



European Mineralogical Union

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EMU ACTIVITIES AT THE 2015 V.M. GOLDSCHMIDT CONFERENCE

EMU Medal for Research Excellence 2014

The 2014 European Mineralogical Union (EMU) Research Excellence Medal was awarded to **Dr. Encarnación Ruiz-Agudo** (Department of Mineralogy and Petrology at the University of Granada, Spain) at the 25th anniversary of the V.M. Goldschmidt Conference, which was



Encarnación Ruiz-Agudo (right) receives the EMU Research Excellence Medal and certificate from Wilhelm Heinrich (EMU President, left).

held 16–21 August 2015 in Prague (Czech Republic) and at which she gave the keynote talk “The control of calcium silicate weathering and climate evolution by dissolution–precipitation processes at the mineral–water interface”. The award was in recognition of her important contributions to the field of mineral–water interactions and related phenomena, including applications to weathering processes, geochemical proxies, crystal growth processes, and environmental remediation. This medal also recognizes Dr. Ruiz-Agudo’s active involvement in mineralogical research at the European level: she has collaborated with scientists

from many countries. Her stature in the international mineralogical community is underlined by her guest editorship of the June 2013 issue of *Elements*.

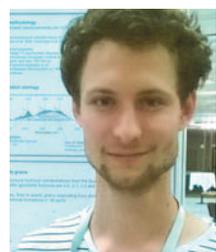
EMU TRAVEL GRANTS AND POSTER PRIZES

The European Mineralogical Union sponsors one travel grant and three poster prizes, which go to specific mineralogy-related sessions at Goldschmidt2015.

The travel grant was awarded to **Robert Sievwright** (Imperial College London, UK) so that he could present his talk “Thermodynamic controls on the partitioning of divalent cations between magnetite and silicate melts” at session 12a, “Frontiers in Trace Element Geochemistry of Ore Minerals and Accessory Phases: Micro- and Nano-Analytical Developments and Applications” (convenors: Martin Reich, Ross Large, and Artur Deditius).



Robert Sievwright



Tamás Biró

Two of the poster prizes were awarded to contributions presented at session 14f, “Water in the Mantle and Crust: Hydrous and Nominally Anhydrous Minerals” (convenors: Istvan Kovacs, Jannick Ingrin, Roland Stalder, Nathalie Bolfan-Casanova). The first recipient was **Tamás Biró** (Institute of Geography and Earth Sciences, Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary) for his contribution “Water in quartz from various rhyolitic pyroclastic horizons: A new correlation tool?”; the second recipient was **Sho Kakizawa** (Geodynamics Research Center, Ehime University,

Matsuyama, Japan) for his contribution “Water solubility of Al-bearing bridgmanite at lower mantle conditions”.



Sho Kakizawa (left) receives his prize certificate from J. Majzlan (EMU Secretary, centre) and F. Gervilla (EMU vice president, right).



George Beridze (centre) receives his prize certificate from F. Gervilla (EMU vice president, left) and W. Heinrich (EMU president, right).

The third poster prize was awarded to **George Beridze** (Forschungszentrum Jülich, Germany) for his contribution “Ab Initio Modeling of Computationally Challenging Earth (f-)Materials”, presented at session 14b, “Crystal Chemistry of Earth and Planetary Materials” (convenors: Tiziana Boffa-Ballaran and Joe Smyth).

EMU GRANTS AT ECMS 2015

The 8th European Conference on Mineralogy and Spectroscopy (ECMS 2015) was held 9–11 September 2015, in Rome (Italy) at the headquarters of the National Research Council (CNR), and gathered together about 120 participants from 19 countries across Europe, America, Asia and Australia. The conference was carefully and magnificently organized by Giovanni B. Andreozzi and Ferdinando Bosi (Sapienza University of Rome, Italy). The EMU awarded grants to two young scientists.

First, to **Sari Romppanen** (Nanoscience Center, University of Jyväskylä, Finland), who presented the lecture “Analysis of luminescent calcite by laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy”. Second, to **Elena Zhitova** (University of St.Petersburg, Russia), who spoke about “High-temperature crystal chemistry of astrophyllite from Kola peninsula, Russia”. The EMU Best Poster Award was given to **Chiara Anzolini** (University of Padua, Italy) for her presentation “Diffraction and spectroscopic characterization of jeffbenite: a high-pressure marker in diamonds”. The next ECMS will take place in 2019 in Prague (Czech Republic).



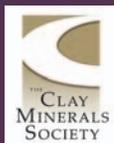
Sari Romppanen



Elena Zhitova



Chiara Anzolini



The Clay Minerals Society

www.clays.org

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Dear CMS Community,

Greetings again from Sandersville, Georgia (USA), the "kaolin capital of the world"!

As I promised in my last message, below is the summary of the 52nd CMS Annual Meeting/Euroclay2015 held 5–10 July 2015 in Edinburgh (Scotland). The conference was superbly organized by Dr. Steve Hillier and Mr. Kevin Murphy and was attended by over 500 delegates, including about

130 students from around the world. I also am pleased to convey that planning for the 53rd CMS Annual Meeting, led by our past president, Dr. Crawford Elliott, is in full swing. The upcoming meeting will be held 5–8 June 2016 in Atlanta (Georgia, USA). I would like to welcome y'all to Atlanta in 2016. Please make every effort to attend and make this conference a great success!

The time has come to renew your 2016 membership of the Clay Minerals Society. You should have recently received an e-mail to this effect. The online renewal process (www.clays.org) is straightforward. Please take a few moments to renew your membership. I urge you to take advantage of the significant early renewal discount (before 30 November 2015). I hope you still remember my appeal from the CMS business meeting in Edinburgh, as well as in the August issue of *Elements*, about recruiting at least one colleague to become a member of the CMS. I call this the "peer to peer" concept. As you know, members are the pillars of any organization, and the CMS would not exist without you, its members.

I am glad to announce that the CMS website is being revamped in order to make it friendlier to handheld devices. Another notable activity of the CMS leadership is considering the best path forward for the journal *Clays & Clay Minerals*, the heart and soul of our society. In particular, the editorial board, executive committee, and council are examining proposals from two vendors that could influence the impact factor, circulation, distribution, and revenues from the journal.

I know for certain that both CMS and clays science are dear to your minds and hearts. I would highly appreciate your suggestions, recommendations, and contributions to any aspect of the operation of the society. Your contribution to the CMS would be a great way to give back to the profession and could be personally very gratifying.

With best regards,

Prakash B. Malla, PhD
President, The Clay Minerals Society
Research & Development
Thiele Kaolin Company, Sandersville, Georgia, USA

52nd ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CMS

In July 2015, the Clay Minerals Society (CMS) coorganized the Euroclay 2015 meeting in Edinburgh (Scotland). This event ran for seven days in early July and included five field trips, a workshop, a short-course, numerous social events (including a superb banquet at "Our Dynamic Earth"), five parallel sessions, and two poster sessions. More than 500 delegates attended the meeting, including about 130 students.

The conference was organized by CMS member Prof. Steve Hillier of the Hutton Institute in Aberdeen (Scotland) and was supported by a large team that included the program and finance committees, session chairs, the staff of the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland, and the managing editor of *Clays and Clay Minerals*, Kevin Murphy.



The CMS travel grant scheme gave assistance to 15 students to attend the meeting in Edinburgh. (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT) Liva Dzene, Michal Janosik, Chu-Chun Hsu, Patrizia Will, Carmen Ciotonea, Bhabananda Biswas, Mathias Köster, Fabien Baron, Jonathan Fafard, Valentin Robin, and Ruhaida Rusmin. Not pictured: Austin Boles, Jared Freiburg, Eleanor Olegario-Sanchez, and Kiho Yang.

A large international event like this allows us the opportunity to get together and talk about CMS business as well as CMS science. In addition to the usual meetings of the Executive Committee and Council (held 4th July!), the editorial board of CCM also met (over dinner) with the editors of our sister journal, *Clay Minerals*. We also took the opportunity to discuss future marketing strategies for *Clays and Clay Minerals*.

The Awards Ceremony saw us celebrate the contribution to the conference made by our guest speakers, Jim Kirkpatrick and Balwant Singh. Biographies of our award winners will be included in the next edition of *CMS News*. We also had the opportunity to thank Reed Glasmann for his huge contribution to the society in terms of managing the finances over the last several years.

Awards for the best student poster and best student oral presentation were made jointly with the European Clay Groups Association and Association Internationale pour l'Étude des Argiles. Award winners for the best student oral presentations were Bhabananda Biswas, Mathias H. Köster, and Sayako Inoue. Award winners for the best student poster presentations were Cristina Fernández-Barranco, Katherine Rothwell, and Darja Komar.



CMS President Crawford Elliott passes the gavel to the new president, Prakash Malla.

At the beginning of the society's business meeting, CMS President W. Crawford Elliott offered a thoughtful summary of the current state of health of the society. In a time of significant change in the publishing world, small societies like the CMS need to work hard to survive. A refreshed executive committee (new treasurer is Paul Schroeder; new president is Prakash Malla) now takes over the mantle of responsibility to carry the society forward.

Finally, the entire clay community recognized Steve Hillier, the meeting's organizer, for his work in putting together such a great event. The CMS will benefit financially from the meeting, which in turn will enable it to support future such meetings, including student attendances.

Kevin Murphy



53RD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CLAY MINERALS SOCIETY
Atlanta June 5-8, 2016

For more information, please visit <http://conferences.illinois.edu/CMS2016/>.