



SIMPOSIO INTERNACIONAL SOBRE CAMBIOS DEL  
NIVEL DEL MAR Y EVOLUCION COSTERA EN  
EL CUATERNARIO TARDIO

RESUMENES — ABSTRACTS

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON LATE QUATERNARY  
SEA-LEVEL CHANGES AND COASTAL EVOLUTION

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ARGENTINA



DEPOSITIONAL MECHANISMS ACTIVE DURING THE LATE QUATERNARY  
AT THE PARAIBA DO SUL RIVER MOUTH AREA, STATE OF RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL.

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ABSTRACT

Wave-induced longshore currents and sea level changes during the last 7.000 years played an important role in the construction of the Quaternary coastal plains adjacent to the present Paraiba do Sul river mouth.

A gradual sea level drop during the Late Quaternary furnished an over-supply of sands to the coastal area. The river acted as a hydraulic groin, retaining the longshore drift sands on its updrift side. As a consequence the updrift side prograded much more rapidly than the downdrift side, which is supplied mostly by river-carried sediments. The southern margin (updrift side) prograded through the addition of successive beach ridges, forming a continuous sand-sheets, whereas at the downdrift side progradation was promoted by the incorporation of sandy islands backed by mangrove swamps. An asymmetric profile in sedimentary facies distribution is thus established. Differences in roundness degrees of sand samples collected in both sides of the river mouth agree with the proposed model.