in most of the pits. Mining operations and Ore processing systems were more or less similar to those in North Carolina. Saddle Creek Mines owned by 'Agrico' and Clearspring Mine of I.M.C. were visited to study weathering profiles and to compare variations in mineral transformations. Lecante Quarry and Carol Construction Co were visited to study Palaeogene limestones of Ocala High, which seem to have controlled phosphate distribution in the region. In Hooker's Prairie Mine, a study of case hardened phosocrete–a form of phosphorite formed by connate water leaching, was highly informative. To my mind, several such outcrops do exist in our country, which have not been tested for phosphorite.

On 16th and 17th May, Seminar III and IV were held as a special symposia in Tallahassee, where invited speakers presented their brain-storming viewpoints, often contradicting the last speaker's calculations and hypotheses. Stalwarts like Bob Garrels, Bob Berner, Dick Sheldon, Miriam Kastner, participated in the Tallahassee Symposium on 'Genesis of Neogene to Modern Phosphorites'. Four major topics–involving modern setting, rates of processes of formation, associated mineral formation and the Neogene environments were discussed. While certain ideas prevailed over others, there was no general consensus on the origin of this evasive rock.

The annual business meeting of IGCP – 156 was held in Lakeland and the Venezuela's offer of holding the next International Workshop and Seminar in May 1986 was accepted.

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FOR GEOLOGY, THE ULTIMATE LABORATORY IS THE ENTIRE EARTH

For geology, unlike most other fields of science, the ultimate laboratory is the entire Earth, and its practitioners need access to all parts of that laboratory at all times. The only way they can obtain it is through open and unfettered participation in research programs by all of the world's countries.

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