



# Association of Applied Geochemists

[www.appliedgeochemists.org](http://www.appliedgeochemists.org)

## THE 27<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL APPLIED GEOCHEMISTRY SYMPOSIUM IS COMING UP IN APRIL 2015

The Association of Applied Geochemists (AAG) will host its 27<sup>th</sup> International Applied Geochemistry Symposium (IAGS) in Tucson, Arizona, USA, on 20–24 April 2015 ([www.27IAGS.com](http://www.27IAGS.com)). This symposium is the world's premiere forum for the exchange of ideas on a broad range of issues related to the use of geochemistry in the fields of mineral resources, geochemical analytical methods, and environmental geochemistry. The theme for the 2015 IAGS will be "Applied Geochemistry for Mineral Exploration, Environmental Technologies, and Sample/Data Analysis." A comprehensive program is planned, with multiple keynote speakers, parallel technical sessions, short courses, field trips, poster sessions, exhibitors, and a full day of social programs, plus partner programs throughout the symposium week. This is truly an event not to miss. Visit the IAGS website for details and to register. Remember, significant savings can be obtained by registering before 1 January 2015.

With a long history in mineral production and environmental advocacy, the southwestern United States provides a natural venue for the IAGS. Tucson, Arizona, is an ideal location, with great spring weather, easy access for visitors, abundant potential for field trips to historic mining sites and visitor recreation, plus a world-class resort with a convention center perfectly suited for the IAGS. We have arranged for discounted room rates at the Hilton El Conquistador, but you need to register through the website to take advantage of these prices.

As an added benefit to participants, the Arizona venue facilitates access to unique visitor attractions, such as the Grand Canyon, Meteor Crater, the Kartchner Caverns, Southwestern Art & Jewelry, Lake Havasu, Sedona, Monument Valley, the Cliff Dwellings, and the Canyon de Chelly, and many more.

We have lined up several keynote speakers to kick off the IAGS, and there will be technical sessions with in-depth presentations on a wide array of subjects and technologies pertinent to applied geochemistry. We have openings for 88 talks during the 4 days of technical sessions, which range from exploration, environmental geochemistry, and sample analysis to the use of isotopes for exploration and environmental projects. Six pre-symposium field trips are scheduled, on topics ranging from the geology of the Grand Canyon to the active and closed mines of Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, and New Mexico. Eight workshops/short-courses during the weekend prior to the symposium will cover data analysis, indicator minerals, isotopes, modeling, metal-mobility mapping, and portable XRF, plus there will be a special (free) student workshop on report writing. A social day will be held on the Wednesday of the conference week, and participants can choose from many activities, such as the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, Bisbee, and the San Xavier Mission, or they can do something on their own. Beyond the exchange of ideas and technology, this will be a great chance to catch up with colleagues and friends. Visit the IAGS website for specifics on all activities and for registration information. See you in Tucson, AZ! Become a sponsor! Exhibit! Register early!

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Copper mine in southwestern USA

## RECENT ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN EXPLORE

**M. W. McCURDY, W. A. SPIRITO, E. C. GRUNSKY, S. J. A. DAY, R. J. MCNEIL, AND W. B. COKER (2014) The evolution of the Geological Survey of Canada's regional reconnaissance geochemical drainage sediment and water surveys. *EXPLORE* 163 (June 2014)**

Research at the Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) and Queen's University in the early 1970s led to the identification of centre-lake bottom sediments as a sample medium for regional geochemical exploration of the Canadian Shield. Canadian governments at the federal, provincial, and territorial levels began funding systematic regional geochemical surveys of stream and lake sediments and associated surface waters in 1974. Since then, as money and staff have been gradually reduced, regional geochemical surveys managed by the GSC have become smaller, more focused activities within larger projects. The development of rapid and economical instrumental neutron activation analysis (INAA) and inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) analytical methods has reduced costs and greatly increased the number of elements that can be readily determined. Reanalysis of archived GSC samples by current methods saves considerable time and money. The adoption of new sample media such as indicator minerals in stream sediments and the development of multi-element analysis of surface waters have resulted in much more information derived from a single site. The wealth of new data has in turn led to advances in methods of interpretation using multivariate statistical procedures to classify and predict lithologic variability and mineral ore alteration zones. Links to published geochemical data for lakes and streams are available through the Canadian Database of Geochemical Surveys (CDoGS). The Canadian government continues to fund research in support of mineral exploration in Canada's north through the GSC's Geo-Mapping for Energy and Minerals (GEM-2) Program (2013–2020), and regional geochemical surveys of lakes and streams play a significant role in several new projects within this program.

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