

P.E. Gretener: The significance of the rare event in Geology, 7th Dec 1979, Dept. of Geology, University of Malaya.

Dr. Gretener, in addition to his AAPG course, also presented a talk to members of the Society on this rather unusual and fascinating topic. The speaker is the author of the paper with the same title published in 1967 in the AAPG Bulletin no. 51. The main theme of this presentation is the possibility of rare or seemingly improbable events occurring during the long timespan covered in the geological records. The speaker challenged the wellknown Huttonian Theory of Uniformitarianism. Given enough time the improbable was shown to become probable and eventually almost certain. Several paleontological examples were cited to support his arguments that rare events have played an important and significant role in the earth's history. The meeting was attended by about 40 members.

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