masoumipour	Results from CT scanning and S-isotopes
13:45	-	14:00	14	Yoko	Ohtomo	Occurence 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	break			
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	break			
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	break			
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
			evening social			
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