IYCR2014

The International Year of Crystallography (IYCr2014) was inaugurated in an official opening ceremony, held by UNESCO and IUCr, at the UNESCO head office in Paris on 20–21 January 2014. For this occasion, the steering committee of Année Internationale de la Cristallographie en France, AICr2014, of which the SFMC is an active member, organized two satellite events:

- A “Festival de la Cristallographie,” held in Paris on 18–19 January 2014 to celebrate the diversity of crystallography. The general public could visit mineral exhibitions, grow and build crystals using candy, and listen to talks telling the story of diamonds, quasicrystals and synchrotron radiation centers.

- A satellite meeting entitled “Cristallographie, une clé de la connaissance – Crystallography, a key for knowledge,” held on 22 January 2014 at UNESCO headquarters. At this meeting, all the current challenges of crystallography were introduced, and the possibilities opened by this science in the domains of biology, chemistry, physics and Earth sciences were highlighted. The oral presentations are now available on the website www.aicr2014.fr, along with information about all other events scheduled in France during IYCr2014.

TEM IN MINERALOGY: GRADUATE AND PHD COURSE, MINTEM 2014

The third MINTEM school on the theme “Transmission Electron Microscopy in Mineralogy,” organized by the SFMC and the SFµ (French Microscopy Society), will be held at Lille University on 3–7 November 2014. The main aspects of TEM techniques (conventional and high-resolution imaging, diffraction, spectroscopy and chemical analysis) will be covered by the course, which will feature practical sessions, simulations and worked examples. Short courses will add theoretical support to the experiments, analysis and interpretation. The number of participants is limited to 12. The school will interest graduate students, postdocs and researchers. For more information and registration, go to http://umet.univ-lille1.fr/Animation/MinTem.php.

SEM 2014 ANNUAL MEETING IN GRANADA

The 34th Annual Meeting of the Spanish Mineralogical Society (SEM) will take place in Granada on 1–4 July 2014. It will be organized by the University of Granada and coordinated by Salvador Morales, Fernando Gervilla, and José Torres.

The program for the SEM 2014 meeting includes:

- A one-day workshop seminar entitled “Active Mining.” The seminar will take place on July 1, and the speakers will be scientists and professionals of international prestige. The aim of the seminar is to present and discuss new perspectives and ideas about this topic, particularly for young scientists.

- Scientific sessions. The scientific sessions will take place on July 2–3 and will feature invited scientists who will deliver plenary lectures on topics of general interest. Oral and poster presentations in the fields of clays, mineralogy, petrology, and geochemistry may be submitted. The main objective is to hold high-quality scientific sessions that become a platform for debate, the exchange of ideas, and the establishment of new scientific collaborations.

- A geological excursion. It will be held on July 4 and will visit the iron deposits of the Guadix Basin.

For updated information, go to http://congresomineralogia.com/.

TRAINING DAYS – MÉTHODES D’ANALYSE DES MINÉRAUX ET DES MATÉRIAUX

The Society will hold two training days at Pierre & Marie Curie University in Paris, France, on November 20–21, 2014. These days will be devoted to a review of a wide range of technical tools, in the spirit of the previous sessions held in 2000, 2002, 2004 and 2010. This meeting is intended for a wide audience, from PhD students to engineers and researchers. Each invited speaker will present one or two analytical methods suitable for the study of minerals and/or fluids. Applications of the techniques will be related to open questions in Earth and planetary sciences, and speakers will show how parameters determined at a molecular or nanometre scale can provide important constraints on our understanding of global processes.

Organizing committee: A.-L. Auzende, E. Balan and M. Blanchard (contact: methodesanalyse@sfmc-fr.org). Early registration will be possible from September 8, 2014.

Further information is available at http://sfmc-fr.org/.