



European Association of Geochemistry



www.eag.eu.com

PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Bernard Marty

It is an honour, and a great pleasure, to become President of the European Association of Geochemistry (EAG). My first task is to thank Liane Benning for the fantastic job she has been doing over the last two years. Under her leadership, EAG has flourished as never before. The 2015 Goldschmidt conference in Prague (Czech Republic) was one of the most attended, and certainly one of the most exciting, geochemistry events of the last decade. Liane has also been central to developing EAG publications.

Geochemical Perspectives (GP), founded by Liane, Eric Oelkers, Susan Stipp and Tim Elliott, and later on, Janne Blichert-Toft, recently achieved the remarkable impact factor of 8.8. *Geochemical Perspectives Letters (GPL)* was launched two years ago, and this new publication is already a highly praised letters journal. The business model is unique: *GPL* and *GP* are produced by geochemists for geochemists, without any interference from commercial publishers. The publications are run, fed and evaluated by our community. EAG's decision to invest into this new publication endeavour allows us to offer open access to *GP* and *GPL* to anyone in the world, without subscription. Authors are not required to pay publication fees to publish in *GPL*, although we strongly encourage some financial contribution from those who can afford to do so.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to Marie-Aude Hulshoff, EAG Business Office Manager. Marie-Aude is pivotal in keeping the EAG boat sailing at full power. Many thanks as well to Karim Benzerara, who agreed to take on the ungrateful task of treasurer. The EAG is a vibrant community that relies on unselfish individuals. These are the councillors and committee members, a list of whom can be found at www.eag.eu.com/about. Special mention to Rizlan Bernier-Latmani, Carsten Münker and Emily Pope, who joined us recently. We are also very grateful to outgoing councillor Ruben Kretzschmar for several years of generous help and effort.

I would like to recognize the lasting and substantive contributions of Chris Ballentine and Eric Oelkers, both of whom recently finished their terms on the council. Chris Ballentine served the EAG Council for nearly 10 years, as Goldschmidt Officer then as Vice-President/President/Past-President. Chris' steady leadership and diplomacy have been inspiring. His initiatives are innumerable, including playing key roles in the successful establishment of an agreement between the EAG and the Geochemical Society and in initiating partnerships with numerous other national and international societies. Eric Oelkers has been the longest serving councillor ever: 13 years of devoted service, assuming in turn all the responsibilities within the council, including Goldschmidt Officer and Vice-President/President/Past-President. Eric has also been a co-founding editor of *GP* and *GPL*. His dedication and the vision he's always had for EAG have allowed our society to grow tremendously, to the benefit of the geochemistry community as a whole.

Geochemistry is blossoming in Asia, with the formidable rise of the People's Republic of China and the outstanding geochemical community of Japan. We seek to improve relations between our respective communities and with others around the world. As an example, EAG has launched such initiatives as sponsoring distinguished lecturers on tours of Eastern European and African capitals. We are thinking about several actions to enhance opportunities for young researchers from developing countries, including ways to improve student participation in workshops and conferences. Your suggestions are, as always, most welcome.

The next few years could be potentially challenging. Populism is gaining momentum, raising concerns about what this might imply in terms of denying science and promoting belief rather than facts. Geochemistry is a privileged discipline in which to observe and understand how the world functions in time and space. We are continuously observing, building stories and developing models that can be tested and corrected at any moment when new data arise. I am always amazed to see what can be said using trace elements in a microphase or with isotopic ratios at extreme precision about processes that occurred billions of years ago, or that will take place in the future (sadly, in some cases, the all-too-near future). We are fortunate to be paid for doing a creative, non-profit job, and it is time to give back to society what society has given to us. We need to stand up and inform decision makers. More modestly, but equally importantly, talk to our neighbours around the corner.

We are now just a few months away from the next Goldschmidt conference, to be held in Paris (France), and we look forward to welcoming you to the *Ville-Lumière*. Antje Boetius and Marc Chaussidon are efficiently sharing the task of organizing this exciting event in one of the most beautiful cities in the world. The conference will take place 13–18 August 2017 and will be a great opportunity to relax in the country of culture, food and wine, where radioactivity and the carbon cycle, among others, were first discovered. I look forward to seeing you all very soon!

Bernard Marty, EAG President

CHANGES IN THE EAG COUNCIL



Sigurður (Siggi) Gíslason has recently been elected Vice-President of the EAG. He is a Research Professor at the Institute of Earth Sciences, University of Iceland, and chairman of the CarbFix Project (www.carbfix.com), an initiative to store carbon in basaltic rocks. Siggi's major scientific interests are as follows: 1) measuring the chemical and physical erosion rates of basaltic terrains and determining the role of basalt erosion in the global carbon cycle; 2) quantifying the carbon storage potential of basaltic rocks; 3) measuring the dissolution rates and dissolution mechanisms of volcanic glasses and minerals as a function of glass composition, aqueous solution composition and temperature; 4) assessing the environmental pressure from volcanic eruptions.

Following the council elections last fall, EAG members have also elected three new councilors (see below), each of whom will serve for three years, participate in council discussions, decisions and initiatives and act as ambassadors for the society.



Rizlan Bernier-Latmani is Associate Professor of Environmental Microbiology at École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL, Switzerland). Her research focus is geomicrobiology, specifically, how microbes interact with the geosphere with respect to metal contaminants and investigating microbe mobility in the environment.



Carsten Münker is, since 2009, professor for geochemistry and cosmochemistry at the University of Cologne (Germany). His research focuses on the application of novel isotope and trace element tools to problems in geochemistry and cosmochemistry, with an emphasis on high-temperature processes.



Emily Pope is Assistant Professor at the Natural History Museum of Denmark, an institution that is within the University of Copenhagen. Emily is interested in the role of fluids in high-temperature geological processes and has used oxygen and hydrogen stable isotopes to better understand active geothermal systems, ore-forming processes and fluid flux between the Earth's surface and mantle.

2017 EAG COUNCIL

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Emily Pope (University of Copenhagen, Denmark)

Dominik Weiss (Imperial College London, UK)



I must say that these seminars give one considerable food for thought.



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GOLDSCHMIDT® 2017

13–18 August 2017
Paris, France

Abstract deadline: 1 April

Early registration deadline: 13 June

goldschmidt.info/2017

