



International Association of Geoanalysts

<http://geoanalyst.org>

IAG'S SPRING COUNCIL MEETING

The governing council of the International Association of Geoanalysts (IAG) meets roughly every six months in order to discuss pending business of the association and to plan new initiatives in support of the society goals. Our most recent meeting was held 25–26 April 2016 at the Adlershof office of the Bundesanstalt für Materialforschung und -prüfung (BAM; the German Federal Institute for Material Research and Testing) in southwestern Berlin (Germany). The IAG is grateful to BAM for providing an excellent venue for this meeting and, even more importantly, for providing the opportunity for new networking connections to be developed between BAM, who are world leaders in the production of reference materials, and the IAG.



The recently built Berlin-Adlershof office of BAM, venue for both the BAM–IAG special colloquium and for the IAG spring council meeting.

In order to make the most of having the IAG Council in town, BAM's division of Inorganic Trace Analyses and Inorganic Reference Materials organized a special colloquium entitled "BAM meets International Association of Geoanalysts". This gave members of both institutions the opportunity to present their current research related to metrology and analytical methodologies. Four presentations by IAG Council members during the colloquium covered a wide spectrum of topics, including recent developments in microanalytical technology, IAG proficiency testing programs, and isotopic analyses as a tool for food product authentication. The colloquium was followed by an evening dinner in one of Berlin's many smaller restaurants, which provided an informal atmosphere for members of the IAG Council to further discuss future needs with about a dozen members of BAM's inorganic metrology group.



Members of IAG Council visit one of BAM's sample preparation facilities during an afternoon break from their meeting.

Members of IAG Council at Berlin's famous Brandenburg Gate during an evening walking tour of the city center.



The next day (Tuesday, 26 April 2016), was devoted to discussing IAG projects that support our association's membership. The trend in recent years of an ever-lengthening meeting agenda was continued: members this year needed to work through much of the scheduled lunch break. Noteworthy points from the meeting included a report on the high level of member satisfaction, as documented by the recent IAG membership survey, and a discussion related to the evolving needs of the geoanalytical community for new proficiency testing initiatives. A much-needed, and very pleasant, break in the early afternoon gave council members the chance to tour BAM's sample preparation facility, a key component in the production of high quality reference materials. Finally, after a long day's work, including more than eight hours of discussion needed to complete all the agenda items, the IAG Council adjourned its spring 2016 meeting to enjoy an evening walking tour of central Berlin and a dinner at one of the city's wonderful restaurants.

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ANNOUNCING THE VENUE FOR GEOANALYSIS 2018



Prof. Dorrit Jacob,
Chairperson of the
Geoanalysis 2018
organizing committee.

It is with the greatest pleasure that the IAG announces the venue for the next in its series of triennial Geoanalysis conferences: Geoanalysis 2018 will be held 8–13 July 2018 to be hosted by the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences of Macquarie University. Since the selection of Sydney (Australia) as the next venue for the IAG's flagship conference, much progress has been made towards identifying the optimal conference facilities on Macquarie University's campus, as well as defining the overall structure of the event. After discussions with numerous senior members of the IAG, many of whom themselves have organized previous Geoanalysis conferences, Geoanalysis 2018

will focus on topics of particular relevance to the host nation, Australia. These topics will include new techniques for investigating ore materials, new strategies for better estimating recoverable reserves, and the geoanalytical aspects of post-extraction remediation. Thus, resource-related topics will feature alongside the traditional core theme of geochemical metrology. Being held at a university venue, the July dates for the next gathering will coincide with Macquarie University's semester break, allowing delegates to avail of university housing while also enjoying a less hectic campus setting.

This will be the first time in its 25-year history that a Geoanalysis conference will be held in Australia. We would like to invite all members of the International Association of Geoanalysts, as well as all scientists pursuing the best means of characterizing the composition of natural materials, to come to Sydney in July 2018!



For the most current information about Geoanalysis 2018 please check 2018.geoanalysis.info for the latest updates.