



The Clay Minerals Society

www.clays.org

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



W. Crawford Elliott

The CMS had a good year in 2014! We held a highly successful meeting at Texas A&M. We created several new e-vehicles for pushing our knowledge outward: a CMS E-newsletter and Wikipedia and Facebook pages. The impact factor of *Clays and Clay Minerals* has gone up. We now look forward with great anticipation to our 2015 Annual Meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland, highlighted below. Steve Hillier (James Hutton Institute) and his troops are planning a wonderful meeting. In addition to its outstanding scientific program and field trips, the meeting will honor Dr. Blair F. Jones (USGS-Reston), whose loss is felt in many areas of the geosciences. Blair held many roles in the CMS, including a term as president in 2002.

Having held this post for a year, I am impressed by the broad range of science undertaken by our members and by the international scope of our membership and Council. I am inspired by our ability to support clay science through a number of initiatives, including the biennial Reynolds Cup (a terrific competition featured in a previous CMS news page), our Annual Meeting, our journal, and our Student Travel and Research Grants. In particular, I would like to highlight our CMS Source Clays program, a repository of reference materials operated by the CMS. Thorough mineral and chemical characterizations of the Source Clays, carried out by our members, are published in *Clays and Clay Minerals*. Portions of these well-characterized clays are sold at nominal cost to researchers and industry groups. The demand for our Source Clays is high. We are refreshing some of our standard lines with new materials. We are always on the lookout for sources of the more unusual clays.

In sum, we shoulder the kinds of activities found in major scientific societies. We are able to do this through a membership whose dedication to clay science and the CMS is very high. Many individuals contribute greatly to these efforts. I am personally grateful for these contributions on behalf of the CMS.

Sincerely,

W. Crawford Elliott, CMS President
wcelliott@gsu.edu

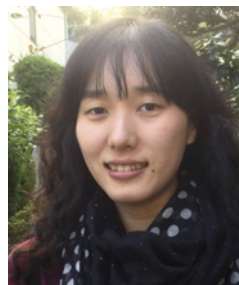
NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR CMS AWARDS

The CMS gives four awards at its annual meetings. See the CMS website for a description of the awards and an overview of the nomination process, www.clays.org. **Nomination deadline for the 2016 awards is March 31, 2015.**

STUDENT RESEARCH GRANTS AND TRAVEL AWARDS

The research grant program is designed to provide partial financial support (up to \$3000) of master's and doctoral research to graduate students of clay science and technology. The travel grant program is designed to provide partial financial support to graduate students to allow them to attend the annual meeting of the Clay Minerals Society to present results of their research. All student members of the Clay Minerals Society are eligible for the Travel Grant Program. See the CMS website for more information, www.clays.org. **Application deadline is March 31, 2015.**

STUDENT RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT



Congratulations to **Sayako Inoue** (The University of Tokyo) for winning a CMS Student Travel Award!

Sayako Inoue's research aims to understand why **random interstratification of serpentine-chlorite (Srp-Chl) is common in Fe-rich chlorite**. Sayako examined chlorite with various Fe contents using high-resolution (scanning) transmission electron microscopy (HR(S)TEM) and discovered that Srp-Chl interstratification is ubiquitous in Fe-rich chlorite even though its presence is not clear in the powder XRD pattern. Her HR(S)TEM observations of Srp-Chl show that the stacking structure is a random mixture of different polytypic groups. Moreover, Srp-Chl interstratification is not a simple mixture of 7 Å serpentine and 14 Å chlorite layers, but involves frequent changes in the polarity of the serpentine layer and a transition between the 1:1 and 2:1 layers by the inversion of the tetrahedral sheets. Sayako's studies provide new insight into the relationship between serpentine, Srp-Chl, and chlorite with Fe-rich compositions.

52nd CMS ANNUAL MEETING

The 52nd CMS Annual Meeting will be held at Edinburgh University, July 5–10, 2015, jointly with the Euroclay2015 meeting of the European Clay Groups Association (ECGA) and in association with the International Natural Zeolite Association (INZA) and the Geological Society. The CMS Annual Meeting program includes sessions on natural zeolites, halloysite, chlorite, and bentonite; on bioreactive clay minerals; on clays in the critical zone, in the hydrocarbon industry, and in geothermal studies; on the computational chemistry of clays; and on the structural characterization and quantitative analysis of clayey materials. There will also be a session by the Asian Clay Minerals Group and a workshop on the properties of shales.

EUROCLAY
Edinburgh 2015

5th-10th July

International conference on clay science
and technology

