

Geowissenschaftliches Kolloquium

3D orogeny at the Pamir-Tibet Plateau margin: from mantle to surface and hinterland to foreland

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Lothar Ratschbacher
(TU Bergakademie Freiberg)

The Pamir-Tian Shan-Hindu Kush orogenic segment at the western edge of the India-Asia collision stands high, reaches deep, transitions from flat to rugged, deforms truly 3D, and stretches wide beyond the direct continent-collision zone. Based on data from a cornucopia of geoscience disciplines, I try to show that plate-scale driving forces, and distinct geometrical and rheological boundary conditions govern the tectonic evolution, i.e., the mantle-crust-surface and hinterland-foreland interactions.



Prof. Lothar Ratschbacher was trained as an Alpine Geologist and received his Dr.phil. from the University of Graz. Assistant and associate professorships at the Universities of Tübingen and Würzburg were interrupted by post-docs at UCLA and Université Rennes. He held teaching positions at UC Berkeley and University Vienna, and enjoyed long-term research stays at Stanford University and UC Santa Barbara. Currently, he heads the Tectonics-Geochronology Group at the TU Bergakademie Freiberg. He has worked on continent-continent collisions in the Alps-Carpathians-Hellenides and Pamir-Tian-Shan-Tibet-Burma, explored ultrahigh-pressure orogeny in eastern China, and continental transform margins in Central America.

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Institut für Geologische Wissenschaften

Großer Hörsaal (C.011), Haus C
Malteserstrasse 74-100
12249 Berlin



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