



Geochemical Society

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Barbara Sherwood Lollar

I write this shortly after returning from this year's 25th V.M. Goldschmidt Conference. This wonderful conference was held in Prague (Czech Republic) and was jointly sponsored by the European Association of Geochemistry (EAG) and the Geochemical Society (GS), with the Geochemical Society of Japan as principal co-sponsor. We extend thanks and congratulations to our EAG colleagues; to all the many scientists and colleagues who contributed to the organization, program and, spirit of this year's gathering; and to Cambridge Publications for their expert execution of the meeting.

The 25th meeting was a special one. It integrated the traditional aspects of the Goldschmidt spirit, which stretches back to the very first meeting in Baltimore (Maryland, USA) in 1988, while seamlessly incorporating new initiatives and activities—particularly those designed to introduce, support, and mentor the next generation of young scientists. Once again, significant support was committed to subsidizing the registration and/or travel for students and for international attendees from low-income countries. Special 25th anniversary initiatives were included this year, such as the “25 + 25” student ambassadors, professionals who volunteered their talents to energize audiences and to participate in the plenaries. The successful mentoring program first introduced last year in Sacramento (California, USA) was again very popular and active. A new initiative was “Meet the Plenary”: this allowed students in particular to participate in a sponsored lunch after a plenary lecture and have a one-on-one interaction (in some cases for hours!) with a plenary speaker.

Our societies, such as the GS, take very seriously their mission to lead in community building. We know we need to pay special attention to the group that is the foundation and future of geochemistry: students and early career scientists. The 25th Goldschmidt continued the tradition of free seminars and events that focused on themes as diverse as innovations in teaching; publishing and reviewing manuscripts; fellowship and grant writing; employment and career options; and research workshops on emerging research areas. A very special thanks goes out to those academics and meeting partners who volunteered their time, expertise, and insights in developing and running these workshops. If you have ideas or particular talents to bring forward to future workshops at a Goldschmidt conference then be sure to get in touch with us! The success of these events is a credit to the creativity and enthusiasm of the entire Goldschmidt community.

It was a great pleasure to inaugurate another new tradition at this meeting: the Geochemical Society Business Meeting and Reception, which was held on Wednesday evening and open to all GS members (and friends). This year's meeting gave us an opportunity to offer a warm welcome to our colleagues and friends from the Geochemical Society of Japan,



Hodaka Kawahata, President, Geochemical Society of Japan; Barbara Sherwood Lollar, President of GS; Harue Masuda, Chair, 2016 Goldschmidt Local Organizing Committee; Naohiro Yoshida, Past President, Geochemical Society of Japan; and Naomi Harada, Geochemical Society of Japan at the GS Business Meeting and Reception.

and to the Local Organizing Committee, and to highlight and convey the excitement that we all feel for the upcoming 2016 Goldschmidt to be held in Yokohama (Japan). Decorations and sushi were provided, as well as information on the exciting activities planned for this meeting. Be sure to visit goldschmidt.info/2016/ for the latest on the scientific program, field trips, student programs, and more. You can also find information on the wide range of extremely reasonable housing and accommodation. Located less than half-an-hour from Tokyo's Haneda airport, the Yokohama Goldschmidt promises not only exceptional scientific and professional activities but also a cultural, historical and scenic Goldschmidt of extraordinary beauty and distinction.

Barbara Sherwood Lollar
President, The Geochemical Society

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