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New Discoveries in the late Neoproterozoic of Namibia: New Material-New Analysis

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Over the past 15 years UNESCO Projects IGCP493 /587 have concentrated efforts by a consortium of researchers from around the world on the detailed field documentation and exploration of the Nama Group in southern Namibia, an important sequence recording how life so changed from 600 to 530 million years ago – across the Precambrian-Cambrian boundary. An impressive collection of material from the area around Aus has increased the up until then known fossil material [1] many fold in those years [2-6]. New scanning and analytic techniques, involving facilities such as the Australian synchrotron, and in depth reconstruction art and use of new graphic programs, along with a detailed sedimentology of deposits preserving these new discoveries have led to a marked improvement in the understanding of both the morphology and relationships of the organisms, the environments they inhabited and the effects imposed by how they were preserved.

References

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| [1] Narbonne et al (1997) Jour Paleo 71:953-967. | <i>Figures 1-8. 1-2, Stratigraphy and location [2]</i> |
| Ivantsov A et al. (2015) Lethaia DOI 10.1111/let.12164 | <i>of new material; 3, preservation style</i> |
| [3] Elliott D et al (2016) Jour Paleo (in press) | <i>common in Nama Group; 4, first complete</i> |
| [4] Elliott D et al (2011) Acta Palaeo Polonica 56:641-650. | <i>Ernieitta description; 5-6, internal structure</i> |
| [5] Hall M et al. (2013) Precamb Res 238:214-232. | <i>determined by micro-CT scanning of new</i> |

[6] Vickers-Rich (2007) Jour Paleo 87:1-15

Rangea; 7, new Rangea material; 8, channel
which yielded abundant new material



