



# Association of Applied Geochemists

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

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



Matt Leybourne

Welcome to 2015 and I hope that the New Year is starting well for all. By the time you read this we will be fast approaching our biannual conference, the 27<sup>th</sup> International Applied Geochemistry Symposium (IAGS), which is being held in Tucson, Arizona, in April ([www.27iags.com/](http://www.27iags.com/)). Although 2014 was another tough year in the applied geochemistry field, with the continued softening of global mineral exploration and related environmental fields, the conference is shaping up to be another great showcase for applied geochemistry, following on from the highly successful conference in New Zealand in 2013. As of early January, the numbers of registrants for the conference, field trips and workshops, as well as abstracts received, were progressing well. The Chair of the Local Organizing Committee, Erick Weiland, and his team have been doing an outstanding job.

The New Year brings in a new group of AAG Councillors (see next story). I look forward to working with all of you this year.

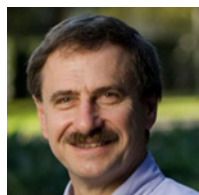
After fourteen outstanding years as Editor-in-Chief of our journal *Geochemistry: Exploration, Environment, Analysis* (GEEA), Gwendy Hall has stepped down. Her energy, professionalism and enthusiasm will be greatly missed. Stepping up to take over this important task is Kurt Kyser. We are extremely fortunate to have someone of Kurt's caliber to replace Gwendy. Gwendy will put together a more complete introduction and biography of Kurt in a future *Explore* issue and on the website ([www.appliedgeochemists.org](http://www.appliedgeochemists.org)). But in brief, Kurt Kyser is currently the director of the Queen's Facility for Isotope Research (QFIR) at Queen's University in Canada. Kurt has diverse interests and expertise, but specialises in novel applications of isotope geochemistry to address geological, biological, exploration and environmental problems. Kurt has been highly prolific in his scientific career and the AAG is looking forward to helping him grow the journal and its global impact in the coming years. One of the new features that was introduced in 2014 for GEEA was the Online First service. This is for papers that have been accepted and formatted but not yet published in print. With only four issues per year, this feature allows more rapid dissemination of our research efforts. At the time of writing, there are fourteen papers at the Online First site ([geea.geoscienceworld.org/content/early/](http://geea.geoscienceworld.org/content/early/recent) **recent**), including some papers that were presented at the 26<sup>th</sup> IAGS in Rotorua, New Zealand, in late 2013.

In closing, all the best for 2015, and I look forward to seeing you all in Tucson, AZ.

**Matt Leybourne** (mleybourne@laurentian.ca)  
Laurentian University, AAG President

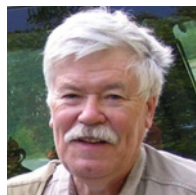
## AAG COUNCILLORS 2015-2016

The AAG welcomes three new and three second-term (\*) councillors for 2015–2016: David Cohen, Ray Lett, Tom Molyneux\*, Juan Carlos Ordóñez-Calderón, Peter Rogers\*, and Peter Winterburn\*.



**David Cohen** holds a BSc (University of Sydney), MSc (Queen's University) and PhD (University of New South Wales) in geology. He has 25 years' experience in exploration geochemistry research and teaching, including the publication of 60+ papers or major technical reports. His interests include biogeochemistry, selective extractions, geochemical mapping and data analysis methods.

David was vice-president and president of the AAG, and is currently symposia coordinator and chair of the AAG–SGS Student Paper Prize.



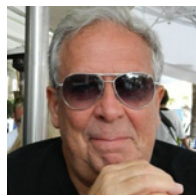
**Ray Lett** has four decades of industry and government experience as an exploration geochemist. He graduated from the University of London (BSc), University of Leicester (MSc) and University of British Columbia (PhD). He has worked for Amax Exploration, BP Minerals, Barringer research and the British Columbia Geological Survey. He is currently a consultant and sessional lecturer at the University of Victoria, BC, Canada. He has served the AAG as secretary and councillor and has been on the Education Committee.



**Tom Molyneux** obtained his BSc (Hons) degree in geology from Trinity College Dublin (Ireland) and his MSc and PhD degrees from the University of Pretoria (South Africa). For 32 years he was an economic geologist with Anglo American, gaining expertise in many commodities and regions, particularly in the Bushveld Complex. After a few years with the South African Council for Geoscience, Tom became an independent geological and geochemical consultant based in Ireland. He has taught at the universities of Washington and Pretoria.



**Juan Carlos Ordóñez-Calderón** holds a BSc (Universidad Industrial de Santander, Colombia), an MSc (Shimane University, Japan) and a PhD (University of Windsor, Canada) in geology. He has professional experience in academic, government, and industry sectors and is currently an applied geochemist for Hudbay's global exploration team in Toronto, where he integrates geochemistry with physical volcanology, structural geology, and statistical analysis to evaluate projects from mine scale to regional scale.



**Peter Rogers** has over 40 years worldwide experience in economic geology, applied mineral exploration, and in environmental geochemistry. He graduated from University College London (BSc Geology) and obtained his PhD from the University of Leicester. Peter has worked in many countries in the mineral exploration industry (particularly Central and South America) and as a member of British and Canadian government departments. Currently, Peter is senior manager for Cordillera Gold Limited and Integrated Exploration Technologies Inc. in Colombia.



**Peter Winterburn** obtained a BSc in geology from Aston University (England) and a PhD from the University of Edinburgh (Scotland). He spent almost 20 years in the exploration industry mostly with Anglo American in South Africa and South America, then with Vale in Canada. Peter holds the ACME Labs Research Chair in Exploration Geochemistry at MDRU, University of British Columbia, where his burgeoning research team is developing geochemical tools and applications to improve the success rate of mineral exploration under exotic cover.

**David Smith** (dsmith@usgs.gov)  
U.S. Geological Survey, AAG Secretary