

## **General Theme 6**

### **6.7**

For a long period of time, shales have been a strongly underexplored component of the sedimentary systems. While classifications and analytical methods for depositional processes and facies interpretation were modified significantly in both, clastic and carbonate systems, shales were forgotten and not covered in any detail. With the rise of unconventional hydrocarbons in shale, a never seen before research dynamics came into focus. Over the past 10 years significant scientific research in part independent or in support to petroleum exploration activity has been focused on shale systems. This has resulted in a significant increase in the understanding of shale systems, from the depositional patterns, palaeoenvironmental conditions, diagenetic processes and maturation to the hydrocarbon potential within shale systems. One clear result of this activity has been the increasing recognition of the complexity of these systems.

This session invites contributions from multiple disciplines including sedimentology, particularly high-resolution analysis, palaeontology, organic and inorganic geochemistry and mineralogy. The aim is to share developing ideas and gain new insights into shale systems. This session lends itself to close collaboration and knowledge transfer from basic academic research to industry application and will be of significant academic and industry interest.