Japan Association of Mineralogical Sciences

http://jams.la.coocan.jp

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Yahusito Osanai

It is a great honor to have been appointed to the presidency of the Japan Association of Mineralogical Sciences. I will do my best to develop the mineralogical sciences and build the influence of JAMS in the field of Japanese Earth and planetary science during my two-year term, which began in September 2014.

Today, the mineralogical sciences are not restricted to the study of substances that make up the Earth and the other planets, but provide essential research results for investigations in the materials, environmental, and life sciences. Current collaborations include projects in disaster science, archeology, and forensic geological science, all of which greatly contribute to the development of interdisciplinary academic fields. It is, of course, necessary to maintain close academic links with the fields of geology, geophysics, geochemistry, and planetary science. I hope that every member of the Japan Association of Mineralogical Sciences will take full advantage of his or her expertise to contribute not only to the development of the mineralogical sciences but also to a variety of other academic fields, industries, and technologies. At the same time, many scientific specialties are deepening and expanding to focus on specific questions in particular areas. This is true not only in the mineralogical sciences, but in many other scientific fields. While scientists must provide the broad expertise that society demands, I hope that such pressures will not lead to the diffusion of each field, but will further strengthen the mineralogical sciences through "harmonious diversity."

JAMS was created in September 2007 through the merger of the Mineralogical Society of Japan and the Japanese Association of Mineralogists, Petrologists and Economic Geologists; it was launched at a "JAMS Establishment Meeting" held at Tokyo University. Initially, JAMS had more than 1000 members and this number has dropped only a fraction after seven years. This success, relative to other Japanese Earth and planetary science organizations, testifies to the long-term vision of the JAM's senior managers. Both former president Eiji Ohtani and ex-president Takashi Murakami took concrete steps to achieve an attractive future vision for JAMS. Their plans included the following goals:

- Managing the organization to increase younger membership through the support of the Young Mineralogists' Organization
- Reducing the withdrawal rate by introducing a senior membership system
- Subscribing to the international journal Elements to enhance the attractiveness of JAMS
- Introducing Japanese mineralogical science to the world through Elements
- Reducing running costs by transferring academic journals to electronic media

I aim to continue this tradition: promoting the mineralogical sciences both inside and outside Japan, while building up the organization, in particular by increasing the number of younger members.

JAMS is currently working toward becoming an incorporated association. At present, it is a private association, not an organization governed by Japanese laws. Becoming an incorporated association will improve the social and academic reputation of JAMS, clarify responsibilities, and protect properties that belong to the association. By becoming an association recognized for high compliance, JAMS will also enhance its credibility among academic associations in Japan. We will begin detailed discussions with Vice-President Akira Tsuchiyama and the other council members about a range of issues, including targets in the mineralogical sciences, challenges facing JAMS, and the process of becoming an incorporated association. Although none of these issues can be resolved easily, we will find the best direction for the association and all of its members.

Three-and-a-half years have passed since the megaquake, tsunami disaster, and Fukushima nuclear accident of March 2011. Although Japan is on the road to recovery, we have experienced several other large-scale volcanic explosions and mudslides caused by heavy rain, in which many lives have been lost. Mineralogical science not only contributes to the development of scientific research but also helps to significantly reduce and prevent such natural disasters. The Japan Association of Mineralogical Sciences, as a member of the *Elements* family, aims to extend the field by building links with mineralogy, geochemistry, and petrology groups around the world.

Yasuhito Osanai, JAMS President

INVITATION TO THE JAPAN GEOSCIENCE UNION MEETING 2015

We are delighted to announce that the annual **Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2015** will be held from May 24 to May 28, 2015, at Makuhari Messe, Chiba, Japan. More than 50 international sessions will be held. You are encouraged to submit a paper; the deadline for abstracts is February 18, 2015. More information is available at the following address: http://www.jpgu.org/meeting_e/.

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White mica K-Ar ages from lawsonite-blueschist facies Hakoishi sub-unit and from prehnite-pumpellyite facies Tobiishi sub-unit of the Kurosegawa belt, Kyushu, Japan
Eitaro SATO, Takao HIRAJIMA, Kenichiro KAMIMURA and Yoshikazu FUJIMOTO

Millimeter- to decimeter-scale compositional mapping using a scanning X-ray analytical microscope and its application to a reaction zone in high-grade metamorphic rock
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