The Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of Kiel University Announces the Following Vacancy:

PROFESSOR OF PHYSICS (C3) and DIRECTOR OF THE AMS LABORATORY for CARBON DATING AND ISOTOPE RESEARCH

The appointee is expected to take part in the planning and establishment of a new Accelerator Mass Spectrometer Laboratory for nuclear dating and isotope research, with the aim of dating samples in Geosciences and Archaeology, using the ¹⁴C and ¹⁰Be methods.

Duties will include teaching in the research field of the AMS laboratory. Close cooperation with other institutes of Kiel University and with external research groups is expected.

The applicant should have experience in AMS methods and in teaching at the university level. Kiel University welcomes women to apply. Disabled candidates are particularly encouraged to submit applications.

Applications including a curriculum vitae, list of publications and detailed information on the scientific career should be sent before October 15, 1992 to:

Dekan der Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftlichen Fakultät der Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel Olshausenstrasse 40 2300 Kiel 1 Federal Republic of Germany



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NOTICE TO READERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

Since its inception, the basic purpose of *RADIOCARBON* has been the publication of compilations of ¹⁴C dates produced by various laboratories. These lists are extremely useful for the dissemination of basic ¹⁴C information.

In recent years, RADIOCARBON has also been publishing technical and interpretative articles on all aspects of ¹⁴C. We would like to encourage this type of publication on a regular basis. In addition, we will be publishing compilations of published and unpublished dates along with interpretative text for these dates on a regional basis. Authors who would like to compose such an article for his/her area of interest should contact the Managing Editor for information.

Other sections recently added to our regular issues include NOTES AND COMMENTS, LETTERS TO THE EDITOR, RADIOCARBON UPDATES and ANNOUNCEMENTS. Authors are invited to extend discussions or raise pertinent questions to the results of scientific investigations that have appeared on our pages. These sections include short, technical notes to relay information concerning innovative sample preparation procedures. Laboratories may also seek assistance in technical aspects of radiocarbon dating. Book reviews are also encouraged as are advertisements.

Manuscripts. Papers may now be submitted on both floppy diskettes and hard copy. When submitting a manuscript, include three hard copies, double-spaced. When the final copy is prepared after review, please provide a floppy diskette along with one hard copy. We will accept, in order of preference, WordPerfect 5.1 or 5.0, Microsoft Word, Wordstar or any IBM word-processing software program. ASCII files, MS DOS and CPM formatted diskettes are also acceptable. The diskettes should be either 3½" (720 k or 1.44 megabytes) or 5½" (360 k or 1.2 megabytes). Radiocarbon papers should follow the recommendations in INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS (R, 1992, vol. 34, no. 1, p. 177–185). Offprints are available upon request. Our deadline schedule for submitting manuscripts is:

For	Date	
Vol. 35, No. 2, 1993	January 1, 1993	
Vol. 35, No. 3, 1993	May 1, 1993	
Vol. 36, No. 1, 1994	September 1, 1993	

Half-life of ¹⁴C. In accordance with the decision of the Fifth Radiocarbon Dating Conference, Cambridge, England, 1962, all dates published in this volume (as in previous volumes) are based on the Libby value, 5568 yr, for the half-life. This decision was reaffirmed at the 11th International Radiocarbon Conference in Seattle, Washington, 1982. Because of various uncertainties, when ¹⁴C measurements are expressed as dates in years BP, the accuracy of the dates is limited, and refinements that take some but not all uncertainties into account may be misleading. The mean of three recent determinations of the half-life, 5730 ± 40 yr, (Nature, 1962, vol. 195, no. 4845, p. 984), is regarded as the best value presently available. Published dates in years BP can be converted to this basis by multiplying them by 1.03.

AD/BC Dates. In accordance with the decision of the Ninth International Radiocarbon Conference, Los Angeles and San Diego, California, 1976, the designation of AD/BC, obtained by subtracting AD 1950 from conventional BP determinations is discontinued in RADIOCARBON. Authors or submitters may include calendar estimates as a comment, and report these estimates as cal AD/BC, citing the specific calibration curve used to obtain the estimate. Calibrated dates will now be reported as "cal BP" or "cal AD/BC" according to the consensus of the Twelfth International Radiocarbon Conference, Trondheim, Norway, 1985.

Measuring of $\delta^{12}C$. In Volume 3, 1961, we endorsed the notation Δ (Lamont VIII, 1961) for geochemical measurements of $\delta^{12}C$ activity, corrected for isotopic fractionation in samples and in the NBS oxalic-acid standard. The value of $\delta^{12}C$ that entered the calculation of Δ was defined by reference to Lamont VI, 1959, and was corrected for age. This fact has been lost sight of, by editors as well as by authors, and recent papers have used $\delta^{12}C$ as the observed deviation from the standard. At the New Zealand Radiocarbon Dating Conference it was recommended to use $\delta^{12}C$ only for age-corrected samples. Without an age correction, the value should then be reported as percent of modern relative to 0.95 NBS oxalic acid (Proceedings of the 8th Conference on Radiocarbon Dating, Wellington, New Zealand, 1972). The Ninth International Radiocarbon Conference, Los Angeles and San Diego, California, 1976, recommended that the reference standard, 0.95 NBS oxalic acid activity, be normalized to $\delta^{13}C = -19\%$.

In several fields, however, age corrections are not possible. $\delta^{14}C$ and Δ , uncorrected for age, have been used extensively in oceanography, and are an integral part of models and theories. For the present, therefore, we continue the editorial policy of using Δ notations for samples not corrected for age.

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